Criminology and Criminal Justice

The Criminology and Criminal Justice program, which enjoys a national and international reputation for quality research and education, offers the Master of Arts degree and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. The program focuses on analyzing criminal justice, social justice, and crime prevention problems and solutions. The program prepares its graduates with the analytic capabilities and problem-solving skills that enable them to succeed in professional careers in criminal justice and related agencies, in policy analysis and research, or in continued graduate or professional education in preparation for an academic career. The focus of the curriculum is theoretically driven, empirically-based criminal justice and crime prevention that takes a problem-solving approach. Supplementing the academic program, there are opportunities for graduate students to work with faculty members who are conducting research. In addition, students may take Supervised Field Experience credit to blend practical experience with classroom education.

Admission to the Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduate Programs

The Criminology and Criminal Justice program and Graduate School applications form one combined application that should be submitted electronically. Students will be accepted for graduate study in Criminology and Criminal Justice only upon approval by the program as well as the Graduate School. This program requires a nonrefundable $65 application fee that must be submitted with the application for Admissions to Graduate Study in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Applicants must pay this fee by credit card.

A more detailed description of the graduate program, as well as information about graduate assistantships and fellowships, may be obtained by contacting:

Office Support Specialist
School of Justice and Public Safety, Criminology and Criminal Justice
Faner Hall – Mail Code 4504
1000 Faner Drive
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Carbondale, IL  62901

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Admission

Full admission to the graduate program requires a grade point average of at least 2.70 or better (A = 4.00) on approximately the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate coursework and acceptance by the graduate program admissions committee. International applicants should consult the Graduate School web page for additional requirements, including satisfying the English language requirement. Students who do not have an undergraduate degree in criminology or criminal justice should have a minimum of 12 credit hours in sociology, psychology, political science, or other social sciences. In cases where these criteria are lacking, additional selected undergraduate courses may be required for acceptance in this program.
Required Core Courses

All candidates for the Master of Arts degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice are required to complete four core courses.

- CCJ 500: Foundations of Criminal Justice (3 CH)
- CCJ 504: Criminological Theory (3 CH)
- CCJ 510A: Research in Criminology & Criminal Justice: Methods and Concepts (3 CH)
- CCJ 510B: Data Analysis & Interpretation (3 CH)

Thesis Option

A total of 30 credit hours is required for the thesis track of the M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice. A thesis is required. Students may take a total of six thesis credit hours (CCJ 599 [1-6 CH]); however, only three credit hours are counted towards the degree requirements. An oral defense of the student’s thesis is required. Students may take up to six credit hours of 400-level coursework for graduate credit in accordance with graduate school regulations.

Non-Thesis Option

A total of 33 credit hours is required for the non-thesis M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice. A research paper that exceeds the expectations in terms of rigor and quality of the graduate level term paper is required. Students may take up to six credit hours of 400-level coursework for graduate credit in accordance with graduate school regulations. Students may take up to three credit hours of non-thesis credit hours (CCJ 598 [1-3 CH]) to work on their research paper.

Accelerated Master's Program

The accelerated M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice program allows motivated and high achieving students to complete a program leading to an undergraduate Bachelor of Arts degree and Master of Arts degree with a major in Criminology & Criminal Justice in five years. Students must have completed CCJ 316 and CCJ 317 prior to their senior year. Nine credit hours are double counted toward an undergraduate and a master's degree. The option requires satisfactory completion of twelve credit hours in core criminology & criminal justice courses: CCJ 500, CCJ 504, CCJ 510A, and CCJ 510B. The thesis or the non-thesis project is required for degree completion. A student who chooses the thesis option must complete 18 elective credit hours, three of which can be thesis credit hours (CCJ 599 [1-6 CH]). With the thesis option, an oral defense of the student's thesis is required. A student who chooses to complete the non-thesis option must complete 21 elective credit hours, three of which can be non-thesis credit hours (CCJ 598 [1-3 CH]) to work on their research paper.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Admission

Admission to the doctoral program in Criminology and Criminal Justice requires a grade point average of at least 3.0 or better (A = 4.00) in all prior graduate coursework and the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate study. Applicants must submit scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Students with an M.A. degree in criminal justice or a related social science at the time of matriculation must still submit GRE scores. International applicants should consult the Graduate School web page for additional requirements, including satisfying the English language requirement.

Students are expected to have completed a master’s degree in criminology and criminal justice, or students who do not have a master's degree in CCJ should have a minimum of 12 graduate credit hours in sociology, psychology, political science, or other social science discipline.
Advisement

Initial advisement will be given by the Graduate Program Director. As soon as possible, the student, in consultation with the Graduate Program Director, will request an appropriate member of the program’s graduate faculty to serve as the student’s academic adviser. It is the student’s responsibility to develop, in consultation with their advisor, a plan of study leading to timely completion of coursework, the comprehensive examination(s), and a dissertation. This plan of study will be filed in the student’s permanent file. Change of advisor should be filed with the Graduate Program Director.

Program of Study

Students admitted to the Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice program must have completed a master’s degree. Completion of the Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice program requires completion of seven required courses, two professional development courses, plus five seminars. The Graduate School requires that a minimum of 24 credit hours be taken in residency at SIU (courses on campus at SIU and as a doctoral student) after admission to the program and prior to candidacy. Only six credit hours of dissertation may be counted toward the 24 credit hours in residence. Students may only take up to six dissertation credit hours prior to candidacy (other credit hours taken prior to candidacy will not count toward the degree). Students must take a total of 24 dissertation credit hours. Students who receive an M.A. from SIU’s CCJ program may have already satisfied the core and most of the toolkit seminar requirements; however, they must still meet the 24 credit hour residency requirement.

Core Courses

Doctoral students must complete three core courses that include:

- CCJ 500: Foundations of Criminal Justice (3 CH)
- CCJ 504: Criminological Theory (3 CH)
- CCJ 505: The Nature of Crime (3 CH)

Required Research Tools

The Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice is a research degree; students must learn the tools and methods of quantitative and/or qualitative research. Students must take four research tools courses that include:

- CCJ 510A: Research in Criminology & Criminal Justice: Methods and Concepts or approved equivalent - Students can petition to waive if already taken (3 CH)
- CCJ 510B: Data Analyses & Interpretation or approved equivalent - Students with prior graduate statistical courses may test to try to opt out of this requirement (3 CH)
- CCJ 510C: Advanced Multivariate Statistics or approved equivalent (3 CH)
- An additional research toolkit course approved by the student’s advisor (3 CH)

Professional Development Courses

Doctoral students must complete two professional development courses that include:

- CCJ 525A: Research in Criminology & Criminal Justice (1 CH)
- CCJ 525B: Teaching in Criminology & Criminal Justice (1 CH)

Guided Electives

Guided electives should be chosen in consultation with the student’s advisor to meet the career interests of the student. Students must take a minimum of five graduate seminars (minimum of 15 credit hours) based on interests and preparation for the comprehensive examination(s). Students may take independent study or directed readings credit hours for individualized instruction from faculty members on content not available in substantive courses (e.g., a specialized technique of analysis). Students are encouraged to consider the wide array of course offerings at SIU.
Comprehensive Examinations

Comprehensive exam(s) are required to advance to candidacy. The faculty will define the timing, scope, and format of the examination system. A final copy of all examinations must be deposited with the program's Office Support Specialist. In the event of a revision or retake, only one revision or retake is permitted per exam. An oral defense of the revision or retake may be required at the faculty’s discretion.

Dissertation (24 Credit Hours)

Each candidate for the Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice degree must write a dissertation showing high attainment in independent, original scholarship and creative effort. A total of 24 credit hours is required. A maximum of 6 credit hours of dissertation credit taken prior to passing comprehensive examination(s) will count. The student must successfully defend orally their prospectus, giving the faculty two weeks to review the written prospectus before an oral defense, which shall be open to the public. A student may not hold a dissertation prospectus meeting before successful completion of the comprehensive examination(s).

A dissertation must be written under the direction and approval of a five-member committee of faculty possessing doctorates, one of whom must be from outside the Criminology and Criminal Justice program. The student must successfully defend orally their final draft of the dissertation, giving the faculty two weeks to review the dissertation before an oral defense, which shall be open to the public. The faculty are not required to meet for a prospectus or dissertation defense during holidays or summer months. The success of a final oral examination devoted primarily to a defense of the dissertation and open to the public will complete the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology and Criminal Justice degree. A final copy of the dissertation must be filed with the program and Graduate School.

Residency Requirement (24 Credit Hours)

The residency requirement for the doctorate must be fulfilled after admission to the doctoral program and before formal admission to doctoral candidacy, which occurs with successful completion of the comprehensive examination(s). The residency requirement is satisfied by completion of 24 credit hours of graduate credit on campus as a doctoral student within a period not to exceed four calendar years.

Criminology and Criminal Justice Courses

CCJ408 - Criminal Procedure An introduction to the procedural aspects of criminal law pertaining to police powers in connection with the laws of arrest, search and seizure, the exclusionary rule, civil liberties, eaves-dropping, confessions, and related decision-making factors. Prerequisite: CCJ 101 and CCJ 290 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ410 - Policing Communities A study of the theories underlying modern police reform, how these theories have altered practice, the challenges of implementing and sustaining police reform, and the outcomes of such efforts. Prerequisites: CCJ 101, CCJ 290, and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ411 - Risk Assessment and Prediction in Criminal Justice An examination of the theories, application, and research relevant to the assessment and prediction of negative events and threats in the criminal justice system. The principles guiding the identification, classification, evaluation, and potential interventions of high risk individuals and groups will be covered. The course also reviews the evidence of effectiveness associated with classification and assessment tools. Prerequisites: CCJ 101, CCJ 290, and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ415 - Prevention of Crime and Delinquency Multidisciplinary analysis of the functions, goals, and effectiveness of measures to forestall delinquency and crime. Etiology of delinquent behaviors as related to community institutions such as police, courts, corrections, mental health clinics, schools, churches, and citizen groups. Prerequisite: CCJ 101, CCJ 290 and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3
CCJ418 - Criminal Violence  An examination of historical, comparative, cultural and structural aspects of homicide, robbery, rape and assault. Explores patterns, trends and key correlates. Prerequisite: CCJ 101, CCJ 290 and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ460 - Women, Crime, and Justice  (Same as SOC 461 and WGSS 476) A study of women as offenders, as victims, and as workers in the criminal justice system. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ461 - White-Collar Crime  An examination of the physical and financial harm caused by wayward corporations and business employees from both theoretical and empirical perspectives. Emphasis is placed on ethics, theory, legal decision-making and the regulatory monitoring and control of illegal corporate activity. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ462 - Victims of Crime  (Same as SOC 462) An examination of the extent and nature of victimization, theories about the causes of victimization, the effects of crime on victims and services available to deal with those effects, victims' experiences in the criminal justice system, the victims' rights movement, and alternative ways of defining and responding to victimization. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ473 - Juvenile Delinquency  (Same as SOC 473) An in-depth study of theories of delinquency, analytical skills useful in studying delinquent offenders, systematic assessment of efforts at prevention, and control and rehabilitation in light of theoretical perspectives. Prerequisite: CCJ 101, CCJ 290 and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ475 - Mass Supervision and Collateral Consequences  Examination of trends and consequences in correctional supervision and incarceration. Emphasis on contributors to mass supervision, individual and broad effects of the policies, and differential impact on populations. Prerequisites: CCJ 101, CCJ 290 and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211). Credit Hours: 3

CCJ480 - Effective Correctional Practices  (Same as PSYC 480) Exploration and evaluation of correctional intervention strategies developed for the sentencing of adjudicated persons. Particular emphasis on examining empirical research literature on effective correctional practices, including programs currently implemented in institutional setting, alternatives to institutional corrections, and community based programs. Prerequisites: CCJ 101, CCJ 290, and (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ492 - Contemporary Issues in Criminology and Criminal Justice  A forum, geared toward seniors majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice, that focuses on criminal justice issues of concern to students and faculty. May re-enroll for a maximum of 6 credits. (Maximum 3 semester hours per term). Prerequisite: CCJ 101, CCJ 290, (CCJ 316 or PSYC 211), or consent of instructor. Past topics include: Crime and Place, Consequences of Mass Incarceration, Myth-busting in Criminology and Criminal Justice, and Race and Crime. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ500 - Foundations of Criminal Justice  An exploration of the nature and scope of the criminal justice process. Criminal justice operations and behavior are assessed in context of the major theoretical, historical, normative and organizational influences found in the field. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ504 - Criminological Theory  Multidisciplinary study of biogenic, psychogenic and sociogenic explanations for criminal behavior relevant to policy-making and practice in criminal justice. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ505 - The Nature of Crime  This course examines the extent, distribution, and correlates of criminal offending and patterns of crime. It emphasizes the review and application of recent empirical research to the development of theories on crime causation, as well as public policy and crime prevention programs. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ510A - Research in Criminology & Criminal Justice: Methods & Concepts  Principles and methods of scientific inquiry are examined. Special emphasis is applied to research design and data collection issues. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ510B - Data Analysis & Interpretation  Data management, univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses, and specialized concerns with criminal justice data are emphasized. Credit Hours: 3
CCJ510C - Advanced Multivariate Statistics The foundations of multivariate analysis, including assumptions about data distributions and regression diagnostics. Students will be introduced to various multivariate methods. Prerequisite: CCJ 510B or instructor permission. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ517 - Advanced Topics in Quantitative Research Detailed coverage of quantitative analytic procedures used in criminology and criminal justice. Specific topics covered will vary (students should consult instructor). Sample topics: advanced ordinary least squares, time series analysis, structural equation modeling, and analysis of limited dependent variables. Prior knowledge of correlation and regression is essential. Prerequisites: CCJ 510A and CCJ 510B, or instructor permission. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ518 - Qualitative Research Methods An introduction to qualitative research techniques (i.e., interviewing, ethnography, in situ observation, case studies). Emphasis is placed on the epistemological foundation for understanding the nature and purpose of these methods. Students are given opportunities to practice discussed techniques. Prerequisite: CCJ 510A or instructor permission. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ519 - Independent Study Independent research supervised by a faculty member in a selected area of criminal justice or criminology. Special approval needed from a faculty sponsor. May re-enroll for a maximum of nine credits. (Maximum 3 semester hours per term). Credit Hours: 1-3

CCJ520 - Readings in Criminology and Criminal Justice In-depth advanced readings in areas not covered in other graduate criminology and criminal justice courses. The student must submit a statement describing the topic and relevant reading materials to the faculty member sponsoring the student's readings. Must have approval of faculty sponsor. May re-enroll for a maximum of nine credits. (Maximum 3 semester hours per term). Credit Hours: 1-3

CCJ521 - Advanced Readings and Research This course is an opportunity for students to engage in high-level inquiry focusing on an area of specialization within criminology and criminal justice. Projects will draw upon areas of interest to the student. The aim of the course is to facilitate the development of a research project, including but not limited to non-thesis papers, theses, dissertations and other independent research efforts. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ525A - Research in Criminology & Criminal Justice Focuses on the development of research and publication skills for graduate students. The course is designed to introduce students to the various processes related to grant-writing and publication, as well as research dissemination. Credit Hours: 1

CCJ525B - Teaching in Criminology & Criminal Justice An examination of pedagogical literature and practices to develop teaching and instruction in criminology and criminal justice. Credit Hours: 1

CCJ540 - Seminar in Theory and Practice of Crime Prevention Recent crime prevention initiatives are examined, with emphasis on the following issues: historical development of the initiatives, their grounding in theories of crime and human behavior, their effectiveness, their unintended consequences, and the values they serve. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ550 - Seminar in Juvenile Justice and Delinquency An exploration of contemporary problems and policy issues in juvenile justice and juvenile delinquency. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ562 - Law and Social Control An in-depth examination of the major social science perspectives on law and extra-legal social control. Topics covered may include: theory, social change, law making, informal social control and international law. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ571 - Seminar in Punishment and Corrections Examines the theory and philosophy of punishment and the practice of corrections in the United States. Attention is given to the implications of competing penal philosophies, their viability and application in the correctional system. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ576 - Policy Analysis in Criminology and Criminal Justice Examination of the public policy process in criminology and criminal justice, and the role of policy analysis in the development, planning, and implementation of new and revised policies and programs. Credit Hours: 3
CCJ584 - Administration and Management in Criminal Justice Focuses on the development and history of administrative theory and its impact on management techniques involving administration of justice bureaucracies. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ587 - Seminar in Policing Multidisciplinary study of the philosophical premises, theoretical implications and functions of contemporary policing. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ592 - Advanced Seminar in Criminology and Criminal Justice Seminars of varied content for advanced students. May be repeated with different topics up to a maximum of six credits. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3-6

CCJ595 - Supervised Field Experience Experience in law enforcement agencies, juvenile courts, probation and parole departments, correctional institutions, delinquency control programs and public or voluntary agencies. Orientation sessions precede placement. Student must submit internship application during the first thirty days of the preceding spring or fall semester. Graded S/U only. Only three credit hours may count toward post-baccalaureate studies in CCJ. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-6

CCJ598 - Non-Thesis Option Graded S/U or DEF only. Special approval needed from a faculty sponsor. Credit Hours: 3

CCJ599 - Thesis Graded S/U or DEF only. Special approval needed from a faculty sponsor. Credit Hours: 1-6

CCJ600 - Doctoral Dissertation Hours and credit to be arranged by director of graduate studies. Graded S/U or DEF only. Maximum of 24 hours used toward degree. Credit Hours: 1-12

CCJ601 - Continuing Enrollment For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only. Credit Hours: 1

Criminology and Criminal Justice Faculty


Giblin, Matthew J. Professor and Director of the School of Justice and Public Safety, Criminal Justice, Ph.D., Indiana University, 2004; 2005. Criminal justice theory, administration and management in criminal justice.

Hibdon, Julie, Associate Professor, Criminology, Law, and Society, Ph.D., George Mason University, 2011; 2012. Crime and place, environmental criminology, policing.

Hillyard, Daniel, Associate Professor, Law, Social Ecology, J.D., Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, 2001; 2002. Law and social change, law and social control, law and morality.

Kochel, Tammy Rinehart, Professor and Associate Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences, Justice, Law, and Crime Policy, Ph.D., George Mason University, 2009; 2009. Police legitimacy and procedural justice, evidence-based policing strategies such as hot spots policing and focused deterrence, neighborhood ecology and collective efficacy.

Kroner, Daryl G., Professor, Psychology, Ph.D., Carleton University, 1999; 2008. Offender assessment, violent and criminal risk, correctional intervention, mentally ill offenders, criminal desistance.

Mullins, Christopher, Professor and Associate Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Ph.D., University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2004; 2008. Violence, atrocity violence, international criminal law and courts, historical criminology.

Narag, Raymund, Associate Professor, Criminal Justice, Ph.D., Michigan State University, 2013; 2012. Criminal victimization, youth violence, correctional administration, qualitative research.
Pleggenkuhle, Breanne, Associate Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Ph.D., University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2012; 2012. Corrections, gender, community context, reentry.

Reale, Kylie, Assistant Professor, Criminology, Ph.D., Simon Fraser University, 2022; 2023. Violence prevention and intervention, correctional policy, criminal careers, criminal investigations.

Emeriti Faculty

Garofalo, James, Professor, Emeritus, Criminal Justice, Ph.D., State University of New York at Albany, 1978.

LeBeau, James L., Professor, Emeritus, Geography, Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1978.

McDermott, M. Joan, Associate Professor, Emerita, Criminal Justice, Ph.D., State University of New York at Albany, 1979.

Last updated: 07/18/2023