

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, 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 Science, 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)		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) ²		3
Component Area IX (Component Area Option)		4
Degree Specific Requirements		
ENGL 3330	Introduction to Technical Writing	3
STAT/MATH 3379	Statistical Methods in Practice	3-4
or PSYC 3402	Psychological Statistics	
or SOCI 3345	Social Statistics	
Degree Specific Courses ³		15
Major: Foundation		
CRIJ 2361	Introduction To The Criminal Justice System ²	3
CRIJ 2362	Criminology ⁴	3
CRIJ 2364	Fundamentals Of Criminal Law ⁴	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) ⁶	3
VCST 3350	Victimology	3
Major: Prescribed Electives		
CRIJ Advanced Electives		21
Electives: General		
General Electives		9
General Electives (Advanced)		6
Minor: Not Required ^{7, 8}		
Total Hours		120-121

Code	Title	Hours
Degree Specific Courses ³		15
Select five from the following:		
COMS 3370	Intercultural Communication	
COMS 3371	Conflict, Negotiation, and Resolution	
COMS 4366	Deceptive Communication	
ECON 2300	Introduction To Economics	
PHIL 2303	Critical Thinking	
PHIL 3365	Modern Philosophy ⁶	
POLS 2306	Texas Government	
POLS 3393	Social Policy	
PSYC 1301	Introduction To Psychology	

PSYC 3331	Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 3383	Psychology And The Law ⁶
SOCI 1301	Introduction to Sociology
SOCI 3324	Social Inequality

¹ 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>) is recommended.

² Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences).

³ See the Degree Specific Courses list.

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

⁵ May be completed during Fall or Spring semester of Year 2

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

⁷ 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 will be needed above the degree program's stated total semester credit hours.

⁸ 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. The minimum number of semester hours in residence is 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/#componentareaii) ⁵	3
CRIJ 2361 ¹		3 Component Area V (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiv)	3
CRIJ 2364 ²		3 CRIJ 2362 ²	3
ENGL 1301 ³		3 ENGL 1302 ³	3
HSTY 1301 ⁴		3 HSTY 1302 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/#componentareaiii)		4 Component Area III (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiii)	4
Component Area IV (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiv)		3 Component Area IX (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaix)	3
CRIJ 2365 ⁶		3 CRIJ 2367 ⁶	3
Degree Specific Courses ⁷		3 Degree Specific Courses ⁷	3

POLS 2305 ⁸	3	POLS 2306 ⁸	3
		16	16

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
CRIJ 3378 ⁹		3 CRIJ Advanced Electives	6
CRIJ Advanced Electives		6 Degree Specific Courses ⁷	6
Degree Specific Courses ⁷		3 VCST 3350	3
ENGL 3330		3	
		15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
CRIJ 4385 ⁹		3 General Advanced Electives	6
CRIJ Advanced Electives		6 CRIJ Advanced Electives	3
General Electives		3 General Electives	6
STAT 3379, MATH 3379, PSYC 3402, or SOCI 3345		3-4	
		15-16	15

Total Hours: 120-121

Code	Title	Hours
Degree Specific Courses⁷		15
Select five from the following:		
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COMS 3371	Conflict, Negotiation, and Resolution	
COMS 4366	Deceptive Communication	
ECON 2300	Introduction To Economics	
PHIL 2303	Critical Thinking	
PHIL 3365	Modern Philosophy ⁹	
POLS 2306	Texas Government	
POLS 3393	Social Policy	
PSYC 1301	Introduction To Psychology	
PSYC 3331	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYC 3383	Psychology And The Law ⁹	
SOCI 1301	Introduction to Sociology	
SOCI 3324	Social Inequality	

- ¹ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences).
- ² May be completed during Fall or Spring semester of Year 1.
- ³ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area I (Communication).
- ⁴ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VI (U.S. History).
- ⁵ MATH 1342 or MATH 1332 is recommended.
- ⁶ May be completed during Fall or Spring semester of Year 2.
- ⁷ See the Degree Specific Courses list.
- ⁸ Satisfies Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VII (Political Science/Government).
- ⁹ May be completed during Fall or Spring semester of Year 3.

Notes

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- 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.

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All minors can be paired with this degree program.

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 BS 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.