Criminology & Criminal Justice Studies
are the sociology-based study of crime
and the criminal justice system.

Our major exposes students to the social
dimensions of the crime problem, explanations of
the prevalence of various types of crime, and the
various agencies and programs designed to
prevent and control crime and delinquency. The
latter include the police, courts, probation and
parole systems, and correctional institutions.
Attention is also given to such issues as women
and crime, youth and crime, and the place of
control agencies in larger societal context. As a
social science/liberal arts field, criminology
provides majors with a variety of techniques for
examining and responding to important questions
about the causes and consequences of crime and
the workings of the criminal justice system.

Graduate, Professional & Law
School

As part of a liberal arts/social science degree, the
 criminoLOGY major provides an excellent
background for post-baccalaureate studies. Our
alums pursue graduate work in criminology or in
related fields such as sociology, anthropology,
political science, and psychology. In addition, the
major provides a foundation for post-
baccalaureate work in law, public policy, social
work, business, and urban planning.

Join us and Investigate the World Around You!

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Declaration of Major:

Sociology 1101 is a pre-requisite to declaring the major.
To officially declare Criminology & Criminal Justice Studies as your major,
you must meet with an advisor in the Sociology Department

Structure of the Major: 13 Courses / 39 Credit hours

**Required Courses:**

- SOC 3410 or H3410 Criminology
- SOC 3488 Introduction to Sociological Theory
- SOC 3487 or H3487 Research Methods in Sociology
- SOC 3549 Statistics in Sociology*

*SOC 3549 will also fulfill your GE Data Analysis requirement.

The required courses provide the building blocks for the sociological understanding of crime. In these courses you will:

- understand and practice research methods (3487),
- analyze statistical data (3549),
- gain understanding of the nature and causes of crime (3410), and
- apply sociological theory to contemporary society (3488).

**Experiential Learning Requirement:**

Enrollment in any of the options requires permission of the department. Meet with an advisor to plan this portion of your major.

Choose from one the following:

- SOC 2211S: Corrections: An Inside-Out Course
- SOC 3191: Internship Program in Sociology and Criminology (3 hrs minimum; Graded S/U)
- SOC 3798.03: Genocide and Its Aftermath in Rwanda (3 hrs; summer term education abroad)
- SOC 4998: Undergraduate Research in Sociology (3 hrs minimum; Graded S/U)
- SOC 4000S/E: Social Science Business Collaborative: A Service Learning Approach
- SOC H4999.02/4999.02*: Senior Honors/Non-Honors Thesis (4 hrs minimum; Graded S/U)

**Elective Courses:**

The eight remaining courses must be chosen from the list of Criminology courses on the next page. **At least four of the eight must be chosen from the 4000-5000 level.**

Course choices should be made in consultation with a departmental academic advisor. With the exception of SOC 3549, courses that are listed for the major program cannot also be used to meet General Education requirements.
Elective Course List:

Required Courses

SOC 3410/H3410 – Criminology
SOC 3488 – Introduction to Sociological Theory
SOC 3487/H3487 – Research Methods in Sociology
SOC 3549 – Statistics in Sociology

Elective Courses (at least 4 courses at the 4000 – 5000 level)

Worksheet:

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<th>COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE</th>
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<td>Experiential Learning Requirement</td>
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Major Guidelines:

A grade of C- or above is required for all major courses.

A Cumulative Major GPA of 2.00 is required.

Major courses cannot be taken Pass/Fail.

Transfer students must complete at least half of their major course work at Ohio State.

If you are interested in completing a Double Major in Sociology and Criminology or a Major and Minor combination in the two disciplines, please consult with a Sociology Advisor.

*** Do not attempt to self-advice! ***

Criminology vs. Criminal Justice:

While there are a variety of disciplines which study crime, criminals, and criminal justice, three are especially visible and important. They are sociology, criminology, and criminal justice. While these three disciplines share a common substantive focus and at the undergraduate level could lead to similar career paths, they also differ in important ways. These differences are clearest on the graduate level but readily apparent on the undergraduate level as well.

Sociology treats crime, criminals, and criminal justice as one of many behavioral and institutional scholarly arenas of interest to sociologists. Along with education, health care, work and occupations, race and gender, to name a few, sociologists study crime, criminals, and criminal justice as one way of better understanding the institutions humans create and the recurrent patterns of behavior they nourish and sustain. Crime, criminals, and criminal justice are no more, or less, important than these other areas of sociological research and teaching and sociologists do not regularly consider the policy or administrative implications of their research.

Criminology treats crime, criminals, and criminal justice as central substantive concerns. Except as other scholarly areas illuminate crime, criminals, and criminal justice such as educational levels or linkages with the world of work, criminologists do not regularly teach or do research in areas other than crime, criminals, and criminal justice. In addition, criminologists also pay more attention to policy and administrative issues than do sociologists. On average, however, criminologists share an abiding interest with sociologists in understanding rather than direct action.

Criminal justice is the newest of the three disciplines and clearly the most focused. It evidences singular interests in crime, criminals, and criminal justice and it is rare indeed when professors and scholars trained in criminal justice teach or do research in other disciplines than crime, criminals, and criminal justice. Moreover, criminal justice scholars are far more likely to consider the policy and administrative implications of their teaching and research and far more likely to offer both undergraduate and graduate training to their students in policy and administration.

The Department of Sociology at The Ohio State University offers undergraduate majors in Sociology and in Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies. The latter training is very clearly sociological because the courses are professed by scholars trained in sociology. As such, the focus is understanding crime, criminals, and criminal justice and, except in passing, little attention is given to policy or administrative implications.