B.A.A.S. IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Overview

The B.A.A.S. in Criminal Justice is a transfer pathway for students with an Associate of Applied Science degree. Students may complete the program by obtaining credit for the relevant program coursework, up to 33 hours, for certifications, non-academic training in the field, and industry training.

The B.A.A.S. in Criminal Justice, in conjunction with students’ experience, provides skills in law enforcement, social perceptiveness, decision-making and problem-solving, writing, and speaking. Graduates can acquire positions with law enforcement agencies, the police force, and correctional facilities, among other related fields. The program combines skills learned in the classroom with the field experience many pursuing a criminal justice degree already possess. The degree program is a practical, streamlined way for students to simultaneously advance both their education and their career, or to use their past experiences to enhance a new career field.

Students in the program find a supportive environment that challenges and empowers them to explore their individual interests in the wide realm of study in criminal justice. The Criminal Justice program is led by highly qualified faculty members who have both real-world experience and scholarly experience to enrich your learning.

Eligible students are encouraged to join the Omega Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, the national honor society for criminal justice. Students may also join the Criminal Justice Association (CJA), which is open to criminal justice and non-criminal justice members who are interested in the field and want to engage in service within the local community and region.

Our diverse inventory of upper-level classes balances the major domains of criminal justice, including law enforcement, corrections, courts, victims, offenders, and practitioners.

Program Level Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain concepts, major criminological theories, empirical findings, and trends in Criminal Justice.
2. Apply legal and ethical principles to the practice of Criminal Justice.
3. Describe the structure and functioning of institutions in Criminal Justice.
4. Identify the racial and ethnic issues associated with the practice of Criminal Justice.
5. Writing appropriately for upper-level coursework and criminal justice occupations.

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science - Criminal Justice Program Requirements

Courses that are common to all concentrations may be applied to all. At least 120 hours are required for the degree.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1301</td>
<td>Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
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ENGL 1302  Composition II  3
Mathematics-020
Select three hours of Mathematics  3
Life and Physical Sciences-030
Select six hours of Science  6
Language, Philosophy, and Culture-040
Select three hours of Language, Philosophy or Culture  3
Creative Arts-050
Select three hours of Creative Arts  3
American History-060
HIST 1301  United States History I  3
HIST 1302  United States History II  3
Government and Political Science-070
GOVT 2305  Federal Government  3
GOVT 2306  Texas Government  3
Social and Behavioral Sciences-080
Select three hours of Social and Behavioral Sciences  3
Component Area Option-090
SPCH 1311  Introduction to Speech Communication  3
or SPCH 1315  Public Speaking  
or SPCH 1321  Business & Professional Communication  
Elective any Core Component (090)  3

Occupational Specialization  33

Major Course Requirements

SOCI 3303  Race and Ethnicity  3
CRIJ 3305  Criminology  3
CRIJ 3310  Criminal Justice Supervision and Management  3
CRIJ 3315  Criminal Evidence  3
CRIJ 4312  Criminal Justice Ethics  3
CRIJ 4315  Criminal Justice Statistics  3
CRIJ 4316  Methods of Criminal Justice Research  3
CRIJ 4395  Criminal Justice Senior Seminar  3

Upper-Level Criminal Justice Electives  12
Upper-Level Electives  9
Total Credit Hours  120

1 Refer to General Education Core Requirements for more information.
2 For the Occupational Specialization credits, students must have a minimum of 12 semester credit hours consisting of technical, vocational, and military training and may include academic electives to complete the maximum allowable 33 semester credit hours.