The Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice

The Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice provides students with knowledge about the nature and causes of crime and delinquency, law and the legal system for juveniles and adults in American society, and the decision processes of criminal justice agencies. A criminal justice major is educated within a general education framework in the liberal arts and also provides courses that directly apply to careers within the criminal and juvenile justice system and the study of law. The degree provides a foundation for graduate study in criminal justice, criminology, public administration, and other graduate school programs.

Admission Requirements

Students must meet general admission requirements of the University as listed in the Admissions section of the catalog. In some instances, students may be admitted without having completed general education requirements. In such cases, those courses must be completed early in the junior year. It is recommended that the student meet with an academic coordinator to plan a program which identifies how meeting deficiencies may apply toward the program.

Degree Requirements

Number of Credit Hours for the Program remains the same

The degree requires a minimum of 120 credit-hours of which 45 credit-hours must come from a four-year institution. The program consists of 30 credit hours of 3000 and 4000 level course work in the major. If the students start FAU as a freshman or sophomore, they are required to take CCJ 2002 as a prerequisite to 3000 and 4000 level criminal justice courses. In this case, CCJ 2002 will apply toward the 30 credit-hour requirement. The remaining 30 credit-hours may be taken from electives throughout the various colleges in the University. Additionally, the last 30 credit-hours of upper division coursework must be earned in residence at FAU.

To earn a bachelor of arts degree from a state university in Florida, students must demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language at the college level. Earning college credit at the Language II level (courses such as FRE 1121 or SPN 1121) satisfies this mandate. Students meeting the FAU foreign language admission requirement with two years of high school language have not satisfied the graduation requirement. Students must demonstrate additional proficiency either by earning Language II-level college credit or by satisfying the requirement through other means, such as the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exam. A minimum grade of “C” is required for each CCJ-, CJC-, CJE-, or CJL-prefixed course. If a grade below a “C” (such as “C-”) is earned in a CCJ-, CJC-, CJE-, or CJL-prefixed course, the course will not count toward any portion of the 120-credit program.