

CRIMINOLOGY, LAW AND SOCIETY, BA

Banner Code: LA-BA-CLS

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The BA in Criminology, Law and Society provides a focused study of the justice system and social, human, and moral problems raised in the justice field. This course of study prepares students for careers in law enforcement, corrections, the courts, investigations, juvenile justice, private and homeland security, and related social and human services. The BA in Criminology, Law and Society is well-suited for students who wish to study the field while branching out into related areas of study.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete 42 credits within the major, with a minimum GPA of 2.00. Students may apply a maximum of 18 credits of transferable ADJ courses from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) or comparable courses at another community college to fulfill the degree requirements. Once a student matriculates at Mason, no courses may be taken at another institution without prior written approval from the program and the dean.

No more than 12 credits of CRIM 485 Study Abroad can be applied to the major. No more than 15 credits of CRIM 490 Special Topics can be applied to the major.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/>).

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Core Courses in the Major

Code	Title	Credits
CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
CRIM 306	Criminal Justice Ethics ¹	3
CRIM 315	Research Methods and Analysis in Criminology ²	3
CRIM 424	Constitutional Law: Criminal Process and Rights ³	3

CRIM 495	Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
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Total Credits 15

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CRIM 514 Legal and Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice is open to students in the Accelerated Master's Pathway and can be used to fulfill the CRIM 306 requirement.

2

CRIM 515 Criminal Justice Research Methods and Data Analysis is open to students in the Accelerated Master's Pathway and can be used to fulfill the CRIM 315 requirement.

3

CRIM 521 The Constitution, Criminal Procedure, and Security is open to students in the Accelerated Master's Pathway and can be used to fulfill the CRIM 424 requirement.

Electives in the Major

Code	Title	Credits
Select nine electives from the following: ¹		27
CRIM 210	Introduction to Criminology	
CRIM 220	Introduction to Law and Society	
CRIM 230	Introduction to Homeland Security	
CRIM 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	
or GOVT 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	
CRIM 302	Delinquency and the Juvenile Justice System	
or SOCI 302	Sociology of Delinquency	
CRIM 304	Computer Crime, Forensics, and Auditing	
CRIM 305	Crime and Crime Policy	
CRIM 307	Social Inequality, Crime, and Justice	
CRIM 308	Human Rights and Justice	
CRIM 310	Introduction to the Intelligence Community	
CRIM 312	Intelligence Analysis Techniques	
CRIM 320	Crime and Place	
CRIM 325	Hate Crime	
CRIM 350	Counterintelligence	
CRIM 400	Applied Criminal Psychology	
CRIM 401	Policing in America	
CRIM 402	Punishment and Corrections	
CRIM 403	Community Corrections	
CRIM 404	Crime Victims and Victimization	
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
CRIM 406	Family Law and the Justice System	
CRIM 407	Advanced Topics in Law and Society	
CRIM 408	Criminal Courts	
CRIM 409	Community Policing	
CRIM 410	Criminal Investigations	

CRIM 411	Innovations in Policing
CRIM 415	Guns and Crime in America
CRIM 422	Controversial Legal Issues
CRIM 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties
or GOVT 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties
CRIM 425	Criminal Justice Management
CRIM 430	Criminal Law
CRIM 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society
or GOVT 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society
CRIM 462	Law Enforcement and Homeland Security
CRIM 471	Prevention and Deterrence of Crime
CRIM 475	Theory and Politics of Terrorism
CRIM 485	Study Abroad
CRIM 490	Special Topics ²
CRIM 491	Honors Seminar I
CRIM 492	RS: Honors Seminar II
CRIM 498	Research Practicum
CRIM 499	Independent Study
HDFS 401	Family Law and Public Policy
INTS 417	Human Trafficking and Smuggling ²

Total Credits 27

1

Students may select an optional concentration to fulfill a portion of this required elective credit.

2

A maximum of 6 credits of INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling and/or CRIM 490 Special Topics when topic is Human Trafficking can be applied to the major.

Optional Concentration in the Major

Criminology and society majors have the option of obtaining a concentration by completing 15 of their 27 elective credits within one of the following areas. Students can pursue only one concentration.

Available Concentrations

- Concentration in Criminal Justice (CJUS)
- Concentration in Homeland Security and Justice (HSJ)
- Concentration in Law and Society (LAWS)

Concentration in Criminal Justice (CJUS)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 15 credits from the following:		
CRIM 210	Introduction to Criminology	
CRIM 302	Delinquency and the Juvenile Justice System	
or SOCI 302	Sociology of Delinquency	
CRIM 304	Computer Crime, Forensics, and Auditing	
CRIM 305	Crime and Crime Policy	
CRIM 307	Social Inequality, Crime, and Justice	
CRIM 320	Crime and Place	
CRIM 325	Hate Crime	
CRIM 400	Applied Criminal Psychology	
CRIM 401	Policing in America	
CRIM 402	Punishment and Corrections	
CRIM 403	Community Corrections	
CRIM 404	Crime Victims and Victimization	
CRIM 408	Criminal Courts	
CRIM 409	Community Policing	
CRIM 410	Criminal Investigations	
CRIM 411	Innovations in Policing	
CRIM 415	Guns and Crime in America	
CRIM 425	Criminal Justice Management	
CRIM 462	Law Enforcement and Homeland Security	
CRIM 471	Prevention and Deterrence of Crime	
CRIM 485	Study Abroad (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 490	Special Topics (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director) ¹	
CRIM 491	Honors Seminar I (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 492	RS: Honors Seminar II (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 498	Research Practicum (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	

CRIM 499 Independent Study (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)

INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling ¹

The following graduate courses are available to students in the Accelerated Master's Pathway

CRIM 509 Justice Organizations and Processes

CRIM 510 Policing

CRIM 511 Evidence-based Crime and Justice Policy

CRIM 512 Implementing Crime and Justice Policy

CRIM 513 Leadership in Justice Organizations

CRIM 516 Evaluation of Crime and Justice Policies and Practices

CRIM 541 Conduct of Justice Organizations at the Street Level

CRIM 544 Corrections

CRIM 545 Crime Analysis

CRIM 561 Politics of Crime Policy

CRIM 562 Crime and Place

¹

A maximum of 6 credits of INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling and/or CRIM 490 Special Topics when topic is Human Trafficking can be applied to the major.

Concentration in Homeland Security and Justice (HSJ)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 15 credits from the following:		
CRIM 230	Introduction to Homeland Security	
CRIM 310	Introduction to the Intelligence Community	
CRIM 312	Intelligence Analysis Techniques	
CRIM 350	Counterintelligence	
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
CRIM 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	
or GOVT 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	
CRIM 462	Law Enforcement and Homeland Security	
CRIM 475	Theory and Politics of Terrorism	
CRIM 485	Study Abroad (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 490	Special Topics (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director) ¹	
CRIM 491	Honors Seminar I (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 492	RS: Honors Seminar II (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 498	Research Practicum (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	

CRIM 499 Independent Study (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)

INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling ¹

¹

A maximum of 6 credits of INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling and/or CRIM 490 Special Topics when topic is Human Trafficking can be applied to the major.

Concentration in Law and Society (LAWS)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 15 credits from the following:		
CRIM 220	Introduction to Law and Society	
CRIM 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	
or GOVT 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	
CRIM 308	Human Rights and Justice	
CRIM 325	Hate Crime	
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
CRIM 406	Family Law and the Justice System	
CRIM 407	Advanced Topics in Law and Society	
CRIM 408	Criminal Courts	
CRIM 415	Guns and Crime in America	
CRIM 422	Controversial Legal Issues	
CRIM 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	
or GOVT 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	
CRIM 430	Criminal Law	
CRIM 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	
or GOVT 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	
CRIM 485	Study Abroad (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 490	Special Topics (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director) ¹	
CRIM 491	Honors Seminar I (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 492	RS: Honors Seminar II (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 498	Research Practicum (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 499	Independent Study (when topic is appropriate with permission of undergraduate director)	
CRIM 523	Law and Social Control (available to students in the Accelerated Master's Pathway)	
HDFS 401	Family Law and Public Policy	
INTS 417	Human Trafficking and Smuggling ¹	

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A maximum of 6 credits of INTS 417 Human Trafficking and Smuggling and/or CRIM 490 Special Topics when topic is Human Trafficking can be applied to the major.

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in criminology, law and society fulfill this requirement by successfully completing CRIM 495 Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>). Students should complete ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) before taking the writing-intensive course in the major or take the two courses simultaneously.

Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120.

College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements or requirements for the major).

Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following: 3		
PHIL	(http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/) ¹	
RELI	(http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/)	

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Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253, RELI 235, RELI 333, and RELI 339 cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature>) requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) ¹ 3		
ANTH	(http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/)	
CRIM	(http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/)	
ECON	(http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/)	

GOVT (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/>)

HIST (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/>)²

LING (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/>)

PSYC (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/>)

SOCI (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/>)

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 103	Human Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies
GGG 301	Political Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 305	Economic Geography
GGG 306	Urban Geography
GGG 315	Geography of the United States
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America
GGG 320	Geography of Europe
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GGG 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGG 357	Urban Planning
GGG 380	Geography of Virginia

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The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

2

HIST 100 and HIST 125 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Foreign Language

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: ¹		
Completing 3 credits in a foreign language numbered 202 (or higher level courses taught in the language) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/)		
Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test		
Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:		
EDSE 115	American Sign Language (ASL) I	
EDSE 116	American Sign Language (ASL) II	
EDSE 219	American Sign Language (ASL) III	

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Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) ¹		
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3
ANTH 317	East Asian Cultures	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
CHIN 470	Special Topics in Chinese Studies	3
DANC 118	Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3
GGS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGS 316	Geography of Latin America	3
GGS 317	Geography of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3
GGS 399	Select Topics in GGS	3
GOVT 332	Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3
GOVT 333	Government and Politics of Asia	3
GOVT 338	Government and Politics of Russia	3
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3

HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 211	Introduction to Religions of the "West" (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 212	Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 312	Islam	3
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 326	Stalinism	3	RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3
HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3	RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 317	Daoism	3
HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 318	Korean Philosophy and Religions	3
HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3	RELI 338	Qur'an and Hadith	3
HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 342	Comparative Study of Mysticism	3
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 344	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 358	Islamic Thought (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 367	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 368	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights	3
HIST 364	Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3	RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3-6	WMST 407	Transnational Sexualities	3
HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3			
HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			
HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3			
JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			
JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			
JAPA 380	Japan in Motion	3			
KORE 300	Korean Culture and Society	3			
KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3			
KORE 385	Introduction to Korean Linguistics	3			

1

A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global>) requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

Mason Core

Some Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements.

Students who have completed the following credentials are eligible for a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower level) requirement categories. The Integration category (upper level) is not waived under this policy. See Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/#transfertext>) for more information.

- VCCS Uniform Certificate of General Studies
- VCCS or Richard Bland Associate of Science (A.S.), Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.&S.), or Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.)

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication (ENGH 101) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
	Oral Communication (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative)	3
	Information Technology and Computing (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology)	3
Exploration Requirements		
	Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts)	3
	Global History (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history)	3
	Global Understanding (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global)	3
	Literature (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature)	3
	Natural Science (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science)	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science)	3
Integration Requirements		
	Written Communications (ENGH 302) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
	Writing-Intensive (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi) ¹	3
	Synthesis/Capstone (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#synthesis-capstone) ²	3
	Total Credits	40

1

Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

2

Minimum 3 credits required.

4-Year Plan

Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, Law and Society Sample Plan of Study

A sample four year graduation plan and degree planning worksheet can be found at <https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets> (<https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets/>). The plan is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor each semester and with their PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Highly-qualified students may pursue advanced work leading to graduation with honors in the major. Students admitted to the honors program in the major take a two-course sequence: CRIM 491 Honors Seminar I and CRIM 492 RS: Honors Seminar II. To graduate with honors in criminology, law and society, students must complete both courses with a minimum GPA of 3.50 in the two courses.

Program Outcomes

Program Outcomes

1. Acquire core knowledge of Criminology, Law and Society:

Students will develop core knowledge about the organization and operation of various institutions administering justice, such as police, courts, corrections, juvenile justice, as well as constitutional law and criminal justice ethics that serve as the foundation for these and other justice institutions.

2. Acquire more specific knowledge of a variety of topics in criminology, law and society:

Students will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of electives in CLS, including classes related to theories of criminology, law and society, judicial processes and the law, human rights and social justice, intelligence and homeland security, juvenile justice, criminal psychology, policing, crime prevention, contemporary justice issues and reforms, and leadership. Students may also choose to further specialize their coursework by completing an optional concentration in Criminal Justice, Law and Society, or Homeland Security and Justice.

3. Acquire a broader liberal arts knowledge in relation to the justice system:

Students will receive an additional 18 credits of liberal arts education in related fields to help contextualize their learning in the broader liberal arts and social science areas.

4. Develop written communication:

Students will learn how to effectively communicate in writing through papers and exams, which require students to analyze, synthesize, and apply what they have learned.

5. Understand and apply research methods:

Students will learn about basic research methods used in the study of criminology, law and society, to not only be able to digest research in the field, but also consider *how* to use research and analysis tools to answer key questions in criminology, law and society. The degree includes several courses that offer the opportunity for students to engage in research on crime and justice.

6. Develop critical thinking skills:

Students will demonstrate an ability to think critically about crime and the justice system through course offerings and have the opportunity to analyze contemporary justice problems and reforms. This will include assessing the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches and models of justice in the U.S. and internationally and developing a critical

understanding of how the justice system relates to broader ideas of justice, equality, and human rights.

7. Be able to synthesize across skills and education:

The required Capstone course in CLS is a writing-intensive course that allows students to exercise and showcase the skills they have learned throughout their degree.