Criminal Justice

at Benedictine University

Why study criminal justice at Benedictine University?

Criminal justice is the scientific study of the variety of ways in which the components of the criminal justice system work together from the creation of laws to the treatment of those who violate laws. Studying criminal justice at Benedictine University provides a student with a well-rounded liberal arts preparation to work in the areas of law enforcement, probation and parole, and the judicial system. The program can also serve as a basis for graduate work in criminal justice or as a foundation for students who want to attend law school to become a criminal law attorney.

What does a degree in Criminal Justice at Benedictine offer?

Studying criminal justice at Benedictine University teaches students to be critical thinkers; to acquire, understand and synthesize knowledge pertaining to the criminal justice system; to learn research methodology and how it can be applied to questions of the correctional process and law creation, law enforcement and criminological theory; and to solve problems independently and cooperatively. Students also study the political, social and cultural forces that shape the criminal justice system.

What careers are available with a degree in Criminal Justice?

A degree in Criminal Justice can open the door to a number of careers such as lawyer, judge, police officer, crime scene investigator, youth counselor and probation officer. Positions can be found on the local, state and federal levels and in the private sector.

How does the program work?

The Criminal Justice major is offered through the Department of Psychology and Sociology with the cooperation of the Department of Political Science and includes a field placement component. As a Criminal Justice major, students develop a foundation in American government, ethics and cultural heritage. They learn the fundamentals of juvenile justice, delinquency and crime, criminal investigation techniques and research methodology. Advanced students learn criminal investigation methods and statistics methodology and gain a broad background in criminal law.

Recommended Program

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice

FRESHMAN

Writing Colloquium	3
Mathematics (MATH 105, 108 or 110)	3
Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
American Government	3
Artistic and Creative (QCA) course	3
	15

Basic Speech	3
Research Writing	3
Principles of Sociology	3
Philosophical (QPL) course	3
Social Problems	3
	15

JUNIOR

Correctional System	3
Elective	3
Social Scientific II: Political, Global and Economic Systems (QPE)	3
Basic and Applied Statistics	3
Interdisciplinary Seminar	3
	15

Introduction to Criminal Investigation	3
Historical (QHT) course	3
Criminal Law	3
Physical Scientific (QPS) course	3
Electives	3
	15

SOPHOMORE

Juvenile Justice	3
Religions/Theological (QRT) course	3
Life Scientific (QLS) course	3
Catholic and Benedictine Intellectual Traditions (IDS 201)	3
State and Local Government	3
	15

Crime and Delinquency	3
Literary and Rhetorical (QLR) course	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Cultural Anthropology	3
	15

SENIOR

Clinical Practicum in the Social Sciences Lab	4
Research Methods	3
Criminal Law	3
Electives	5
	15

Senior Thesis	3
Criminal Justice Field Placement	3
Ethics in Policing	3
Electives	6
	15