

Criminology and Justice Studies (BS)



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

How did the War on Drugs of the '80s and '90s impact urban communities, from street-corner drug dealing and violence to overall community health? How far will the fight against terrorism push the legal and ethical boundaries of government surveillance? How is "big data" being used by justice, intelligence and private organizations to identify social networks, assess risk and make decisions about crime policy and resource deployment?

Drexel University's Department of Criminology and Justice Studies empowers students to question these and other issues of crime, criminality and justice policy. Our department offers the only program in the U.S. that integrates crime mapping, hot-spotting and intelligence analysis into our core curriculum, qualifying our graduates to work as crime and intelligence analysts at any level of government. Programs in Criminology and Justice Studies offer a rich educational experience that emphasizes justice and criminological theory through the use of analytical tools and data.

NOTABLE COURSES

- INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER CRIME
- CRIME MAPPING: USING GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS
- PRISON, SOCIETY AND YOU
- SEX, VIOLENCE AND CRIME ON THE INTERNET
- SURVEILLANCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE LAW
- DEATH PENALTY – AN AMERICAN DILEMMA
- EXPLORING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER: CRIME, TREATMENT AND SOCIETY
- CRIME AND PUBLIC HEALTH
- CRIME AND THE CITY
- SERIAL KILLERS
- ELECTRONIC FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS

INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

Criminology and Justice Studies is designed for students who wish to study crime, crime causation and society's response to crime. It includes courses that focus on the primary theories of crime, such as those that ask: Why are certain neighborhoods or individuals more likely than others to experience, or participate in, crime? While the core curriculum provides a strong foundation in the fundamentals of criminology and criminal justice, it also includes courses of study that allow students to explore more specific topics related to justice, crime science and forensics.

Many of the courses in the department are "place-based" and "justice focused" in that they explore the social, economic, health and environmental risk factors beyond the traditional boundaries of the criminal justice system to explain crime. With emphases on engaged learning, global opportunities and data-driven problem-solving, Criminology and Justice Studies gives students the tools they need to practice "justice" across a wide spectrum of fields, extending well beyond the historic focus of criminal justice degrees.

Students in Criminology and Justice Studies are educated in the substance of criminology and justice while being trained in the tools of crime science to enter the workforce with skills that our data-driven economy will immediately value. This major offers a flexible plan of study, allowing students to easily double major, take on minors and complete the science requirements for future study in forensic science.

THE JUSTICE STUDIES MINOR is an interdisciplinary course of study that allows students to focus on social justice issues related to health, housing, education, and the environment, while also ensuring that students take courses that teach them how to map social inequities across physical space.

THE CRIME SCIENCE AND COMPUTER CRIME MINOR grounds students in the problem-solving skills they need to describe, analyze, and visualize crime trends, crime clustering, and the factors that lead to crime. This minor offers a series of courses that teach data analysis, crime prediction, crime and resource mapping, and digital forensic analysis.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING

The College of Arts and Sciences offers a range of community-based-learning courses that allow students to immerse themselves in course material and learn side-by-side with community partners. To explore justice in America, we take our students straight to the source; we offer two of our core courses in community settings — one of which (Prison, Society and You) is taught in a local prison.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

We bring courses to life through our annual crime and justice-themed study abroad trips. We've recently traveled to Germany, the Czech Republic, Israel, and Scandinavia. These short study tours fit easily into students' fall, winter, or spring break schedules and can also lead to full-term study abroad experiences. We have plans to expand our study tours to the Netherlands and even Kenya!

STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Alpha Phi Sigma – National Criminal Justice Honor Society
- Biddle Law Society
- Drexel Undergraduate Mock Trial Association
- Drexel Criminal Justice Society

DREXEL CO-OP

Co-operative education options prepare criminology and justice studies students to pursue advanced education and careers. Whether working with attorneys or crime analysts, our students gain the professional exposure they'll need to launch a meaningful career in the crime and justice work arena. Our co-op placements span **PHILADELPHIA, WASHINGTON, D.C. AND BEYOND.**

LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE
PROGRAM



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