

College of Arts & Sciences

Criminology, BA

Broad Learning Goals

- A. Students will become familiar with major sources of crime data.
- B. Students will become familiar with the key correlates of crime and delinquency.
- C. Students will become familiar with mainstream criminological theories.
- D. Students will become familiar with the primary formal social control institutions.

Student Learning Outcomes

- A1. Students will be able to identify three major sources of crime data: official data (UCR/NIBRS), victimization data (NCVS), and self report data (e.g., NYS, MTF)
- A2. Students will be able to identify strengths and weaknesses of each source.
- A3. Students will be able to identify the kinds of research questions each source of data can address and the types of questions each is unable to adequately address.
- B1. Students will be able to identify some of the key correlates of crime (e.g., age, gender, race, SES)
- B2. Students will be able to articulate some of the explanations/mechanisms that help explain these correlations.
- B3. Students will be able to distinguish between micro- and macro-level correlates of crime and related explanations.
- C1. Students will be able to articulate the key assumptions, central arguments, and core hypotheses of mainstream criminological theories (e.g., social control, strain, labeling, social disorganization).
- C2. Students will be able to distinguish between micro- and macro-level theories.

- C3 Students will be able to apply these theories to empirical data at both the micro and macro levels (e.g., peers and criminal behavior (micro) or poverty rate and crime rates (macro)).
- D1 Students will be able to identify the key functions and goals of criminal justice institutions.
- D2 Students will be able to explain the nature and form of inequality in the criminal justice system (especially race, class and gender) and be able to articulate the central (and often competing) explanations for these inequalities.
- D3 Students will be able to identify and discuss some of the factors and/or conditions that make formal social controls more or less effective.