

POST ACADEMY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE (BAS)

Degree: Bachelor of Applied Science
Major: Criminal Justice
POST Academy
Program Code: 3701

The Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice is designed to provide students interested in careers in the justice system, and specifically in policing/law enforcement, with the knowledge, communication, and critical thinking skills necessary for success in their field. Graduates will be job ready and able to secure positions in various policing/law enforcement positions (e.g., police officer, deputy sheriff, parole officer, etc.). The degree combines the technical skills required within entry-level law enforcement positions with the academic rigor of the baccalaureate degree. The degree will also assist students in their upward mobility in their area of employment.

Important information about this program:

- To be admitted to the BAS degree, certain prerequisites must be satisfied. Please see the Social and Behavioral Sciences department head or program faculty for complete requirements and application form.
- All students intending to obtain a BA or BAS in Criminal Justice will initially be enrolled as pre-criminal justice majors. Students must earn a "C" or better in CRMJ 110 and CRMJ 201 prior to enrolling in any additional program specific courses. Core courses CRMJ 110, CRMJ 201, CRMJ 310, CRMJ 320, and CRMJ 328 must be completed with a "C" or better before students will be admitted into the BA/BAS major. Students must also complete MATH 110 (or higher) and ENGL 111 – both with a "C" or better prior to acceptance as a Criminal Justice major. GPA within these subjects must be at least 2.5. Overall cumulative GPA after 45 credit hours (approximately 3 semesters) must be at least 2.5. Please see the Criminal Justice Student Handbook for more information. Transfer students will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- Students are encouraged to attend the Western Colorado Peace Officers Academy (WCPOA). Up to 31 credits can be transferred from other Colorado POST approved academies associated with accredited institutions of higher learning or through existing articulation agreements with Colorado Mesa University. Students wishing to transfer credit from all other academies (e.g., agency, private, or out-of-state academies) can earn up to 30 credit hours through the [Credit for Prior Learning program](#).
- It is highly recommended that students complete all required coursework prior to enrolling in the POST Academy. Please see the criminal justice student handbook for more information.
- Students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services' [What to Do with a Major?](#) resource.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social

responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Discuss the history and practice of each segment of the Criminal Justice System: police, courts, and corrections. \ (Specialized Knowledge)
2. Examine diversity issues and assess their impact on work and ethical practices in criminal justice (Ethical Reasoning/Personal and Social Responsibility).
3. Apply major criminological theories to criminal behavior. \ (Critical Thinking)
4. Recognize quantitative and qualitative research methods, navigate scholarly information systems, identify and select quality sources and materials, and assess the validity and reliability of data (Quantitative Fluency and Information Literacy).
5. Demonstrate proficient oral communication and writing skills that are formal and professional in nature. \ (Communication Fluency)
6. Demonstrate proficiency in basic skills (driving, firearms, and arrest control) required for entry level policing. \ (Applied Learning)

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options." This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Completion of an appropriate Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree from an accredited institution is required for the BAS; exceptions must be approved by the BAS advisor and department head.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 33 upper-division credits.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 30 semester credit hours for a baccalaureate degree. A maximum of 15 of the 30 credits may be for cooperative education, internships, and practica.

- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements. The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Specific to this degree:

- Students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.

Essential Learning Requirements

(31 semester hours)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
English ¹		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
Mathematics ¹		
MATH 110	Mathematical Investigations-GTMA1	3
History		
Select one History course		3
Humanities		
Select one Humanities course		3
Social and Behavioral Sciences ²		
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course		3
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course		3
Fine Arts		
Select one Fine Arts course		3
Natural Sciences ³		
Select one Natural Sciences course		3
Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab		4
Total Semester Credit Hours		31

¹ Must receive a grade of "C" or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.

² Recommended: POLS 101, PSYC 150, SOCO 260, or SOCO 264.

³ One course must include a lab.

Other Lower Division Requirements

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Wellness Requirement		
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1

KINA 127	Physical Conditioning ¹	1
Essential Learning Capstone ²		
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Total Semester Credit Hours		6

¹ Must be taken simultaneously with POST Academy.

² Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

Foundation Courses

(10 semester hours - must receive a grade of C or better in all courses)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
STAT 215	Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
Select two consecutive classes in the same foreign language		6
Total Semester Credit Hours		10

Program Specific Degree Requirements

(73-74 semester hours, must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA toward coursework in this area.)

- It is highly recommended that students complete all required coursework prior to enrolling in the POST Academy. Please see the criminal justice student handbook for more information.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Core Courses		
CRMJ 110	Orientation to Criminal Justice Inquiry	1
CRMJ 201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 302	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 310	The Police Process	3
CRMJ 315	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 320	Corrections	3
CRMJ 328	American Court Systems	3
CRMJ 370	Criminology	3
Capstone		
Select one of the following:		3
CRMJ 465	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice	
CRMJ 490	Comparative Criminal Justice	
CRMJ 499	Internship	
SOCI 497	Structured Research	
Criminal Justice Electives		
Select at least one course from each subfield: ¹		12-13
<i>Policing</i>		
CRMJ 280 & 280L	Crime Scene Processing and Crime Scene Processing Laboratory	
CRMJ 335	Community Policing	
CRMJ 410	Criminal Investigations	
CRMJ 415	Counterterrorism and Law Enforcement	

CRMJ 435	White-Collar Crimes
Courts	
CRMJ 301	Criminal Procedure
CRMJ 405	Civil Liability for Law Enforcement and Corrections
CRMJ 412	Constitutional Law
CRMJ 420	Criminal Law
CRMJ 425	Trial, Evidence, and Legal Advocacy
Corrections	
CRMJ 340	Community Corrections
CRMJ 440	Capital Punishment
CRMJ 470	Restorative Justice
CRMJ 480	Inside-Out Prison Exchange
Criminal Justice Theory	
CRMJ 311	Victimology
CRMJ 325	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
CRMJ 330	Intimate Partner Violence
CRMJ 345	Mental Illness and Crime
CRMJ 360	Crime and Deviance
CRMJ 375	Women and Crime
CRMJ 380	Crisis Intervention in Criminal Justice
CRMJ 413	Violent and Serial Offenders
CRMJ 445	Media and Crime
Total Semester Credit Hours	37-38

¹ Criminal Justice Electives take beyond the required 12-13 semester hours can also satisfy the restricted elective requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Restricted Electives		
Select 6 semester hours chosen from any of the above listed Capstone or Criminal Justice Electives courses, CRMJ 396 Topics, CRMJ 496 Topics, or CRMJ 495 Independent Study. ¹		6
Total Semester Credit Hours		6

¹ Internship may not be repeated if taken to meet the capstone requirement and may only count as 1 to 3 credits toward the 6 restricted credits. 300 and 400-level Topics courses may be taken more than one time if the course has a different topic.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
POST Academy ¹		
CRJW 101	Basic Police Academy I	4
CRJW 102	Basic Police Academy II	5
CRJW 103	Basic Police Academy III	7
CRJW 104	Basic Police Academy IV	6
CRJW 106	Arrest Control	3
CRJW 107	Law Enforcement Driving	2
CRJW 108	Firearms	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		30

¹ Must receive a grade of “C” or better in all courses. Courses are taken as part of a state approved POST Academy.

Notes on Bachelor of Applied Science: 36 Semester Hours taken as part of a state approved Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree to include CRMJ 201 and CRMJ 310 or other approved courses within an established AAS program. Credit hours that are applicable to requirements as listed for this degree will be applied accordingly. Student must complete all course requirements outlined for the degree.

Suggested Course Plan

		Semester Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTC01	3
Essential Learning - Natural Science with Lab		4
Essential Learning - Natural Science		3
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
CRMJ 201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRMJ 110	Orientation to Criminal Justice Inquiry	1
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTC02	3
Essential Learning - Mathematics		3
CRMJ 328	American Court Systems	3
CRMJ 310	The Police Process	3
CRMJ 320	Corrections	3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
Foundation Course - Foreign Language		3
STAT 215	Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
Essential Learning - Social/Behavioral Sciences		3
Essential Learning - History		3
Essential Learning - Humanities		3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring Semester		
Foundation Course - Foreign Language		3
Essential Learning - Fine Arts		3
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Essential Learning - Social/Behavioral Sciences		3
CRMJ 315	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
CRMJ 302	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
Criminal Justice Elective - Policing		3
Criminal Justice Elective - Courts		3
Criminal Justice Elective - Corrections		3
Restricted Elective		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring Semester		
CRMJ 370	Criminology	3
Criminal Justice Elective - Criminal Justice Theory		3
Capstone Course		3
Restricted Elective		3
Semester Credit Hours		12

Fourth Year**Fall Semester**

CRJW 101	Basic Police Academy I	4
CRJW 102	Basic Police Academy II	5
CRJW 103	Basic Police Academy III	7
CRJW 104	Basic Police Academy IV	6
CRJW 106	Arrest Control	3
CRJW 107	Law Enforcement Driving	2
CRJW 108	Firearms	3
KINA 127	Physical Conditioning	1
Semester Credit Hours		31

Spring Semester

Open

Semester Credit Hours		0
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Total Semester Credit Hours		120
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Advising and Graduation

Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and developing a suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audits on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisors or academic department heads. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found on the [Graduation](#) web page.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be their responsibility to apply for graduation in a subsequent semester. A student's "Intent to Graduate" does not automatically move to a later graduation date.