

Degree Path: B.A. in Criminal Justice

College of Behavioral Sciences and Community Services

Freshman Year

Fall Semester 15 hours
GES 1122 Strategies for Student Success ∞
ENG 1113 Composition & Rhetoric I ∞
MTH 1113/1123 (Math option) ∞
CJU 1113 Introduction to Criminal Justice ◇
PED 1101-2291 (Activity Course option) ∞
BIB/REL/THE (Bible Core option) ∞

Spring Semester 16 hours
COM 1143 Fundamentals of Speech Comm. ∞
ENG 1123 Composition & Rhetoric II ∞
(prereq: ENG 1113)
HIS 1113 American History I ∞
CJU 2113 Analysis of Police Operations ◇
PED 1101-2291 (Activity Course option) ∞
BIB/REL/THE (Bible Core option) ∞

Sophomore Year

Fall Semester 17 hours
GOV 2213 National and State Government ∞
BIO 1113 Biological Science ∞
PSY 1153 Introduction to Psychology ∞
CJU 1123 Ethics in Criminal Justice ◇
PED 2232 Wellness and Lifestyle ∞
BIB/REL/THE (Bible Core option) ∞

Spring Semester 15 hours
ENG 2273/2243 (English option) ∞/◇
(ENG 2233, if preferred, is fall only)
(prereq: ENG 1123)
CJU 3173 Criminal Investigation ◇
CJU 3113 Constitutional Law **
SWK2113 Introduction to Social Work
BIB/REL/THE (Bible Core option) ∞

Junior Year

Fall Semester 15 hours
CJU 3123 Theories of Criminology ◇
COU3443 Crisis Intervention & Management
SWK2233 Abuse & Neglect
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 1)
BIB/REL/THE (Bible Core option) ∞

Spring Semester 15 hours
CJU 3143 Criminal Justice Administration ◇
SWK 3173 Forensic Social Work
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 2)
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 3)
BIB/REL/THE (Bible Core option) ∞

Senior Year

Fall Semester 15 hours
CJU 4123 Advanced Penology *
CJU 4133 Security Management ◇
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 4)
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 5)
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 6)

Spring Semester 12 hours
CJU 4583 Field Practicum in Criminal Justice ∞
CJU 4163 Advanced Criminal Investigation
CJU 4143 Homeland Security & Terrorism
XXX XXXX (General Elective Course option 7)

Please Note:

- This plan is one example of how to complete the degree in 4 years. It assumes no transfer credit and no developmental coursework. It will work for some, but not for all.
- You can meet with your scheduler, program coordinator, or department chair to plan around your circumstances and develop your personal degree path. Degree requirements and offerings are subject to change, so consult advisors for on-going updates.
- Course Offering Codes:
 - ∞ every fall and spring semester
 - * only that semester in odd years
 - *** to be taken *only* in specified semester
 - ◇ every year only fall/spring/summer (as listed)
 - ** only that semester in even years
 - ∞/◇ offering differs in order listed

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OVERVIEW

The purpose of the bachelor's degree in criminal justice is to provide students with an understanding of the foundational issues related to various levels of law enforcement, the U.S. court system, and the correctional process. The degree program is designed to help students consider a potential career path in a related discipline. Additionally, the degree provides the student with integration of a biblical perspective, interfacing with the foundations, concepts, and basic skills of criminal justice and research methodology, leadership, and service.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A bachelor's degree in criminal justice will prepare students for careers in local, state, and federal levels of law enforcement, crime scene technology, forensic lab technician, probation, parole, crisis and emergency management, private security operations, cyber security, homeland security, pre-law school, and child and family protective services

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Criminal Justice Faculty have advanced degrees in the criminal justice field and extensive experience working in one of the related disciplines.
- Successful graduates have gone on to work for various local, state, and federal police agencies and have become patrol officers, K-9 officers, SWAT operators, detective investigators, state troopers, U.S. Border Protection Agents, Homeland Security Agents, U.S. Marshals, U.S. Investigator's Service Agents, prosecuting and defense lawyers, adult and juvenile probation officers, state child and family protection investigators, private security operators, crisis management case workers/counselors, high school criminal justice instructors.
- Every criminal justice course includes active, hands-on participatory learning from forensic laboratory skills development, physical security crime evaluation, electronic surveillance, traffic stops, virtual de-escalation, physical and deadly physical force scenarios, active shooter suppression, security team operations, indoor and outdoor crime scene search, self-defense skills, emergency first aid, and more.
- The Nelson CJ program integrates foundational biblical principles in almost every topic discussed, making it one of the most unique criminal justice programs in the U.S.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL EDUCATION STUDIES 51 Hours

General Education: 14 hours

- COM 1143 Fundamentals of Speech Communication
- ENG 1113 Composition and Rhetoric I
- ENG 1123 Composition and Rhetoric II
- GES 1122 Strategies for Student Success
- 3 hours from the following:
 - ENG 2273 Introduction to Literature
 - ENG 2233 American Literature through the Civil War
 - ENG 2243 American Literature after the Civil War

Social/Behavioral Sciences: 9 hours

- GOV 2213 National and State Government
- HIS 1113 American History I
- PSY 1153 Introduction to Psychology

Natural Science/Mathematics: 6 hours

- BIO 1113 Biological Sciences **OR**
- 3 hours from the following:
 - MTH 1113 College Mathematics **OR**
 - MTH 1123 College Algebra

Physical Education: 4 hours

- PED 2232 Wellness and Lifestyle
- 2 hours from Activity Courses PED 1101-2291

General Biblical Studies: 18 hours

- BIB 1223 The Church in Ministry and Mission
- BIB 2213 Bible Study
- REL 1133 Authentic Christianity
- REL 1173 Introduction to Biblical Literature
- THE 2113 Introduction to Theology and Apologetics
- THE 2333 Pentecostal Doctrine and History

MAJOR STUDIES 48 Hours

- CJU113 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- CJU1123 Ethics in Criminal Justice
- CJU2113 Analysis of Police Operations
- CJU3113 Constitutional Law
- CJU3123 Theories in Criminology
- CJU3173 Criminal Investigation
- CJU4143 Homeland Security & Terrorism
- CJU4123 Advanced Penology
- CJU4133 Security Management
- CJU4143 Criminal Justice Administration
- CJU4163 Advanced Criminal Investigation
- CJU4583 Field Practicum in Criminal Justice
- COU3443 Crisis Intervention & Management
- SWK2113 Introduction to Social Work
- SWK2233 Abuse & Neglect
- SWK3173 Forensic Social Work

MINOR STUDIES/GENERAL ELECTIVES 21 Hours

- May include official minors or purely elective hours.
- Consider MED 3193 Drone Videography – only offered on campus.
- 21 hours of the student's choice

TOTAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 120 Hours