

BACHELOR OF APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION)

The BAAS in Criminal Justice (Competency-Based Education) is designed for transfer students, working professionals, and military-affiliated students seeking a flexible pathway to degree completion, with credit applied for relevant prior education and training.

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

Code	Title	Hours
Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Criminal Justice (Competency-Based Education)		
General Education Requirements (Core Curriculum/Degree Specific Requirements) ¹		
Competency-Based Education (CBE) options available for:		
Component Area I (Communication)		6
ENGL 1301	Composition I	
ENGL 1302	Composition II	
INRW 0014	Tutorial for Integrated Reading and Writing (if required based on TSI status)	
Component Area II (Mathematics)		3
MATH 1332	College Mathematics	
MATH N032	Support for College Math (if required based on TSI status)	
Component Area III (Life and Physical Science)		8
BIOL 1436	Foundations Of Science	
GEOG 1401	Weather and Climate	
Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture)		3
SOCI 2319	Introduction To Ethnic Studies	
Component Area V (Creative Arts)		3
ARTS 1301	Introduction To The Visual Arts	
Component Area VI (U.S. History)		6
HSTY 1301	U.S. History to 1876	
HSTY 1302	U.S. History Since 1876	
Component Area VII (Political Science/Government)		6
POLS 2305	American Government	
POLS 2306	Texas Government	
Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences)		3
CRIJ 2361	Introduction To The Criminal Justice System ²	
Component Area IX (Component Area Option)		4
COMS 1361	Public Speaking	
KINE 2115	Lifetime Health and Wellness	
Major (Applied Credit) ³		36
Required Courses		
CRIJ 2361	Introduction To The Criminal Justice System ²	3
CRIJ 2362	Criminology ⁴	3
CRIJ 2364	Fundamentals Of Criminal Law ⁴	3
or CRIJ 2365	Correctional Systems and Practice	
or CRIJ 2367	Police Systems & Practices	
CRIJ 3378	Introduction To Methods Of Research	3
VCST 3350	Victimology	3
Advanced Electives		
Any CJCB, CRIJ, FORS, SCST, or VCST 3000-4000 level courses ⁵		36
Minor: Not Required ⁶		
Total Hours		120

¹ A maximum of 66 semester credit hours from a community or technical college are transferable. Additional hours may be needed to meet the total 120 SCH requirement.

² CRIJ 2361 is included in the required courses and also fulfills Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences) of the General Education/ Core requirements.

³ The BAAS in Criminal Justice grants credit for applied learning through technical, occupational, and/or military education and training.

Technical Pathway

Coursework from an Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Associate of Occupational Studies (AOS), Associate of Applied Business (AAB), or Associate of Specialized Technology (AST) will be reviewed and applied toward the BAAS in Criminal Justice.

Occupational Pathway

Trainings and certifications from law enforcement, corrections, and other criminal justice related fields will be reviewed and applied toward the BAAS in Criminal Justice.

Law Enforcement Trainings and Certifications

Students who have earned a Texas Basic Peace Officer Certificate (BPOC) from a TCOLE approved peace officer academy will be given 24 hours of applied credit. Texas Peace Officers who have achieved additional levels of certification beyond the BPOC will also be awarded academic credit:

- Basic Proficiency Certificate = 24 SCH applied credit
- Intermediate Proficiency Certificate = 28 SCH applied credit
- Advanced Proficiency Certificate = 32 SCH applied credit
- Master Proficiency Certificate = 36 SCH applied credit

Additional law enforcement training and certification completion from other state or national programs will be reviewed and applied toward the BAAS in Criminal Justice.

Corrections Trainings and Certifications and Other Professional Development

Professional development, continuing education units (CEUs), and other criminal justice related trainings will be reviewed and applied toward the BAAS in Criminal Justice. Students may submit a portfolio reflecting completed training based on verified CEUs and documented professional education and training.

Military Training Pathway

Military training documented on the Joint Services Transcript (JST) will be reviewed and applied toward the BAAS in Criminal Justice.

Admissions and Graduation Requirement

Students entering the BAAS in Criminal Justice are not required to have completed thirty-six (36) semester credit hours of applied credit at the time of admission. Applied credit may be earned progressively; however, completion of thirty-six (36) semester credit hours of approved applied credit is required for graduation.

- ⁴ The 120 SCH total includes CRIJ 2362 and one of the following courses – CRIJ 2364, CRIJ 2365, or CRIJ 2367 – within the required coursework. If a student does not have prior credit for CRIJ 2362 and one of CRIJ 2364 or CRIJ 2365 or CRIJ 2367, then the total required hours increase by 6 SCH (to 126 SCH). If a student also does not have prior credit for CRIJ 2361, the total required hours increase by an additional 3 SCH (to 129 SCH).
- ⁵ Not all eligible elective courses are currently offered in the CBE format. Students in the CBE pathway should consult their academic advisor to identify elective courses currently available in the CBE format.
- ⁶ 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.

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.

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First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Core Curriculum and/or Major (Applied Credit) ¹		15 Core Curriculum and/or Major (Applied Credit) ¹	15
		15	15

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Core Curriculum and/or Major (Applied Credit) ¹		18 Core Curriculum and/or Major (Applied Credit) ¹	18
		18	18

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Advanced Electives ^{2, 3}		3 Advanced Electives ^{2, 3}	15
CRIJ 2361 ⁴		3 General Education (as needed)	3
CRIJ 2362 ⁵		3	
CRIJ 2364, 2365, or 2367 ⁵		3	
VCST 3350		3	
		15	18

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Advanced Electives ^{2, 3}		9 Advanced Electives (or credit from CJCB 4083) ^{2, 3}	9
CRIJ 3378		3	
		12	9

Total Hours: 120

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⁴ CRIJ 2361 is included in the required courses and also fulfills Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences) of the General Education Core requirements.

⁵ The 120 SCH total includes CRIJ 2362 and one of the following courses – CRIJ 2364, CRIJ 2365, or CRIJ 2367 – within the required coursework. If a student does not have prior credit for CRIJ 2362 and one of CRIJ 2364 or CRIJ 2365 or CRIJ 2367, then the total required hours increase by 6 SCH (to 126 SCH). If a student also does not have prior credit for CRIJ 2361, the total required hours increase by an additional 3 SCH (to 129 SCH).

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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 Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Criminal Justice (Competency-Based Education) is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Critical thinking.
- Clear written and oral communication.
- Analytical skills to accomplish goal-oriented tasks.
- Proactive problem solving.