



CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Declarative Knowledge): Graduates in Criminology and Criminal Justice will demonstrate an understanding of basic concepts, theories, theorists, and research findings in three core areas:

Criminology: History and philosophy of law, crime, and criminal codes; survey of major theories and theorists, including classical school, positive school, choice theories, trait theories, social process theories, social structure theories, conflict theory, and integrated theories.

Criminal Justice Systems: History, philosophy, organization of the American police, the courts, and correctional institutions, including probation and parole, the study of crime, law and the administration of justice.

Research Methods: Understanding and applying the basic principles of scientific methodology including the nature of scientific explanation, issues relating to reliability and validity, the limitations of measurement scales, hypothesis testing, and the interpretation of correlational and experimental data.

All majors will complete CCJ 3014 (Criminology), CCJ 3024 (The Criminal Justice System), and CCJ 4700 (Methods of Research in Criminal Justice). Master syllabi for these courses are available from the departmental office and include a list of student learning outcomes to be addressed in all sections of the course and the types of course assignments and examinations that will be used to assess student proficiency on these learning outcomes.

COMMUNICATION (Written communication): Graduates in Criminology and Criminal Justice will be able to produce writing that is grammatically correct, well-organized, and properly formatted.

Students will be required to complete the university's Writing Across the Curriculum program to demonstrate general writing skills. Students will also be required to demonstrate competency in communication skills by completing a written research

assignment as a part of their research methods class CCJ 4700 (Methods of Research in Criminal Justice).

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Research Skills) and CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills): Graduates in Criminology and Criminal Justice will use critical thinking to evaluate information and data related to criminological and criminal justice processes by applying basic principles of scientific methodology including (1) the nature of scientific explanations, (2) issues relating to reliability and validity, (3) the limitations of measurement scales, (4) the use of experimental and quasi-experimental designs to test hypotheses and (5) the proper interpretation of correlational and experimental data.

Performance on examinations in CCJ 4700 (Research Methods) will be used to assess students' understanding and application of these concepts.