

Criminology and Criminal Justice - Undergraduate Programs

The Criminology and Criminal Justice Department provides students with an academically sound education in criminal justice and prepares them for management positions with municipal, state and federal agencies. Students who are new to the discipline have opportunities for internships with local criminal justice agencies and law offices.

The Department strives to achieve academic excellence through its outstanding faculty. Experts in areas such as corrections, criminological theory, victimology, management, strive to challenge students while caring for their academic formation. The criminal justice faculty helps students understand the etiology of crime who are then able to develop paradigms that are useful and beneficial in the understanding of crime.

This tradition of excellence serves to produce competitive criminal justice managers who are prepared for the challenges of employment with private, state, or federal agencies. The academic excellence of the UTA Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice is well known in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.

Requirements to Major in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Students admitted to UT Arlington from high school or transfer students who have completed less than 30 hours of transferable college credit will be admitted as Criminology and Criminal Justice (CRCJ)-intended majors, and will be allowed to declare CRCJ as their major based on the following criteria:

- Completed at least 15 hours of the University core courses with a minimum 2.0 GPA.
- Completed both [CRCJ 2334](http://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2024-2025/search/?P=CRCJ%202334) (<http://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2024-2025/search/?P=CRCJ%202334>) (Introduction to the Criminal Justice System) and one other CRCJ core course with at least a C, and earned at least 15 grade points in the two courses combined (2.5 GPA).

Students admitted to UT Arlington who have completed 30 or more hours of transferable college credit will be allowed to declare CRCJ as their major based on the following criteria:

- Achieved a minimum 2.25 GPA for all college credit earned, and
- Completed [CRCJ 2334](http://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2024-2025/search/?P=CRCJ%202334) (<http://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2024-2025/search/?P=CRCJ%202334>) (Introduction to the Criminal Justice System) or an equivalent course, and one other UT Arlington CRCJ core course, or equivalent course with at least a C, and earned at least 15 grade points in the two courses combined (2.5 GPA).

Students already admitted to UT Arlington, who previously declared a major other than CRCJ, who desire to change to CRCJ as their major will be accepted based on the following criteria:

- Completed at least 15 hours of the College of Liberal Arts core courses,
- Achieved a minimum 2.25 GPA in all hours completed at UT Arlington, and
- Completed both [CRCJ 2334](http://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2024-2025/search/?P=CRCJ%202334) (<http://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2024-2025/search/?P=CRCJ%202334>) (Introduction to the Criminal Justice System) and one other CRCJ core course with at least a C, and earned at least 15 grade points in the two courses combined (2.5 GPA).

Requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Pre-Professional Courses		
General Core Requirements (http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/degree/requirements/generalcore/requirements/)		42
Program Requirements (These courses also fulfill requirements in the General Core).		
UNIV 1131	STUDENT SUCCESS (UNIV 1131 OR UNIV 1101)	1
ENGL 1301	RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION I	3
ENGL 1302	RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION II	3
Mathematics (MATH 1301 or higher; MATH 1301 and MATH 1308 are recommended)		
Modern and Classical Languages: 1441, 1442, (Must be one language for a total of 8 hours).		8
Total # of hours before major (54)		
MAJOR		
A CRCJ major consists of 57 hours, including 36 hours of required CRCJ core courses and 21 hours of major electives (See additional requirements below). The total number of hours must be 120 or more.		
CRCJ Core (Required)		
CRCJ 2334	INTRODUCTION TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM ¹	3
CRCJ 2335	ETHICS AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM	3

CRCJ 2350	INTRODUCTION TO LAW ENFORCEMENT	3
CRCJ 3300	THEORETICAL CRIMINOLOGY	3
CRCJ 3338	JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS	3
CRCJ 3380	RACE, CRIME, AND JUSTICE	3
CRCJ 3340	CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS	3
or SOCI 3352	SOCIAL STATISTICS	
CRCJ 3350	INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
CRCJ 3370	INTRODUCTION TO FORENSICS	3
CRCJ 4301	THE AMERICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM	3
CRCJ 4332	COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	3
or CRCJ 4333	INSTITUTIONAL CORRECTIONS	
CRCJ 4380	COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS	3
CRCJ Major Electives (of which at least 15 hours must be CRCJ-prefix courses):		21
CRCJ 2340	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION	
CRCJ 3307	INTRODUCTION TO SECURITY SYSTEMS	
CRCJ 3320	CYBERCRIME	
CRCJ 3330	FUNDAMENTALS OF LAW	
CRCJ 3336	POLICE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION	
CRCJ 3337	ADVANCED CRIMINAL PROCEDURE	
CRCJ 3370	INTRODUCTION TO FORENSICS	
CRCJ 3371	CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION	
CRCJ 3385	WOMEN AND CRIME	
CRCJ 3390	VICTIMOLOGY	
CRCJ 3395	DRUG USE AND ABUSE	
CRCJ 4309	PRIVATE SECURITY ADMINISTRATION	
CRCJ 4315	WHITE-COLLAR AND CORPORATE CRIME	
CRCJ 4325	GANGS	
CRCJ 4332	COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	
or CRCJ 4333	INSTITUTIONAL CORRECTIONS	
CRCJ 4340	FORENSIC DEATH INVESTIGATION	
CRCJ 4341	FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF IMPRESSION EVIDENCE	
CRCJ 4342	FORENSIC HAIR AND FIBER IDENTIFICATION	
CRCJ 4343	FORENSIC EXPERT TESTIMONY	
CRCJ 4345	CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN THE MEDIA	
CRCJ 4352	TERRORISM AND MASS VIOLENCE	
CRCJ 4355	ORGANIZED CRIME: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL	
CRCJ 4365	CAPITAL PUNISHMENT	
CRCJ 4386	TOPICS IN CORRECTIONS	
CRCJ 4387	TOPICS IN CRIME AND CRIMINOLOGY	
CRCJ 4388	TOPICS IN LAW AND JUDICIAL PROCESSES	
CRCJ 4389	TOPICS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PRIVATE SECURITY	
CRCJ 4390	INTERNSHIP IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRCJ 4191	CONFERENCE COURSE	
CRCJ 4291	CONFERENCE COURSE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRCJ 4391	CONFERENCE COURSE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRCJ 4394	HONORS THESIS/SENIOR PROJECT	
To satisfy CRCJ Additional Electives, up to 9 hours of these course may be used:		
ECON 3302	THE ECONOMICS OF CRIME	
HIST 3391	MOOT COURT	3
POLS 3333	JURISPRUDENCE AND CONSTITUTIONAL CONFLICT	
POLS 4316	WOMEN IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS	3
POLS 4331	U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: GOVERNMENT POWER	3

POLS 4332	U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS	
PSYC 3303	DRUGS AND BEHAVIOR	3
SOCI 3320	DEVIANCE: SOCIAL AND PERSONAL	
SOCI 3336	SOCIAL INEQUALITY	3
SOCI 3337	RACIAL & ETHNIC GROUPS IN US	3
SOCI 4306	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS	3
Other courses may be used for elective credit with advisor approval.		
Minor		
A minor is not required, but is optional. A minor, if chosen, consists of 18 hours, with at least six hours at the 3000/4000 level.		
Oral Proficiency and Computer Proficiency Required (COMS 1301)		
Hours of Open Electives		6
Total Hours		141

Requirements for a Minor in Criminology and Criminal Justice

A minor in CRCJ consists of 18 semester hours, of which at least 12 must be 3000/4000 level. CRCJ 2334 INTRODUCTION TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, and CRCJ 4301 THE AMERICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM, are required courses for a CRCJ minor. Students must earn a 2.0 GPA in all CRCJ courses taken toward the minor.

Requirements for a Minor in Forensic Applications of Science and Technology

The CRCJ minor in *Forensic Applications of Science and Technology* (FAST) provides a multidisciplinary approach designed for criminology and criminal justice majors pursuing professional careers in non-laboratory-based areas of forensic science, such as crime scene investigation and where a working knowledge of the basic concepts of forensic science and technology would prove beneficial. Science majors pursuing laboratory-based careers in forensic science may also find this minor advantageous. Students must complete 18 credit hours from the courses listed below, with at least six hours at the 4000 level.

To earn a FAST minor students must earn a GPA of 3.0 or better in those courses. Courses required for the minor cannot be utilized for double credit in the student's major. An academic minor may only be awarded upon current completion of a baccalaureate degree at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Required Entry Course:

CRCJ 3370 INTRODUCTION TO FORENSICS

Electives:

CRCJ 3371 CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION (Prerequisite: 3370)

CRCJ 3320 CYBERCRIME

CRCJ 4357 FORENSIC FIREARMS IDENTIFICATION (CURRENTLY BEING TAUGHT AS CRCJ 4387. TOPICS IN CRIME AND CRIMINOLOGY) (Prerequisite: 3370)

CRCJ 4340 FORENSIC DEATH INVESTIGATION (Prerequisite: 3370)

CRCJ 4341 FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF IMPRESSION EVIDENCE (Prerequisite: 3370 AND 3371)

CRCJ 4342 FORENSIC HAIR AND FIBER IDENTIFICATION (Prerequisite: 3370)

CRCJ 4343 FORENSIC EXPERT TESTIMONY (Prerequisite: 3370)

CRCJ 4390 INTERNSHIP PRACTICUM IN A DEPARTMENT APPROVED FORENSIC, CRIME SCENE OR DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY SETTING (Participation in CRCJ 4390 requires a minimum GPA of 3.0 in both CRCJ courses and in all courses completed at UTA.)

With departmental approval, courses offered by other academic units that have an applied forensic focus may be considered for the FAST minor. Such courses could include:

BIOL 3352 INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC LAB SCIENCE

BIOL 4352 FORENSIC BIOLOGY

BIOL 4406 HUMAN OSTEOLOGY (Also offered as ANTH 4406)

ANTH 3308 FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

This minor would be appropriately combined with the following majors: Criminology and Criminal Justice, Biology, Chemistry, Nursing, Psychology, or Computer Science.

Minor in Legal Studies

Requirements (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/prelaw/academics/law-legal-studies-minor/>)