

Program Map

Criminal Justice, BA

Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice
Valdosta State University



Program Overview

This map is a term-by-term sample course schedule. The milestones listed below each year are designed to keep you on course to graduate in four years. A sample schedule is provided as a general guideline to help you build a schedule each term. Your advisor will guide you in tailoring this schedule to suit your desired learning outcomes, ensuring you satisfy all core curriculum, major, state, and institutional requirements. The sample provided assumes you take fifteen hours each fall and spring semester until graduation; if you wish to take courses during the summer semester(s), your advisor will assist with modifying this schedule.

Students interested in pursuing a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration can get a head start through VSU's 4+1 Accelerated Degree Program that allows students to complete the B.S. in Criminal Justice and the M.S. in Criminal Justice Administration in just five years. Interested students should speak to their academic advisor to see if they qualify for this program. Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for the most current curriculum.

Year 1

First Term	Hours
CRJU 1100	3
ENGL 1101	3
MATH 1101 or 1111	3
HIST 2111 or 2112	3
Humanities Elective	3
Total hours	15

Second Term	Hours
ENGL 2020	3
ENGL 1102	3
POLS 1101	3
Non-STEM Elective	3
INQR 1001 or 2003	3
Total hours	15

Milestones: Complete math requirement. ≥ 2.0 GPA. By the end of year 1, you should have: Completed Introduction to Criminal Justice (CRJU 1100) and Writing for Criminal Justice Professions (ENGL 2020) courses and completed 30 Credit hours. Completed 30 credit hours.

Year 2

First Term	Hours
ENGL 2111, 2112, or 2113	3
SOCI 1101 or 1160	3
Non-STEM Elective	3
Social Science Elective	3
Field of Study Course	3
Total hours	15

Second Term	Hours
Lab Science	4
INQR 2002	2
Social Science Elective	3
Field of Study Course	3
Field of Study Course	3
Total hours	15

Milestones: ≥ 2.0 GPA. By the end of year 2, you should have: Completed Field of Study courses. Completed 60 credit hours.

Program Map

Year 3

First Term	Hours
CRJU 3300	3
CRJU 3310	3
CRJU 3401	3
Outside Major Elective (3XXX or 4XXX)	3
Guided (Open) Elective	3
Total hours	15

Second Term	Hours
CRJU 3402	3
CRJU 3600	3
CRJU 3700	3
CRJU 4XXX Elective	3
Outside Major Elective (3XXX or 4XXX)	3
Total hours	15

Milestones: ≥ 2.0 GPA. By fall of your junior year, you should submit your graduation application, investigate future careers, and complete 90 credit hours.

Year 4

First Term	Hours
CRJU 4100	3
CRJU 4200	3
CRJU 4XXX Elective	3
CRJU 4XXX Elective	3
Guided (Open) Elective	3
Total hours	15

Second Term	Hours
CRJU 4400	3
CRJU 4800	3
CRJU 4XXX Elective	3
CRJU 4XXX Elective	3
CRJU 4XXX Elective	3
Total hours	15

Milestones: ≥ 2.0 GPA. By spring of your senior year, you should: Contact and apply for graduate or professional school. Contact professors to write letters of recommendation. Prepare a professional resume. By the end of this semester, you should have: Completed 120 credit hours. Attend graduation.

About this field

Criminal Justice majors study the structure and function of the criminal justice system as it applies to adults and juveniles, focusing on criminal laws on the federal, state, and local level and how they relate to the Constitution of the United States. Criminal justice students at Valdosta State University study various theories of criminology, learn how to apply scientific research techniques and related statistical techniques to the study of crime and examine how criminal law is applied in the various components of the criminal justice system.

The Valdosta State Difference

Desiring a degree in criminal justice? Seeking flexible degree options? Students in the Valdosta State criminal justice program enjoy small upper-level class size and a close relationship with professors. Students have an opportunity to gain invaluable experience in the field by working on research projects with faculty members, completing internships and participating in study abroad programs.

Students can complete the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice on campus or fully online. Through the E-Degree online CJ major, courses are offered in two, eight-week

Program Map

terms, over 16 weeks, allowing students to complete four (4) courses per term (8 courses in 16 weeks). This allows for an expedited path to graduation.

The BS degree allows students the flexibility to seek entry level positions in local, county, state, and federal criminal justice agencies as well as private corporate security companies. Graduates with the degree are well prepared to pursue graduate education, including law school.

What You'll Learn

Students in the undergraduate criminal justice program have the opportunity to explore all areas of the criminal justice system through a diversity of course topics including: cybercrime, forensic criminology, criminal law, comparative justice systems, sex crimes, terrorism, white collar crime, organized crime, and criminal analysis. Students also have the option of using course electives to minor in other related disciplines. Students who graduate from Valdosta State with a degree in criminal justice are prepared for entry-level positions at all levels of the criminal justice system and in the private sector. Students are well prepared to pursue graduate education as well. Graduates have been successful in securing employment in various criminal justice agencies.