The multidisciplinary program in Criminal Justice Studies explores the conception and implementation of law, crime and justice systems and ideas. The program emphasizes critical thinking about law, crime and justice systems and their entanglement with larger political economic processes. In particular, the program explores how ideas and systems of crime, law and justice shape broader issues of social justice, especially those related to the experience of race, class, gender, sexuality, and age inequity in the U.S. The program teaches students the skills of critical analysis and ethical reasoning such that students can challenge structures and assumption and innovatively contribute to the assessment of alternative solutions to problems associated with the identification, control and prevention of crime and delinquency.

EMPHASIS AREAS

Administration of Justice
Students explore central features of criminal justice systems. Courses include treatment of distinguishing features of the U.S. criminal justice system and comparative perspectives of systems around the globe. Attention is given to recurring problems including abuse of authority, community conflict and discrimination in case processing. Students have opportunities to learn methods and applications for studying criminal justice systems and processes.

Crime and Delinquency
Courses in this area expose students to major explanations of what brings about different forms of juvenile delinquency and adult criminality. Students have opportunities to explore biological, feminist, economic, international, psychological, racial and sociological perspectives of crime and delinquency. In addition to addressing street crime, courses are available for learning about hate crime, organized crime, terrorism, and white collar crime. In addition to addressing street crime, courses are available for learning about hate crime, organized crime, terrorism and white collar crime.

Legal Studies
Attention is given to legal doctrine relevant to criminal justice, the practice of law by criminal justice agents and the experience of law by defendants, family members and victims. Courses include distinctive disciplinary perspectives of law as well as issues faced by particular populations. Students have the opportunity to learn and apply legal analysis, including case law and development of legal briefs.

Working with Diverse Communities
Working in the criminal justice system in any capacity requires interacting with individuals from diverse family, cultural, social and economic backgrounds. Courses in this area expose students to a deeper understanding and appreciation of individuals and groups from backgrounds other than their own. These courses help students develop communication skills to bridge cultural differences while working toward common goals related to the pursuit of social as well as criminal justice.
SUGGESTED FIRST- AND SECOND-YEAR COURSE SEQUENCE

FALL 2019
Area A1 Oral Communication or Area A3 HSS 110 (recommended)
Area A2 Written English Requirement (ENG 114 or ENG 104)
Area C1 Arts
Area C2 Humanities
Area D1 Social Sciences

SPRING 2020
Area A1 or A3 Oral Communication or Critical Thinking
Area A2 Written English Requirement (if took ENG 104 in Fall 2019) or Area E HSS 210 (preferred) (if ENG 114 completed in Fall 2019)
Area B4 Quantitative Reasoning & B4 support class (if needed)
Area D2 or D3 US History or US/CA Government
Complimentary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective or Minor

FALL 2020
Area B: Physical Science (B1) and Laboratory Science (B3)
Area C1 or C2 Arts or Humanities
Area D2 or D3 US History or US/CA Government
Area E Lifelong Learning and Self-Development (LLD) (if did not complete Spring 2020)
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective or Minor

SPRING 2021
Area B: Life Science (B2) and Laboratory Science (B3) (if science lab was not completed with B1)
3 Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Electives or Minors

General Education Areas Potentially Met by Courses in this Major
University elective/complementary studies—please consult with major advisor for appropriate courses.
AP and IB exam scores as well as courses taken at community college may impact the suggested course sequencing. If you are not sure how this will affect you, please contact an SRC advisor.
Upper division GE Area D (UD-D) and SF State Studies Social Justice (SJ) can be fulfilled with CJ 300 (will take when 60 units earned).
To avoid taking additional units, it is recommended that you meet SF State Studies requirements (AERM, GP, ES, SJ) within your GE or major.

ADDING, DROPPING AND WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFTER START OF SEMESTER

Please be aware of all deadlines. You may add courses via your Gateway until before the first day of instruction, provided there is space available. Once classes start, you will need permission numbers from your instructor to add classes via Gateway.
Dropping courses via your Gateway without it noted on your official records must occur within the first three weeks of each semester. After this three-week period, you are no longer allowed to drop courses via your Gateway. You must have a serious and compelling reason to withdraw from a course and submit a petition with objective supporting documentation. If approved, a "W" will appear on your transcript. All withdrawal petitions that lack serious and compelling reasons and/or viable supporting documentation will be denied within the College of Health & Social Sciences. Be conscientious about withdrawing from classes as you are allowed a maximum of 18 units for withdrawal and "W"s on your transcript can reflect poorly. Also, keep in mind that you are only allowed to repeat a course once for a maximum of two times.
Lastly, it is ALWAYS students’ responsibility to ensure that they are in the appropriate classes — always check your schedule!

RESOURCES:

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES
HSS 261 | cj@sfsu.edu | (415) 405-4129
cj.sfsu.edu

CHSS STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER
HSS 254 | srcenter@sfsu.edu | (415) 405-3740
chss.sfsu.edu/src

ASSIST
assist.org