

# CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE STUDIES - B.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities  
Department of Sociology and Criminology  
[www.kent.edu/sociology](http://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

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- 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

- -2.8% decline
- 57,100 number of jobs
- \$76,310 potential earnings

### First-line supervisors of police and detectives

- 2.9% slower than the average
- 160,800 number of jobs
- \$105,980 potential earnings

### Public safety telecommunicators

- 3.5% about as fast as the average
- 105,200 number of jobs
- \$50,730 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.

**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 proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

**Former Students:** Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

**Transfer Students:** Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

## Program Requirements

### Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)</b>		
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	3
or CRIM 37411	WOMEN IN CRIME AND JUSTICE	
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (KSS)	3
SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC) <sup>1</sup>	3
SOC 32220	DATA ANALYSIS <sup>2</sup>	3
SOC 32221	DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY <sup>2</sup>	1
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Electives <sup>3</sup>		9
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level)		9
<b>Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)</b>		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		10-16
American Civic Literacy Requirement <sup>4</sup>		3
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each) <sup>4</sup>		6-9
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional <sup>4</sup>		3-6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		39
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> POTA 11001 may count as a lower-division Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) elective.

<sup>4</sup> If students complete the American Civic Literacy requirement by taking HIST 12061, the course will apply to the Kent Core Humanities category. If they complete it with POL 10101, the course will apply to the Kent Core Additional category.

## 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 Sciences and Humanities must complete the following:

1. Elementary I and II of any language (or equivalent) **and**
2. One of the following options:
  - a. Intermediate I and II of the same language
  - b. Elementary I and II of a second language
  - c. Any combination of two courses from the following list:

- i. Intermediate I of the same language
- ii. One to two college-level course(s) completed outside the United States
- iii. Courses: ARAB 21401, ASL 19401, CHIN 25421, MCLS 10001, MCLS 20001, MCLS 20091, MCLS 21417, MCLS 21420, MCLS 22217, MCLS 28403, MCLS 28404

\*The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies is exempt from the foreign language requirement until fall 2028 due to its previous longstanding academic placement in the College of Communication and Information, which does not have a foreign language requirement.

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 courses. This may be accomplished in one of three ways:

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
3. Demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language

Certain programs 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 a particular language proficiency.

## Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. 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
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>14</b>
Semester Two		Credits
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (KSS)	3
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
Semester Three		Credits
CRIM 26704	ISSUES IN LAW AND SOCIETY (KSS)	3
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Elective		3
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3
American Civic Literacy Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester Four		Credits
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Elective		3
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3

Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Semester Five</b>		
CRIM 36702	CRIMINOLOGY	3
CRIM 37311 or CRIM 37411	MINORITIES IN CRIME AND JUSTICE or WOMEN IN CRIME AND JUSTICE	3
! SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC)	3
General Electives		6
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Semester Six</b>		
! 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 (30000 or 40000 level)		3
General Elective		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Semester Seven</b>		
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Elective (30000 or 40000 level)		3
General Electives		12
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Semester Eight</b>		
Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM) Upper-Division Elective (30000 or 40000 level)		3
General Electives		14
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>120</b>

## 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.	
American Civic Literacy	3 credit hours
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
<b>Total Credit Hours:</b>	<b>36-37</b>

## 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.

## Program Policies

### Foreign Language Requirements

In general, students may elect any foreign language taught through the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. However, certain majors, concentrations and minors require specific languages or limit the languages from which students may choose. In addition, students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular languages for that study. In such cases, students should seek the advice of the appropriate department before selecting a language.

### Progress Toward Fulfillment

College of Sciences and Humanities students are encouraged to begin meeting the foreign language requirement as early as possible in their program to ensure timely degree completion.

### Mandatory Outcomes Assessment

In addition to the other General Requirements of the college, candidates for an undergraduate degree in the College of Sciences and Humanities are required, as a condition of graduation, to participate in an outcomes assessment. These outcomes assessments are conducted by each undergraduate degree program in the College of Sciences and Humanities.

### 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.