

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (BA)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts
Major: Criminal Justice
Program Code: 3706

About This Major . . .

The Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice is designed to provide students interested in careers in the justice system with the knowledge, communication and critical thinking skills necessary for success in their field. Graduates secure positions in policing, courts, and corrections. Many also use this degree as the starting point in their pursuit of a law degree. Finally, the degree will assist students in their upward mobility in their area of employment.

Important information for this degree:

- Students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- Selective Admissions: All students intending to obtain a BA or BAS in Criminal Justice will initially be enrolled as pre-criminal justice majors. Students must earn a "C" or better in CRMJ 110 and CRMJ 201 prior to enrolling in any additional program specific courses. Core courses CRMJ 110, CRMJ 201, CRMJ 310, CRMJ 320, and CRMJ 328 must be completed with a "C" or better before students will be admitted into the BA/BAS major. Students must also complete MATH 110 (or higher) and ENGL 111 – both with a "C" or better prior to acceptance as a Criminal Justice major. GPA within these subjects must be at least 2.5. Overall cumulative GPA after 45 credit hours (approximately 3 semesters) must be at least 2.5. Please see the Criminal Justice Student Handbook for more information. Transfer students will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services' [What to Do with a Major?](#) resource.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

- Discuss the history and practice of each segment of the Criminal Justice System: police, courts, and corrections. (Specialized Knowledge)
- Examine diversity issues and assess their impact on work and ethical practices in criminal justice (Ethical Reasoning/Personal and Social Responsibility).
- Apply major criminological theories to criminal behavior. (Critical Thinking)
- Recognize quantitative and qualitative research methods, navigate scholarly information systems, identify and select quality sources and materials, and assess the validity and reliability of data (Quantitative Fluency and Information Literacy).
- Demonstrate proficient oral communication and writing skills that are formal and professional in nature. (Communication Fluency)

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options." This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 30 semester credit hours for a baccalaureate degree. A maximum of 15 of the 30 credits may be for cooperative education, internships, and practica.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Specific to this program:

Students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.

Essential Learning Requirements

(31 semester hours)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
English ¹		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTC01	3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTC02	3
Mathematics ¹		
MATH 110	Mathematical Investigations-GTMA1 (or higher)	3
History		
Select one History course		3
Humanities		
Select one Humanities course		3
Social and Behavioral Sciences ²		
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course		3
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course		3
Fine Arts		
Select one Fine Arts course		3
Natural Sciences ³		
Select one Natural Sciences course		3
Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab		4
Total Semester Credit Hours		31

¹ Must receive a grade of "C" or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.

² Recommended: POLS 101, PSYC 150, SOCO 260, or SOCO 264.

³ One course must include a lab.

Other Lower Division Requirements

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Wellness Requirement		
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
Select one Activity course		1
Essential Learning Capstone ¹		
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Total Semester Credit Hours		6

¹ Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

Foundation Courses

(10 semester hours - must receive a grade of C or better in all courses)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
STAT 215	Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
Select two consecutive classes in the same foreign language		6
Total Semester Credit Hours		10

Program Specific Degree Requirements

(46-48 semester hours - must receive a grade of "C" or better in all core and restricted elective courses and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework in this area.)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Core Courses		
CRMJ 110	Orientation to Criminal Justice Inquiry	1
CRMJ 201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 302	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 310	The Police Process	3
CRMJ 315	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 320	Corrections	3
CRMJ 328	American Court Systems	3
CRMJ 370	Criminology	3
Capstone		
Select one of the following:		3
CRMJ 465	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice	
CRMJ 490	Comparative Criminal Justice	
CRMJ 499	Internship	
SOCI 497	Structured Research	
Criminal Justice Electives		
Select at least one course from each subfield: ¹		12-13
Policing		
CRMJ 280 & 280L	Crime Scene Processing and Crime Scene Processing Laboratory	
CRMJ 335	Community Policing	
CRMJ 410	Criminal Investigations	
CRMJ 415	Counter-Terrorism and Law Enforcement	
CRMJ 435	White-Collar Crimes	
Courts		
CRMJ 301	Criminal Procedure	
CRMJ 405	Civil Liability for Law Enforcement and Corrections	
CRMJ 412	Constitutional Law	
CRMJ 420	Criminal Law	
CRMJ 425	Trial, Evidence and Legal Advocacy	
Corrections		
CRMJ 340	Community Corrections	
CRMJ 440	Capital Punishment	
CRMJ 470	Restorative Justice	
CRMJ 480	Inside-Out Prison Exchange	
Criminal Justice Theory		
CRMJ 311	Victimology	
CRMJ 325	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency	
CRMJ 330	Intimate Partner Violence	
CRMJ 345	Mental Illness and Crime	
CRMJ 360	Crime and Deviance	
CRMJ 375	Women and Crime	
CRMJ 380	Crisis Intervention in Criminal Justice	
CRMJ 413	Violent and Serial Offenders	

CRMJ 445	Media and Crime	
Total Semester Credit Hours		37-38

¹ Criminal Justice Electives taken beyond the required 12-13 semester hours can also satisfy the restricted elective requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Restricted Electives		
Select 9-10 semester hours chosen from any of the above listed Capstone or Criminal Justice Electives courses, CRMJ 396 Topics, CRMJ 496 Topics, or CRMJ 495 Independent Study.		9-10
Total Semester Credit Hours		9-10

¹ Internship may not be repeated if taken to meet the capstone requirement and may only count as 1 to 3 credits toward the 6 restricted credits. 300 and 400-level Topics courses may be taken more than one time if the course has a different topic.

General Electives

All college level courses appearing on your final transcript, not listed above that will bring your total semester hours to 120 hours. 25-27 semester hours; additional hours of upper division may be needed.

Suggested Course Plan

		Semester Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
Essential Learning - Natural Science with Lab		4
Essential Learning - Natural Science		3
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
CRMJ 201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 110	Orientation to Criminal Justice Inquiry	1
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
Essential Learning - Mathematics		3
CRMJ 328	American Court Systems	3
CRMJ 310	The Police Process	3
CRMJ 320	Corrections	3
Activity Course Selection		1
Semester Credit Hours		16
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
Foundation Course - Foreign Language		3
STAT 215	Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
Essential Learning - Social/Behavioral Sciences		3
Essential Learning - History		3
Essential Learning - Humanities		3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring Semester		
Foundation Course - Foreign Language		3
Essential Learning - Fine Arts		3
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Essential Learning - Social/Behavioral Sciences		3

CRMJ 315	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
CRMJ 302	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
Criminal Justice Elective - Policing		3
Criminal Justice Elective - Courts		3
Criminal Justice Elective - Corrections		3
Criminal Justice Restricted Elective		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
CRMJ 370	Criminology	3
Criminal Justice Elective - Criminal Justice Theory		3
General Elective		3
Restricted Electives (2 courses)		6
Semester Credit Hours		15
Fourth Year		
Fall Semester		
Restricted Elective		3
General Electives (4 courses)		12
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
Capstone Course		3
General Electives (3 courses)		9
Semester Credit Hours		12
Total Semester Credit Hours		120

Advising and Graduation Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for their intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.

- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be their responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.