CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE STUDIES - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Sociology and Criminology
www.kent.edu/sociology

About This Program

The Criminology and Justice Studies undergraduate major combines coursework in law, psychology, sociology and other fields to provide a comprehensive understanding of crime and justice. With experienced faculty and opportunities for research and practical experience, this program prepares you for a successful career in a wide range of criminal justice roles. Read more…

Contact Information

- Program Coordinator: **Tiffany Taylor** | ttaylo36@kent.edu | 330-672-9474
- Speak with an Advisor
  - Ashtabula Campus
  - East Liverpool Campus
  - Kent Campus
  - Salem Campus
  - Stark Campus
  - Trumbull Campus
  - Tuscarawas Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor: Kent Campus | Regional Campuses

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - Mostly online
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Ashtabula Campus
  - East Liverpool Campus
  - Kent Campus
  - Salem Campus
  - Stark Campus
  - Trumbull Campus
  - Tuscarawas Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

First-line supervisors of correctional officers

- -7.8% decline
- 48,700 number of jobs
- $60,910 potential earnings

First-line supervisors of police and detectives

- 5.2% faster than the average
- 126,100 number of jobs
- $92,970 potential earnings

Public safety telecommunicators

- 6.2% faster than the average
- 98,300 number of jobs
- $43,290 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency unless they meet specific exceptions. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Transfer Students: Students who have attended any other educational institution after graduating from high school must apply as undergraduate transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog.

Some programs may require that students meet certain requirements before progressing through the program. For programs with progression requirements, the information is shown on the Coursework tab.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
CRIM 12000	INTRODUCTION TO JUSTICE STUDIES	3
CRIM 26704	ISSUES IN LAW AND SOCIETY (KSS)	3
CRIM 36702	CRIMINOLOGY	3
CRIM 37311	MINORITIES IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD)	3
or CRIM 37411	WOMEN IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD)	
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC) [1]	3
SOC 32220	DATA ANALYSIS [2]	3
SOC 32221	DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY [2]	1
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Electives [3]		9
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level)		9
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		14-16
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		9
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credits hour, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		35
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		**120**

[1] A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

[2] Students declared in both the Psychology major and Criminology and Justice Studies major may substitute PSYC 21621 in place of SOC 32220 and SOC 32221.

[3] POTA 11001 may count toward lower-division Criminology and Justice Studies electives.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 14-16 credit hours of foreign language.[1]

To complete the requirement, students need the equivalent of Elementary I and II in any language, plus one of the following options[2]:

1. Intermediate I and II of the same language
2. Elementary I and II of a second language
3. Any combination of two courses from the following list:

   - Intermediate I of the same language
   - ARAB 21401
   - ASL 19401
   - CHIN 25421
   - MCLS 10001
   - MCLS 20001
   - MCLS 20091
   - MCLS 21417
   - MCLS 21420
   - MCLS 22217
   - MCLS 28403
   - MCLS 28404

[1] All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer credit hours and fewer courses. This may be accomplished by (1) passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level; (2) receiving credit through one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University; or (3) demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language. When students complete the requirement with fewer than 14 credit hours and four courses, they will complete remaining credit hours with general electives.

[2] Certain majors, concentrations and minors may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular language coursework.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

	Semester One		Credits
!	CRIM 12000	INTRODUCTION TO JUSTICE STUDIES	3
	UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
	Foreign Language		4
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours		**14**
	Semester Two		
	SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
	Foreign Language		4
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours		**16**
	Semester Three		
	CRIM 26704	ISSUES IN LAW AND SOCIETY (KSS)	3
	Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Elective		3
	Foreign Language		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours		**15**
	Semester Four		
	Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Elective		3
	Foreign Language		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours		**15**

	Semester Five		
	CRIM 36702	CRIMINOLOGY	3
	CRIM 37311 or CRIM 37411	MINORITIES IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD) or WOMEN IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD)	3
!	SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC)	3
	General Electives		6
		Credit Hours	**15**
	Semester Six		
!	SOC 32220	DATA ANALYSIS	3
!	SOC 32221	DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY	1
	Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Elective		3
	Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Elective		3
	General Elective		3
		Credit Hours	**13**
	Semester Seven		
	Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Elective		3
	General Electives		12
		Credit Hours	**15**
	Semester Eight		
	Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Elective		3
	General Electives		14
		Credit Hours	**17**
		Minimum Total Credit Hours:	**120**

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	**36-37**

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Communicate orally and in writing.
2. Develop skills through experience.
3. Have substantive knowledge in specific areas of the discipline, namely law, law enforcement, corrections, courts and diversity.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of ethics.
5. Describe theoretical issues related to the causes of crime and development of justice practices.
6. Find and explain research in the field.
7. Develop critical thinking skills.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology and Justice Studies takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of crime, law and justice. The curriculum provides a firm understanding of the basic institutions of the criminal justice system. Students are also exposed to criminological theory and diversity courses, which help them understand the complex relationship between the individual, society and the criminal justice system. The program stresses effective writing and analytical skills. Students are afforded the opportunity to earn credit through internship placements.

Consultations with faculty and advisors enable students to make informed choices about which combination of courses will maximize their preparation for future careers and graduate education. Such specializations include policing; corrections; victimology; law and society; criminology and deviance; and justice and human relations.

Criminology and Justice Studies students may apply early to the M.A. degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program policy in the University Catalog for more information.