



Criminal Justice

Degree Awarded: Bachelor of Arts

Grand View University offers students two programs to develop a program of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. Both programs in the Criminal Justice major offered by Grand View University are designed to provide students an understanding of both the criminal justice system in America as well as some of the principal psychological, social, and moral issues that are of concern to those who work in this field. Graduates are employed by law enforcement, corrections, and juvenile justice organizations.

This completion plan is designed for students entering as freshmen. First Year Seminar, Composition, and Quantitative Reasoning requirements are included on this plan, but students must fill in the remaining Core Curriculum requirements, any additional major and/or minor requirements, and electives and upper division courses.

This major consists of 42-43 semester credits, all of which will be counted in computing the 2.2 GPA required for this major. Major prerequisites and core courses are not included in the major GPA and are indicated with a *.

Year 1 – Fall Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Core Seminar I*	LIBA 110*	3	IL, W, O	
First Year Composition*	ENGL 101*	3	IL, W	Or take Year 1 Spring
Introduction to Criminal Justice	SOCS 155	3	W, IC	
Contemporary Mathematical Literacy*	MATH 105*	4	Q	If needed to meet prerequisites for Statistics, or can take MATH 095; or take Year 1 Spring
Careers in Criminal Justice	SOCS 120	1	V	
	TOTAL	7-13		

Year 1 – Spring Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Corrections and Penology	SOCS 220	3	IL	
First Year Composition*	ENGL 101	3	IL, W	Or take Year 1 Fall
Introduction to Sociology*	SOCS 101	3	Q	Domain Course
	TOTAL	6-9		

Year 2 – Fall Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Social Problems	SOCS 315	3	IL, W	
Police & Society	SOCS 360	3		
	TOTAL	6		

Year 2 – Spring Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Criminological Theory	SOCS 318	3	O	
Statistics for Social Sciences or Principles of Statistics	PSYC 239 or STAT 241	3 or 4	Q	Or take Year 3 Fall
Elective course from major		3		9 credits required, can be taken any semester
	TOTAL	3-10		

This information must be used in conjunction with the 2025-2026 Grand View University Catalog and does not reflect a student's official record of progress. Students are expected to use the Progress tool found on myGVU >Tools > My Academics > 'Plan and register for courses' to monitor and plan coursework. Other available resources include: Course Planning Documents (found on myGVU under Academics and Advising Resources) and the faculty and staff who work with academic requirements.

Year 3 – Fall Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency	SOCS 340	3		
Elective course from major		3		9 credits required, can be taken any semester
	TOTAL	3-6		

Year 3 – Spring Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Social Science Research Methods	POLS/SOCS 350	3	IL, W, Q	
Criminal Law and Procedures	SOCS 347	3		
	TOTAL	6-9		

Year 4 – Fall Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Forensic Science and Crime Scene Investigation	SOCS 420	3	O	
Elective course from major		3		9 credits required, can be taken any semester
	TOTAL	6		

Year 4 – Spring Semester

Class	Designation	Credits	Outcome Skills	Notes
Senior Seminar	SOCS 455	3	W, O, V	
Internship	SOCS 399	3	IL, W, V	
	TOTAL	6		

Core Outcome Skills

IL = Information Literacy; W = Written Communication; O = Oral Communication
 Q = Quantitative Communication; IC = Intercultural Competency; V = Vocation

Major Electives (take 9 credit hours):

POLS 315, Introduction to Public Administration, 3 credits
 SOCS 215, Race and Ethnic Relations, 3 credits
 SOCS 331, Crime and the Media, 1 credit
 SOCS 334, Serial Killers, 1 credit
 SOCS 335, Violence in the Workplace, 1 credit
 SOCS/PSYC 362, Forensic Socio-Psychology, 3 credits
 SOCS 363, Domestic Violence, 1 credit
 SOCS 364, Dysfunctional Family, 1 credit
 SOCS 365, Divorce in America, 1 credit
 SOCS 367, White Collar Crime, 3 credits
 SOCS 375, Homeland Security and Terrorism, 3 credits

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SOCS 380, Topics in Nonviolence, 3 credits
SOCS 430, Special Topics, 1-4 credits

Additional majors in Political Science, and Psychology, as well as minors in those areas, Family Studies, General Business, Management, Sociology, Spanish, or Professional Communication, can complement a major in Criminal Justice.