BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Students in the bachelor of arts in criminal justice program enjoy a dynamic and empirically rigorous curriculum that prepares them to be informed members of their communities, critical consumers of information, and change-makers. The program examines the social context (including racial and economic inequalities and law) and contemporary realities of crime; institutions of criminal justice such as policing, courts, and punishment; and related topics such as reentry, policing, juvenile justice, and victimization. The criminal justice major places a strong emphasis on theory (criminology, deviance and social control) and research methods. Through research and coursework, students develop an understanding of how societies define, facilitate or reduce crime and the social conditions that contribute to crime and its control.

The senior capstone class includes a required internship (https://sociology.columbian.gwu.edu/academic-professional-resources/#internship), drawing on GW's unique proximity to a wide array of advocacy organizations, government agencies, and think tanks. As the department's most popular major, the criminal justice program brings together a diverse group of students who seek to work in, reform, and research various dimensions of criminal justice, or fields related to it. Courses are taught by full-time faculty as well as experts in the field with career experience as well as academic and research knowledge. Many students double major or choose a related minor (for instance, public health, political science, psychology, law and society, business) or use it as a foundation to pursue an advanced degree in criminology (https://sociology.columbian.gwu.edu/ma-criminology/) or law school.

Visit the program website (https://sociology.columbian.gwu.edu/ba-criminal-justice/) for more information.

ADMISSIONS

For information about the admission process, including deadlines, visit the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/). Applications can be submitted via the Common Application (https://go.gwu.edu/commonapp/).

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions
The George Washington University
800 21st St NW Suite 100
Washington, DC 20052

For questions visit undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us (http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us/).

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Undergraduate Programs (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext).

Program-specific curriculum (below).

Achievement of a minimum grade of *C-* in any course that counts toward the degree.

Code	Title	Credits
Prerequisites		
SOC 1001	Introduction to Sociology	
or SOC 1002	The Sociological Imagination	
SOC 1003	Introduction to Criminal Justice	

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
SOC 2101	Social Research Methods (recommended to be taken before the senior year)	
SOC 2102	Techniques of Data Analysis (recommended to be taken before the senior year)	
SOC 2135	Youth and Delinquency	
SOC 2136	Criminology	
SOC 2145	Criminal Law	
SOC 4192	Advanced Seminar in Criminal Justice	
SOC 4193	Internship in Criminal Justice	
Electives		
Five courses selected from the following, including at least one Sociology (SOC) course and at least one non-Sociology course:		
AMST 1160	Race, Gender, and Law	
ANTH 3513	Anthropology of Human Rights	
or ANTH 3513W	Anthropology of Human Rights	
ECON 2167	Economics of Crime	
HIST 2341	History of FBI Counterintelligence	
FORS 2107	Fundamentals of Forensic Science	
HIST 3370	U.S. Constitutional History	
PSC 2213	Judicial Politics	
PSC 2215	U.S. Constitutional Law and Politics II	

PSYC 2011	Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 2554	Psychology of Crime and Violence
SOC 2137	Transnational Crime
SOC 2139	Alternatives to Imprisonment
SOC 2143	Criminal Justice System Arrest Through Appeal
SOC 2146	The Bill of Rights and Criminal Justice
SOC 2164	Sociology of the Holocaust and Genocide
SOC 2167	Sociology of Law
or SOC 2167W	Sociology of Law
SOC 2178	Deviance and Control
SOC 2184	Violence and the Family
SOC 2185	Victims, Victimization, and the System
SOC 2189	Special Topics in Criminal Justice

Note: A student majoring in sociology may not declare a second major or a minor in criminal justice, or vice versa.

GENERAL EDUCATION

In addition to the University General Education Requirement (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/), undergraduate students in Columbian College must complete a further, College-specific general education curriculum—Perspective, Analysis, Communication (G-PAC) (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/gpac/) as well as the course CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience. Together with the University General Education Requirement, G-PAC engages students in active intellectual inquiry across the liberal arts. Students achieve a set of learning outcomes that enhance their analytical skills, develop their communication competencies, and invite them to participate as responsible citizens who are attentive to issues of culture, diversity, and privilege.

Coursework (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/#generaleducationtext) for the University General Education Requirement is distributed as follows:

- One course in critical thinking in the humanities.
- Two courses in critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning in the social sciences.
- One course that has an approved oral communication component.
- One course in quantitative reasoning (must be in mathematics or statistics).

- One course in scientific reasoning (must be in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences).
- UW 1020 (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/search/?P=UW%201020) University Writing (4 credits).
- After successful completion of UW 1020, 6 credits distributed over at least two writing in the discipline (WID) courses taken in separate semesters. WID courses are designated by a "W" appended to the course number.

Coursework for the CCAS G-PAC requirement is distributed as follows:

- Arts—one approved arts course that involves the study or creation of artwork based on an understanding or interpretation of artistic traditions or knowledge of art in a contemporary context.
- Global or cross-cultural perspective—one approved course that analyzes the ways in which institutions, practices, and problems transcend national and regional boundaries.
- Local or civic engagement—one approved course that develops the values, ethics, disciplines, and commitment to pursue responsible public action.
- Natural or physical science—one additional approved laboratory course that employs the process of scientific inquiry (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- Humanities—one additional approved humanities course that involves critical thinking skills (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience

Certain courses are approved to fulfill GPAC requirements in more than one category.

Courses taken in fulfillment of G-PAC requirements may also be counted toward majors or minors. Transfer courses taken prior to, but not after, admission to George Washington University may count toward the University General Education Requirement and G-PAC, if those transfer courses are equivalent to GW courses that have been approved by the University and the College.

Lists of approved courses in the above categories are included on each undergraduate major's (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#majorstext) page in this Bulletin.

SPECIAL HONORS

In addition to the general requirements stated under University Regulations, in order to be considered for graduation with Special Honors, students must maintain a 3.5 grade-point average in the major, must be registered for 3 credits of SOC 3195 Research during the senior year, and must receive a grade of *A* on the research paper.