



BACHELOR'S IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**YOUR COMPLETE E-GUIDE TO GETTING A
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CRIMINAL
JUSTICE**



**KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY**
NORMAN J. RADOW COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

*Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice in the Norman
J. Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences*

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A BACHELOR'S IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The criminal justice system is an institution that is at the crux of societal concerns. When individuals are asked to define major social problems, the fear of and response to crime are found at the top of the list. People not only want to have a better understanding of these problems; many also want to become a part of the solution.

The bachelor's degree in criminal justice program provides a platform for you to learn about the legal and correctional systems in the country, the philosophy of punishment and deterrence of crimes, and ethical codes of behavior. You will learn about interpersonal communication skills, multicultural issues, leadership and management, moral and ethical considerations, and technology.

Some graduates with degrees in criminal justice go on to enjoy careers in law enforcement, court administration, victim services, private security or corrections. Others use a criminal justice degree as a first step toward law school or other graduate programs.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY CRIMINAL JUSTICE?

Are you looking for an exciting yet impactful profession? Have you been searching for a career path that will allow you to leave a positive mark on the world? If so, a degree in criminal justice is your ticket to achieving unique experiences, intellectual stimulation and amazing opportunities.


Criminal justice has a variety of branches you can choose from. Whether you prefer to investigate behind a desk or get out into the field, the possibilities are endless. Jobs in the criminal justice field are stable.

Most graduates with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice are hired by the public sector (rather than the private sector), so they are not as likely to be affected by the ups and downs of the economy. You can find jobs at all levels of government – local, county, state and federal – as well as with private companies. You can work in a variety of settings, including judiciary and law, juvenile justice, customs and border protection, social services, teaching and research, drug enforcement, private and personal security, and corrections.

"A DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS YOUR TICKET TO ACHIEVING UNIQUE EXPERIENCES, INTELLECTUAL STIMULATION AND AMAZING OPPORTUNITIES."

WHAT DO PEOPLE WITH A DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE DO?

- Enforce laws to defend and protect people in their community
- Carry out investigations, examine crime scenes, and interview witnesses to gather evidence
- Manage offenders under correctional supervision in the community and secure facilities
- Assist in emergency management coordination
- Investigate and address threats to national security such as terrorism and human trafficking
- Provide resources and support to victims of crime
- Supervise criminal justice practitioners working in the criminal justice system
- Provide private security and asset protection for commercial and retail establishments
- Administer programs to prevent and reduce crime



HOW DO I KNOW IF A DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS FOR ME?



Do you like to help others?



Are you an observant person who
pays attention to details?



Do you enjoy solving puzzles?



Do you like to build relationships



Are you looking for a stable job?



Do you enjoy intellectual challenges
that require reasoning and critical
thinking to find the solution?

**THEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS
FOR YOU!**

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE KSU?

The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice program at KSU prepares students to understand and deal with diversity, justice, modernization and social change. Our graduates have the skills and knowledge to enter careers that require abilities in technology, communication, data gathering and analysis, applied research, community awareness and involvement, problem-solving, critical thinking, professional writing, and an understanding of the structure and functioning of groups and organizations.



As a criminal justice major at KSU, you will receive:

- An in-depth study of the criminal justice system including police, courts and corrections
- An overview of criminology, which examines the cause of crime
- Exposure to key issues in criminal justice such as technology, criminal investigations, juvenile justice, victimology and terrorism
- Training on common ethical dilemmas that occur within law enforcement, the court system and the correctional system
- A structured off-campus experience that is related to your major and career interests, so you have the experience necessary for success in your job search

Our faculty bring both workplace best practices and academic expertise to your criminal justice studies classes at KSU. You can expect coursework that combines current theory with real-world applications.

DO YOU HELP WITH JOB PLACEMENT?

To assist students in finding a job, KSU hosts a Student Career Portal offering a list of positions our students can consider. In addition, we offer workshops that help students learn about job-seeking practices and prepare for interviews.



DOES KSU OFFER AN ONLINE VERSION OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE?

The bachelor's degree in criminal justice program can be completed on-campus or fully online. The program offers classes in multiple formats including face-to-face, fully online, and hybrid (a combination of face-to-face meeting and online work).

The criminal justice program offers all required courses and most electives online so majors can complete their degree fully online from anywhere in the world. Each semester, students are welcome to enroll in any course format that best meets their preferences, lives and schedules. This means that students can take courses fully online for their entire degree, or for just some semesters or courses.



WHAT KIND OF JOB CAN I GET WITH A DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE?

CORRECTIONS MANAGER

oversees the operations of
a correctional facility
and supervises security personnel

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR

collects evidence, interviews witnesses, and
studies crime scenes

VICTIM ADVOCATE

provides emotional support,
information and resources to victims of
crime

FORENSIC ACCOUNTANT

examines data to determine where missing
money has gone and how to recover it

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR

searches for clues to gather evidence for court cases
or private clients

LOSS PREVENTION OFFICER

prevents shoplifter or employee theft in
retail or employment environments

COURTROOM MANAGER

manages administrative operations for a local,
state or federal court

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

protects life and property
through the enforcement of laws
and regulations

WHAT CLASSES WILL I TAKE?

REQUIRED COURSES

CRJU 1101: Foundations of Criminal Justice

Students learn about the American criminal justice system including law enforcement, the court system and the correctional system.

CRJU 2201: Crimes and Defenses

Students learn and explore the types and elements of felony and misdemeanor criminal offenses, defenses to crimes, and lower and appellate case law interpretations of crimes and defenses.

SOCI 1101: Introduction to Sociology

This class provides an overview of sociology, which emphasizes the social nature of human behavior.

CRJU 3300: Criminal Courts

Students learn and examine the history, development, structure, operation and organization of criminal court systems in federal and state courts in the U.S.

CRJU 3301: Research Methods in Criminal Justice

Students learn the background of the scientific method and the concepts and techniques of social science research.

CRJU 3315: Criminal Procedure

Students examine the requirements and interpretation of constitutional amendments by the U.S. Supreme Court and other federal and state courts during the various stages of a criminal case.

CRJU 3332: Corrections

Students learn the history and philosophy of the American correctional system.

CRJU 4100: Ethics in Criminal Justice

This class provides an overview of ethical decision-making and behavior within the context of the criminal justice system.

CRJU 4499: Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice

Students take part in a capstone project designed for senior-level criminal justice majors to apply learning from previous criminal justice courses.

REQUIRED COURSES (CONTINUED)

SOCI 4432: Criminology

Students examine the nature and extent of crime and the causes and correlates of criminal behavior.

CRJU 3310: Police in America

Students learn about American law enforcement including the role and purposes of police in society, the major functions and responsibilities of police, and police subculture.

OR

CRJU 3311: Police Administration

Students learn about police administration in the U.S. and examine the social, legal and political factors that influence police management.

CRJU 3396: Cooperative Study

Students take part in a supervised work experience program for a minimum of two academic semesters at a previously approved site in business, industry, government or a private agency related to the criminal justice field.

OR

CRJU 3398: Internship

Students take up a structured off-campus experience in a supervised setting that is related to the student's major and career interests, under the guidance of both a field supervisor and an academic internship coordinator

OR

SA 4490: Upper-division Study Abroad

This experience varies with discipline and the subject chosen by the student. This is an upper division study abroad course denoting junior or senior level work.

ELECTIVES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Choose four from the following

CRJU 3305: Technology and Criminal Justice

This class involves an in-depth study of technology as it relates to crime and the criminal justice system.

CRJU 3310: Police in America

Students learn about American law enforcement including the role and purposes of police in society, the major functions and responsibilities of police, and police subculture.

CRJU 3311: Police Administration

This class provides an overview of police administration in the U.S. and examines the social, legal and political factors that influence police management.

CRJU 3312: State and Federal Law Enforcement Initiatives

Students examine various state and federal law enforcement initiatives.

CRJU 3320: Criminal Investigation

This class examines the historical, theoretical and technological aspects of the investigation of crime.

CRJU 3340: Legal Analysis

This class involves students in the process of reasoning objectively and arguing persuasively within a socio-legal framework.

CRJU 3352: Juvenile Justice

This class focuses on the juvenile justice system including the processing of juvenile offenders from the delinquent act through disposition and discharge.

CRJU 3365: Profile of the Serial Offender

Students examine theories and research that explain how serial offenders evolve across their life-course from childhood to adulthood.

CRJU 3398: Internship

This is a structured off-campus experience in a supervised setting that is related to the student's major and career interests.

ELECTIVES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CONTINUED)

CRJU 3400: Ideological/Group Violence and Law Enforcement

Students examine law enforcement's response to domestic and international terrorism and the roles and responsibilities of enforcement agencies in responding to terrorism.

CRJU 4300: Organized Crime

This class examines the origins, histories and activities of various major organized crime groups universally and the methods used by law enforcement to combat them.

CRJU 4305: Technology and Cybercrime

Students are provided with an overview of cyber-crime and computer-related crime issues facing the American criminal justice system, particularly law enforcement.

CRJU 4400: Directed Study in Criminal Justice

Working with a faculty advisor, students will learn about a special topic external to regular course offerings.

CRJU 4410: Criminal Profiling and Analysis

This class centers on the deductive criminal profiling method, the analysis process of forensic evidence, and the development of offender characteristics from behavioral evidence analysis.

CRJU 4430: Victimology

This class involves an examination of theories of victimization, research on the scope and impact of specific types of victimization, and efforts to prevent victimization.

CRJU 4490: Special Topics in Criminal Justice

This class addresses special topics in criminal justice that are of interest to faculty and students.

SOCI 3360: Sociology of Violence

Students examine the root cause and consequence of violent behavior exhibited by individuals in our society.

SOCI 4200: Drugs, Alcohol, and Society

Students study drug use and abuse, theories of drug use, the sociological context of drug use and the extent of drug use in our society and globally.

SOCI 4442: Deviance and Social Control

This course presents a survey of the nature, causes and consequences of deviant behavior.

ELECTIVES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CONTINUED)

Choose three from the following

ACCT 2101: Principles of Accounting

This class is an introduction to the language of business and focuses on financial statements and their use in decision-making.

HS 2100: Overview of Human Services

This class provides an overview of helping professions. Topics include philosophy of human services, characteristics of human service workers and careers in human services.

ICT 2101: Information and Communications Technology

Students learn to be creative problem-solvers capable of using and envisioning the potential of digital technologies.

SPAN 2034: Spanish for Criminal Justice

Students focus on Spanish language and culture appropriate for working in the field of criminal justice with Hispanics.

OR

GEOG 1130: World Regional Geography

Students learn about world regions through the context of human geography.

SOCI 2251: Social Problems

Students learn about current social problems facing American society with a focus on analysis and solutions.

COM 2240: Communication, Law, Ethics, and Diversity

This course provides an overview of law, ethics, and diversity in mass media.

LDRS 2100: Leadership and Historical Social Movements

This course focuses on the examination of the leadership process and the historical, social, political, and cultural context of select social movements.

POLS 2212: State and Local Government

This course is a general survey of state and local government including recent and current trends.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ELECTIVES (CONTINUED)

FL 1001: Introduction to Foreign Language and Culture I

Students learn a foreign language and culture, stressing progressive acquisition of effective communication skills in both the written and spoken language.

OR

SPAN 1001: Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture I

Students learn Spanish language and culture, stressing progressive acquisition of effective communication skills in both the written and spoken language.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY (Choose one)

CRJU 3355: Race, Crime, and Justice

This course provides an in-depth examination into racial and ethnic issues related to crime and justice in America.

SPANTH 3307: Cultural Anthropology

Students learn and explore human cultures and societies through use of cross-cultural analysis of human behavior and case studies.

ANTH 3310: Cultural Diversity in the U.S

Students explore interrelated issues of culture, race, ethnicity, identity, gender and social stratification in American society

SOCI 3314: Race and Ethnicity

Students learn about the social construction of racial and ethnic categories and inequalities between various groups.

SOCI 3350: Intersections of Race, Class and Gender

This class aims to make students understand how race, class and gender intersect to fundamentally shape social interaction, conditions and institutions in American society.

WILL COURSES I'VE TAKEN AT A DIFFERENT COLLEGE TRANSFER?

Many courses taken at an accredited college or university can be transferred toward a degree in criminal justice. For information on transferability of credits, please check our [OWL Transfer Credit Database](#).

Transcripts should be submitted to KSU directly from the institution you attended. Allow ample time for receipt and processing of all documents. Processing time varies based on the number of applicants and the time of year. Find out more information on transferring to KSU at [KSU Admissions](#)

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ATTEND AND IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?

Kennesaw State University is an affordable school and gives you a quality education at a tuition rate lower than the average college in Georgia and in the U.S. Learn more about [current tuition rates](#).

Financial aid is available through a variety of grants, scholarships, loans and a work study program. Applying for financial aid isn't as complex as you might imagine. For step-by-step resources, visit [the Office of Scholarships Financial Aid website](#). Start the process by completing a [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#), available October 1st for the following fall term. (You do not have to wait until you are admitted to file a FAFSA).

Contact KSU's Office of Financial Aid at (770) 423-6074 or finaid@kennesaw.edu with any questions on financial aid options.

WHEN WILL I KNOW IF I'M ACCEPTED?



HOW AND WHEN DO I APPLY TO KSU?

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

FALL SEMESTER

JUNE 1

SPRING SEMESTER

DECEMBER 1

SUMMER SEMESTER

JUNE 1

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, please
contact admissions:

Phone: (770) 423-6300

Email: KSUadmit@kennesaw.edu

**APPLY
ONLINE
NOW**

WHAT KIND OF GROUPS OR CLUBS ARE AVAILABLE?

Students in the criminal justice program can join Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Honor Society, or the Criminal Justice Student Organization (CJSO), both of which are open to all criminal justice majors. They can also take advantage of the over 400 student clubs, covering a wide range of interests and activities that exist at KSU. Find one that interests you at [Owl Life](#).

WILL THERE BE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ME TO CONDUCT RESEARCH?

Many of the classes in the criminal justice program will introduce you to research in criminal justice and criminology. Students will learn first-hand how research is conducted in the field during the required course, CRJU 3301: Research Methods in Criminal Justice. Students may also pursue independent research under the supervision of a faculty member that can be used to help prepare students for careers in criminal justice or further education in graduate and/or law school.

Independent research with faculty may also be used for upper-division course credit (CRJU 4400: Directed Study in Criminal Justice). There are also opportunities to engage and present research at local and national criminal justice conferences through Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Honor Society.

Can I visit the campus?

Yes! We'd love to have you visit. Tours are available in person for individuals and groups, and we offer virtual visits. Find out more about tours or take a virtual tour at visit.kennesaw.edu.



WILL I COMPLETE AN INTERNSHIP?

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF AN INTERNSHIP?

- Explore a career area before graduation
- Apply technical criminal justice knowledge learned in the classroom to workplace situations
- Network with professionals in criminal justice as contacts for future job seeking
- Bolster your academic learning with professional workplace experience
- Enrich your resume

The Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice provides all students with an opportunity to earn internship class credit. An internship is a valuable form of “learning by doing.” Internships can help you in many important ways.

Students have had criminal justice internships in the past at sites such as

- Local police departments and sheriff’s office
- Georgia Bureau of Investigation
- Local district attorneys’ offices
- Governor’s Office of Consumer Protection
- Local defense attorney’s offices
- Private security firms

MEET THE TEAM



**BEVERLY REECE
CHURCHWELL**
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR &
COORDINATOR



**STAN
CROWDER**
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR



HEIDI SCHERER
PROFESSOR



**CHRISTOPHER
TOTTEN**
PROFESSOR



**JAMES
MCCAFFERTY**
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR



GANG LEE
PROFESSOR



SINYONG CHOI
ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR



SARA EVANS
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR



MELANIE HOLLAND
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR

MEET THE TEAM



KENNETH WHITE
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR



IAN KING
LECTURER



MICHAEL LOGAN
ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR



TANJA LINK
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR



RICHARD STRINGER
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR



MINDY BERNHARDT
LECTURER



**FELIPE
SALAZAR-TOBAR**
ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR



LISA THOMPSON
ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR

QUESTIONS?

We are happy to answer any further questions you have about our criminal justice program. Contact the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice.

Email: scjdeptksu@kennesaw.edu
Phone: (470) 578-6739