

CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES (CRJ)

Course Descriptions

CRJ 501 Criminology & Criminal Justice Proseminar 4 Credit Hours

This course provides an introduction to the field(s) of Criminology and Criminal Justice and justice studies more broadly, as well as offers a review of recent trends, topics, and controversies in criminology and criminal justice research. It also emphasizes professional development and socialization with respect to graduate level research and writing and career preparation. (YR).

CRJ 509 Intel and Homeland Security 4 Credit Hours

This course provides an in-depth examination of the principles guiding the collection, analysis, and sharing of intelligence in the United States and how these principles impact homeland security. Topics include, but are not limited to: terrorism and national security, the US Intelligence community (CIA, FBI, military intelligence), and questions of surveillance, ethics, and civil liberties. Emphasis is placed on the increased role of local and state law enforcement and private entities in assessing of threats to homeland security. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 409 and CRJ 509. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Graduate

CRJ 513 American Constitutional Law 3 Credit Hours

A major theme of this course is the development of the constitution, especially focusing on the themes of judicial review: judicial self-restraint and judicial activism; the expansion of executive and legislative powers; and the rise of "substantive due process of the law". Prerequisite or equivalent recommended. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. (AY).

Prerequisite(s): POL 101

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 514 Civil Rights and Liberties 3 Credit Hours

An analysis of the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment, with particular emphasis upon recent landmark or controversial Supreme Court decisions dealing with freedom of speech and religion, rights of criminal defendants; cruel and unusual punishment, right to privacy; civil rights and equal protection clause; and apportionment. Prerequisite or equivalent recommended. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): POL 101

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 515 Restorative Justice 4 Credit Hours

This graduate course explores the practice of restorative justice as it has been engaged in historical and contemporary criminal justice contexts. Topics addressed include the principles and philosophies underlying restorative justice, differences between retributive and restorative models, victim-offender dialogue, and offender reintegration. Students will be asked to think critically about restorative and retributive systems and to apply these concepts to develop their own approach to restorative justice. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 415 and CRJ 515. (YR).

CRJ 517 Crimmigration: Intersections of Immigration and Criminal Justice 4 Credit Hours

This course explores the intersection(s) of the criminal justice and immigration systems with special attention to race, class, and gender. It covers the evolution of American immigration policy and its application, the criminalization of immigrants, immigrant offending and victimization, the policing of immigrant communities, and the immigrant experience in the United States. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 417 and CRJ 517. (AY).

Prerequisite(s): CRJ 200 or CRJ 468 or CRJ 473 or SOC 200 or SOC 201

CRJ 518 Criminal Justice Research Methods 4 Credit Hours

This course provides an introduction to methods of data collection and analysis, as well as a discussion of research design and the philosophy of social science, within the context of the field of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Attention is given to quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methodologies. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 418 and CRJ 518. (F, W, S).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Graduate

CRJ 519 LGBTQ+ Criminology 4 Credit Hours

This course explores matters of crime, crime control, and the law through the lens of Queer Criminology, which draws attention to the stigmatization, criminalization, and rejection of LGBTQ+ populations. Special attention is paid to the intersections of identity (e.g. class, race, gender, sexual orientation) and offending, as well as identity and victimization, as well as the experiences of LGBTQ+ communities with police, courts, and corrections, in the United States and around the world. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 419 and CRJ 519. (AY).

CRJ 532 Victimology 4 Credit Hours

This course will introduce students to various types of victimization and victims. Patterns of victimization and system impacts, responses, and experiences will be emphasized. Students will analyze official and unofficial methods of crime reporting and will learn to utilize the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Criminal and civil processes will be examined in relation to victimization, and trends will be reviewed. Students will learn to discuss these concepts using a global perspective. Students cannot earn credit for both CRJ 432 and CRJ 532. (AY).

CRJ 535 Urban Sociology 4 Credit Hours

A descriptive study of the form and development of the urban community with respect to demographic structure, spatial and temporal patterns, and functional organization. The relationship of city and hinterland. Social planning and its problems in the urban community. Additional reading assignments or projects will distinguish this course from its undergraduate version CRJ/SOC 435. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ/SOC 435 and CRJ/SOC 535. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): SOC 200 or SOC 201

CRJ 543 Gender Roles 3 Credit Hours

This course will investigate the development of gender roles in childhood and adolescence due to either innate physiological differences or sociological patterning, the effect of gender roles upon male-female relationships within our society, and the possibility of transcending sociological gender roles in alternate modes of living. Additional reading assignments or projects will distinguish this course from its undergraduate version SOC 443. Students cannot receive credit for both SOC 443 and SOC 543. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): PSYC 170 or PSYC 171 or SOC 200 or SOC 201

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 546 Marriage and Family Problems 3 Credit Hours

Sociological analysis of problems encountered within the institution of marriage with particular reference to such issues as choosing a marriage partner, sexual adjustment, occupational involvement, conflict resolution, child rearing, divorce and readjustment. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): SOC 200 or SOC 201

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 547 Family Violence 3 Credit Hours

Sociological analyses of various forms of family violence which occur disproportionately in the lives of girls and women. Topics such as incest, sexual abuse, date rape, wife battering, and elder abuse will be situated within the social and cultural context of contemporary gender relationships. Social and political responses to the phenomena will be examined. Additional reading assignments or projects will distinguish this course from its undergraduate version SOC 447. Students cannot receive credit for both SOC 447 and SOC 547. (F).

Prerequisite(s): SOC 200 or SOC 201 or SOC 301 or SOC 443 or PSYC 405 or WST 405 or PSYC 505 or WST 505 or SOC 543

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 553 Sociology of Law 4 Credit Hours

Various aspects of the relationship between law and society are explored. After a look at processes of law making, attention is turned to the administration of law. This involves a study of the activities of legislatures, courts, police, and correctional agents. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ/SOC 453 and CRJ/SOC 553. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 560 Media & Crime 4 Credit Hours

This course examines how the media depict and impact perceptions of crime and criminal justice. Media is defined broadly to incorporate all forms of mass communication, including print and broadcast news, film, television, radio, and social platforms. Students will analyze how media construct crime and influence policy, discuss various types of moral panics, and learn basic theorization. Portrayals and stereotypes of women, children, police, prisons, offenders, and victims will be explored. Comparisons of cross-cultural perspectives and depictions will be applied. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 460 and CRJ 560. (AY).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Graduate

CRJ 565 Deviant Behavior/Soc Disorganiz 4 Credit Hours

General analysis of the concepts of social deviance and social disorganizations: factors producing each condition, the effects of social control measures on the course of deviance and disorganization consequences for the social system, and the relationship between the two concepts. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ/SOC 465 and CRJ/SOC 565. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 566 Addiction, Crime, and Justice 4 Credit Hours

Analyses of the sociology of substance use and abuse. Provides a sociological framework for understanding issues and evaluating our nation's responses to the phenomenon of drug use. Drawing on sociocultural and social psychological perspectives, this course systematically examines the social structure, social problems, and social policy aspects of drugs in American society. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ/SOC 466 and CRJ/SOC 566. (AY).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 568 Criminology 4 Credit Hours

Analysis of criminal behavior in relationship to the institutional framework of society. Emphasis upon the more routinized and persistent forms of criminality along with the joint roles played by victims, the criminal, the police, and all other relevant parties. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 468 and CRJ 568. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 569 Youth, Crime, and Justice 4 Credit Hours

The analysis of juvenile delinquent behavior in relationship to the institutional framework of society. Emphasis on the extent, causes, and methods of treatment of juvenile delinquency in the United States. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ/SOC 469 and CRJ/SOC 569. (AY).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 570 Current Issues in Crim Justice 4 Credit Hours

Current issues in the field of criminal justice and law enforcement in the US and other countries. Topics include an evaluation of police activities, problems of apprehensions and prosecution, the courts and the correctional system, and the efficacy of the legal structure in its social context. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 470 and CRJ 570. (OC).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 572 Correctional Systems 4 Credit Hours

Analysis of the legal, social and political issues affecting contemporary correctional theory and practice. Topics covered include the history of corrections; the nature of existing institutions; the functions and social structure of correctional institutions; and alternatives to institutional incarceration; probation and parole. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 472 and CRJ 572. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 573 Race, Crime and Justice 4 Credit Hours

This course is an analysis of race and its relation to crime in the criminal justice system. Students will analyze and interpret the perceived connection between race and crime, while exploring the dynamics of race, crime, and justice in the United States. This course is designed to familiarize students with current research and theories of racial discrimination within America's criminal justice system. Students cannot receive credit for both AAAS/CRJ/SOC 473 and CRJ 573. (W, YR).

CRJ 576 Inside Out Prison Exchange 4 Credit Hours

This community-based course, taught in a local correctional facility, brings university students and incarcerated students together to study as peers. Together students explore issues of crime and justice, drawing on one another to create a deeper understanding of how these issues affect our lives as individuals and as a society. The course creates a dynamic partnership between UMD and a correctional facility to allow students to question approaches to issues of crime and justice in order to build a safer and more just society for all. The course encourages outside (UMD) students to contextualize and to think deeply about what they have learned about crime and criminals and to help them pursue the work of creating a restorative criminal justice system; it challenges inside students to place their life experiences into larger social contexts and to rekindle their intellectual self-confidence and interest in further education. (YR).

CRJ 580 Theories of Justice 4 Credit Hours

This course is designed to provide an introduction to basic moral philosophy and social justice, with particular focus on how these issues pertain to the field of criminal justice. It will explore various perspectives of "justice" through readings from classical and contemporary theorists. In addition, students will discuss topics related to political economy, culture and cross-cultural engagement, and critiques and advancements of justice. They will review the limits of the justice system and issues such as globalization, capitalism, and reform. Applied learning will be used to identify, articulate, and defend different ethical positions. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): CRJ 200 and CRJ 468 and CRJ 473 and (SOC 200 or SOC 201)

CRJ 582 Legal & Ethical Argumentation 4 Credit Hours

This course will explore the ethical dilemmas faced by professionals in the legal system. We will pay particular attention to the criminal justice system and to the Rules of Professional Conduct for attorneys. Students read real legal cases and engage in thinking like attorneys to discuss questions like: How should an attorney consider their own ethical beliefs when deciding the appropriate course of action in a case? How should a judge consider their own ethical beliefs when making a juvenile justice decision? How should a police officer, investigator, or lawyer determine the ethical course of action when the law's instructions are ambiguous? Through practical "hands-on" learning, students will practice core skills in legal thinking, like writing briefs, examining the legal reasoning on both sides of a case, and understanding the strengths and weaknesses of each perspective in a case. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 482 and CRJ 582. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Graduate

CRJ 583 Justice, Crime and Environment 4 Credit Hours

This service-learning course focuses on environmental justice and law. Environmental Justice is defined as the fair treatment of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws. In the classroom, students learn the theory, history, and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations in Detroit, Michigan, and nationwide. In a required civic engagement project, students apply their substantive knowledge to solve local environmental problems. Through classroom learning and projects with community organizations, students connect law and justice concerns to Detroit's environmental problems. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 483 and CRJ 583. (AY).

CRJ 584 White Collar Crime 4 Credit Hours

This course reviews the history, categories, and problems related to white-collar crime. The course covers these topics by incorporating both legal and empirical perspectives in the study of white collar crime. In this course, we will focus on the substantive and procedural white collar crime laws ('law on the books') and analyze real white collar crime cases. Simultaneously, we will pay special attention to the dynamic relationship between white color crime and the American regulatory framework. As a result, we will assess the relationship and differences between various types of white collar crime and the regulatory regimes that oversee the business sector ('law in action'). Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 484 and CRJ 584. (AY).

CRJ 587 Forensic Science 4 Credit Hours

This course explores the application of the methods and techniques of science to matters of justice and the courts, including: crime scene investigation (CSI), the analysis of evidence, and court testimony. The history of forensic science is explored, and forensic techniques pertaining to common areas such as toxicology, firearms/toolmarks, trace evidence controlled substances, blood pattern analysis, digital evidence are examined. Relevant ethical and scientific controversies are discussed, including issues of bias and wrongful convictions. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 487 and CRJ 587. (YR).

CRJ 588 Criminal Law & Procedure 4 Credit Hours

A survey of the major legal decisions in the fields of substantive criminal law and criminal procedure. This course gives special attention to the nature of individual rights, and issues & procedures relating to arrests, searches, confessions and identifications under Constitutional case law. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 488 and CRJ 588. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Graduate

CRJ 590 Topics in Criminal Justice 4 Credit Hours

Examination of problems and issues in selected areas of criminal justice. Title as listed in Schedule of Classes will change according to the content of the course. This course is distinguished from its 400 level counterpart by the requirement of additional readings and research. Students cannot receive credit for both CRJ 490 and CRJ 590. (OC).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Graduate

CRJ 598 Directed Studies 1 to 8 Credit Hours

Directed individual study of any subject agreed upon by the student and the instructor. May not duplicate a formal course offering. (OC).

CRJ 699 Criminology & Criminal Justice Thesis 4 Credit Hours

Full Title: Criminology & Criminal Justice Thesis Students electing the Thesis option in the last stage of the MS in Criminology & Criminal Justice program will work under the general supervision of a member of the graduate faculty in the Criminology & Criminal Justice Program but will plan and carry out the work independently. Students should obtain a copy of the thesis requirements from the CASL Office of Graduate Programs or the Program Director before registering for this course. The student will submit the thesis and give an oral presentation to a panel of faculty members when the thesis is completed.

Prerequisite(s): CRJ 518

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Graduate

Can enroll if Major is Criminal Justice Studies, Criminology & Criminal Justice

*An asterisk denotes that a course may be taken concurrently.

Frequency of Offering

The following abbreviations are used to denote the frequency of offering:
(F) fall term; (W) winter term; (S) summer term; (F, W) fall and winter
terms; (YR) once a year; (AY) alternating years; (OC) offered occasionally