

Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (ONLINE/DISTANCE LEARNING)

The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in criminal justice enables community college graduates with an Associate of Applied Science in criminal justice, or a related field, to continue their education and advance their career. Students who pursue this degree are required to complete the general education requirements, as well as advanced coursework in the major that is complementary to the vocational, technical, or professional area of the associate degree.

A Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree in criminal justice prepares the student for leadership in positions in the criminal, investigative, and juvenile justice systems. Graduates of the program work in law enforcement and government agencies at the local, state, and federal levels.

Many criminal justice professionals with an associate degree find that they have sufficient experience for career advancement, but lack the education requirements for promotion to management positions. However, adult students with career experience have unique needs that make pursuing a traditional baccalaureate degree an unsatisfactory experience that offers little personal enrichment. The online BAAS is designed for adult learners who already exhibit responsibility and professionalism, and want to advance their career options and enrich their personal lives through the completion of a baccalaureate degree.

Criminal Justice Requirements:

- General Education Requirements
- Completion of an associate degree in Criminal Justice (or a related discipline)
- Liberal Arts Requirements
- Major Requirements

Total Credit Hours | 120

Program Specific Requirements

Completion of the Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice degree or a related field. Community college coursework must include four specific Criminal Justice courses, CJC 111, CJC 121, CJC 132 and CJC 141. These courses are equivalent to Lees-McRae College courses CRI 221, CRI 311, CRI 325 and CRI 188.

All courses are taken online through the Brightspace Learning Management System.

Major Requirements | 36 Credit Hours

Class Name	Credit Hours
CRI 221 Introduction to Criminal Justice (Met with transfer of CJC 111)	3 credit hours
CRI 311 Perspectives in Policing (Met with transfer of CJC 121)	3 credit hours
CRI 325 Judicial Process and Court Ethics (Met with transfer of CJC 132)	3 credit hours
CRI 188 Corrections (Met with transfer of CJC 141)	3 credit hours
CRI 302 Advanced Juvenile Justice	3 credit hours
CRI 332 Criminological Theory	3 credit hours

Class Name	Credit Hours
CRI 343 The Forgotten Victim	3 credit hours
CRI 354 Drug Addiction and Crime	3 credit hours
CRI 362 Statistics and Research Methods	3 credit hours
CRI 352 Probation, Parole and Community Corrections	3 credit hours
CRI 404 White Collar Crime	3 credit hours
CRI 450 Criminal Law	3 credit hours
CRI 461 Global Justice Systems	3 credit hours
CRI 463 Terrorism	3 credit hours
Choose one of the following	
CRI 471 Criminal Justice Internship	3 credit hours
CRI 472 Criminal Justice Work Experience*	3 credit hours
CRI 499 Senior Research Seminar	3 credit hours

*Open only to students who are currently employed in the CJ field, or have worked in the field in the last five years.

Sample Two-Year Plan

Class Name	Credit Hours	Semester
First Year		
CRI 354 Drug Addiction & Crime	3 credit hours	Fall; first 8 weeks
BIO 102 Environmental Biology	3 credit hours	Fall; first 8 weeks
CRI 302 Juvenile Justice	3 credit hours	Fall; second 8 weeks
HIS 210 History of the Southern Appalachian Region	3 credit hours	Fall; second 8 weeks
SOC 251 Social Problems	3 credit hours	Spring; first 8 weeks
CRI 352 Probation, Parole and Community Based Corrections	3 credit hours	Spring; first 8 weeks
THEA 206 Appreciation of Modern Performing Arts	3 credit hours	Spring; first 8 weeks
CRI 463 Terrorism	3 credit hours	Spring; second 8 weeks
CRI 343 The Forgotten Victim	3 credit hours	Spring; second 8 weeks
Second Year		
CRI 450 Criminal Law	3 credit hours	Fall; first 8 weeks
SCI 214 Science Applications	3 credit hours	Fall; first 8 weeks
CRI 362 Statistics & Research Methods	3 credit hours	Fall; second 8 weeks
CRI 461 Global Justice Systems	3 credit hours	Fall; second 8 weeks
CRI 471 Internship OR CRI 472 Work Experience	3 credit hours	Fall; all 16 weeks
CRI 332 Criminological Theory	3 credit hours	Spring; first 8 weeks
CRI 499 Senior Research Seminar	3 credit hours	Spring; first 8 weeks
CRI 404 White Collar Crime	3 credit hours	Spring; second 8 weeks
SCI 241 Math and Science Concepts	3 credit hours	Spring; second 8 weeks

*Must be completed in the senior year

Life Experience Credit

Students in the Criminal Justice program who have worked in the criminal justice field may be eligible for life experience credit for certain transfer courses: CRI 221: Intro to Criminal Justice, CRI 311: Perspectives in Policing, CRI 325: Judicial Process and Ethics, and CRI 188: Corrections. Eligibility is determined by the position/duties one has held and the number of years of service. A student must have worked at least five years in the area of the course title they are applying for credit. For example, to be eligible for credit for CRI 311, a student must have worked at least five years in law enforcement. The only course that varies from this standard is CRI 221. To be eligible for credit for CRI 221, a student must have worked within all three areas of the criminal justice field for a combined total experience of at least three years.

Documentation of experience must be provided upon request. Students are notified of approval/denial by the Criminal Justice department.