

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Additional information: Reference the Program Landing Page (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/bachelor-degree-in-criminal-justice/>) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|--|----------------|
| Bachelor of Arts, Major in Criminal Justice | | |
| Core Curriculum (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/) | | |
| Component Area I (Communication) | | 6 |
| Component Area II (Mathematics) ¹ | | 3 |
| Component Area III (Life and Physical Science) | | 8 |
| Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture) ² | | 3 |
| Component Area V (Creative Arts) | | 3 |
| Component Area VI (U.S. History) | | 6 |
| Component Area VII (Political Science/Government) | | 6 |
| Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences) ³ | | 3 |
| Component Area IX (Component Area Option) ² | | 4 |
| Degree Specific Requirements | | |
| ENGL 3330 | Introduction to Technical Writing | 3 |
| Select one of the following: | | 3-4 |
| STAT 3379 | Statistical Methods in Practice | |
| or MATH 3379 | Statistical Methods in Practice | |
| or PSYC 3402 | Psychological Statistics | |
| or SOCI 3345 | Social Statistics | |
| Foreign Language ² | | 14 |
| Major: Foundation | | |
| CRIJ 2361 | Introduction To The Criminal Justice System ³ | 3 |
| CRIJ 2362 | Criminology ⁴ | 3 |
| CRIJ 2364 | Fundamentals Of Criminal Law ⁵ | 3 |
| CRIJ 2365 | Correctional Systems and Practice ⁵ | 3 |
| CRIJ 2367 | Police Systems & Practices ⁵ | 3 |
| CRIJ 3378 | Introduction To Methods Of Research ⁶ | 3 |
| CRIJ 4385 | Criminal Justice and Social Diversity (Senior standing is required) ⁷ | 3 |
| VCST 3350 | Victimology ⁷ | 3 |
| Major: Prescribed Electives | | |
| CRIJ Advanced Electives | | 21 |
| Electives: General | | |
| General Electives | | 16 |
| Electives: Advanced General | | |
| Advanced Electives | | 6 |
| Minor: Not Required ^{8,9} | | |
| Total Hours | | 120-121 |

¹ Recommend MATH 1342 (<https://catalog.shsu.edu/archives/2025-2026/search/?P=MATH%201342>) or MATH 1332 (<https://catalog.shsu.edu/archives/2025-2026/search/?P=MATH%201332>).

² WOLC 2311 and WOLC 2312 satisfy the requirement for Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture) as well as three hours of Component Area IX (Component Area Option).

³ CRIJ 2361 satisfies the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Science).

⁴ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 1.

⁵ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 2.

⁶ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 3.

⁷ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 4.

⁸ A minor is **not required** for this degree program; however, a student has the option to add a minor, but to do so, additional semester credit hours may be needed above the degree program's stated total semester credit hours.

⁹ All minors can be paired with this degree program.

Notes

Students must earn a 2.0 minimum overall GPA in all coursework.

Students must meet a 2.0 minimum overall major GPA in all major coursework.

Students must earn a 2.0 minimum SHSU GPA in all coursework.

Students must meet a 2.0 minimum SHSU major GPA in all major coursework.

Forty-two semester hours of advanced coursework (3000 or 4000 level) are the absolute minimum. Minimum number of semester hours in residence: 30 semester hours of which 24 must be advanced.

Use general electives to satisfy the 42 advanced hour requirement.

Additional information: Reference the Program Landing Page (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/bachelor-degree-in-criminal-justice/>) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

First Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|---|-------|--|-----------|
| Component Area IX (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaix) | | 1 Component Area II (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaaii) ⁵ | 3 |
| CRIJ 2361 ¹ | | 3 CRIJ 2362 ⁶ | 3 |
| ENGL 1301 ² | | 3 ENGL 1302 ² | 3 |
| HSTY 1301 ³ | | 3 HSTY 1302 ³ | 3 |
| POLS 2305 ⁴ | | 3 POLS 2306 ⁴ | 3 |
| | | 13 | 15 |

Second Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|--|-------|--|-----------|
| Component Area III (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaaiii) | | 4 Component Area III (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaaiii) | 4 |
| CRIJ 2364 ⁷ | | 3 Component Area V (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareav) | 3 |
| CRIJ 2365 ⁷ | | 3 CRIJ 2367 ⁷ | 3 |
| Foreign Language ⁸ | | 4 Foreign Language ⁸ | 4 |
| General Electives | | 3 | |
| | | 17 | 14 |

Third Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| CRIJ Advanced Electives | | 6 Advanced Electives | 3 |
| CRIJ 3378 ⁹ | | 3 CRIJ Advanced Electives | 6 |
| ENGL 3330 | | 3 Foreign Language ⁸ | 3 |
| Foreign Language ⁸ | | 3 General Electives | 3 |
| | | 15 | 15 |

Fourth Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|---|-------|---------------------------|-------|
| CRIJ 4385 (Senior standing is required) ¹⁰ | | 3 Advanced Electives | 3 |
| CRIJ Advanced Electives | | 6 CRIJ Advanced Electives | 3 |

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------|
| General Electives | 5 General Electives | 5 |
| STAT 3379, MATH 3379, PSYC 3402, or SOCI 3345 | 3-4 VCST 3350 ¹⁰ | 3 |
| 17-18 | | 14 |

Total Hours: 120-121

- ¹ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences).
- ² Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area I (Communication).
- ³ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VI (U.S. History).
- ⁴ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VII (Political Science/Government).
- ⁵ Recommend MATH 1342 or MATH 1332.
- ⁶ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 1.
- ⁷ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 2.
- ⁸ WOLC 2311 and WOLC 2312 satisfy the requirement for Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture) as well as three hours of Component Area IX (Component Area Option).
- ⁹ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 3.
- ¹⁰ May be completed either Fall or Spring semester of Year 4.

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The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) marketable skills initiative is part of the state's **60x30TX plan** and was designed to help students articulate their skills to employers. Marketable skills are those skills valued by employers and/or graduate programs that can be applied in a variety of work or education settings and may include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas.

The BA in Criminal Justice is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Critical thinking.
- Written and oral communication.
- Analytical research.
- Proactive and action-oriented.