

Kansas State University

Criminology B.A./B.S.

Program Approval

I. General Information

A. Institution Kansas State University

B. Program Identification

Degree Level: Bachelor's
Program Title: Criminology
Degree to be Offered: B.A./B.S. in Criminology
Responsible Department or Unit: Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
CIP Code: 45.0401
Modality: On Campus
Proposed Implementation Date: Fall 2022

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours for the Degree: 120

II. Clinical Sites: Does this program require the use of Clinical Sites? No

III. Justification

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work proposes to convert its Criminology specialization that exists in the Sociology program into a Criminology major. Offering Criminology as a major will allow the degree to be more useful to students interested in careers in law enforcement, corrections, courts, victims' services, and related occupations. Multiple benefits will result for Kansas State University and the students of Kansas more generally. First, historical data demonstrate that more than 80% of sociology majors continue to choose the criminology specialty. Further, data from K-State Admissions and the National Student Clearinghouse indicate that from Spring 2010 to Fall 2020, 464 students applied and were admitted to K-State but enrolled elsewhere to pursue Criminology and Criminal Justice Degrees. We predict that a significant number of these students would have come to K-State if we offered a degree in Criminology. Data further indicate that this trend has risen over time, increasing 239% between 2010 and 2020. Anecdotally, a significant number of students have commented to our advisor that they chose not to pursue our program because they wanted a degree specific to Criminology. Available data indicates steady growth in employment sectors that typically hire Criminology majors, jobs that offer stable careers with solid incomes. In sum, converting our specialization in criminology to a major stands to (1) better serve existing students; (2) increase enrollment while also offering a degree students want; and (3) increase students' pathways to gainful employment.

Other institutions in Kansas offer four-year degrees in criminology, including at Wichita State University, Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Washburn University, Baker University, Central Christian College of Kansas, Ottawa University, Southwestern College, Bethany College, Friends University, Midwestern Nazarene University, Newman University, Pittsburg State University. Even embedded in our sociology degree, K-State's criminology specialization is a long-standing and well-established member of this field stewarded by tenured faculty with a history of teaching and research expertise in criminology and sociology. Our enrollment in this specialization is currently over 130 students. With additional visibility, we believe this number can grow. Finally, there is still a growing market for degrees in the area.

The curriculum of the proposed Criminology program is consistent with Criminology and Criminal Justice programs at peer universities. In addition, the curriculum is designed with job-readiness and employability in

mind. Fortunately, only minor adjustments to our current offerings are necessary to accomplish this objective. The proposed program can be run with existing faculty and requires no additional faculty resources beyond a small advertising budget. As such, the conversion of our criminology specialization promises benefits to our students, department, and university while imposing little to no additional costs.

IV. Program Demand: Market Analysis

Drawing from U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Educational Statistics data, Emsi (2020) provides evidence of growth in Criminology. Program completions in Criminology and related disciplines between 2012 and 2019 increased by 4.2%. Programs included in these estimates include Criminology, Criminal Justice/Safety Studies, Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration, Criminal Justice/Police Science, Criminalistics and Criminal Science, Corrections, Juvenile Corrections, Corrections and Criminal Justice, Other, Corrections Administration. In our region, completions increased by 13.1%, indicating a stronger, increasing demand for Criminology and related degrees in the area (region includes AK, CO, IL, KS, MO, NE, OK, and TX). In this manner, converting our specializing into a major not only better serves the needs and interests K-State students and Kansas students more generally, but also taps into a growth area in the region.

Further, current events indicate a strong possibility of reforms for law enforcement including the possibility of increased education requirements for officers. Evidence indicates college-educated officers are (1) less likely to use violence; (2) more attuned to identifying underlying community problems; (3) better equipped to relate to members of their communities; (4) better able to identify best practices; and (5) are more likely to become effective leaders (Bouffard & Armstrong, 2020). Currently, research estimates that only one-third of police officers have a four-year degree, and slightly more than one-half have a two-year degree (Gardiner, 2017). With the implementation of such reform efforts, a substantial increase in demand for degree programs in Criminology and related fields will occur. Offering a Criminology major will thus allow K-State to be ahead of the curve.

V. Projected Enrollment for the Initial Three Years of the Program

Year	Headcount Per Year		Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	
	Full- Time	Part- Time	Full- Time	Part- Time
Implementation	137	18	4110	270
Year 2	150	19	4500	285
Year 3	165	19	4950	285

Potential growth rates were calculated by extrapolating based on current criminology specialization enrollments and the median 5 year projected regional employment growth rates (2020-2025) based on the Emsi (2020) report. Specifically, the anticipated growth rate for “detectives and criminal investigators” was used, as this is a median growth rate among occupations examined in the employment analysis. Our data suggests a K-State degree in Criminology would attract a significant number of new students.

VI. Employment

A Criminology major promises positive job prospects for students, particularly those interested in various segments of law enforcement, corrections, and related professions—a key sector of employment for criminology degree holders. Further, many of our students express interest in related careers including, but not limited to, non-profit organizations, community and victim services, and research institutes. A degree in Criminology provides a direct pathway to many of these career paths. For brevity, we offer growth rates for direct occupations in the field of criminal justice drawn from 2020 Bureau of Labor Statistics data and market data from Emsi, a labor market analytics firm contracted by K-State Global Campus. The data indicate that most criminal justice occupations show steady upward growth, particularly in law enforcement and community

corrections careers (median growth rate is 3.65% over ten years nationally, 2.96% over five years nationally, and 3.40% over five years regionally). Further, many of these occupations offer solid and steady incomes for graduates (national median salaries range from \$34,190 to \$91,090 with an overall median of \$58,720).

VII. Admission and Curriculum

A. Admission Criteria

Students can enroll in the criminology major upon admission to Kansas State University.

B. Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to give students flexibility while also mandating career-readiness. Thirteen credits hours of “core” courses are foundational to the major. CRIM 361 – Criminal Justice Systems is a keystone course that unlocks access to the rest of the curriculum. One credit hour is required in “skills” courses. CRIM 367 – Real World Criminology will develop students’ communications skills and professionalism. It will also involve an ethical decision-making component. This course will be required of all students and must be taken before enrolling in internship hours. Three credit hours to be taken in “social context” courses and an additional three are required from courses relating to social inequality. These courses are intended to equip students with the necessary sensitivities to relevant structural and community characteristics as well as pertinent issues surrounding race, gender, class, and other diversity and inclusion issues—skills vital for contemporary criminal justice professionals. Students are also required to take 12 credit hours of electives. We proudly offer a wide array of electives on topics that are both useful and interesting to students. Finally, all students will be required to complete a “capstone” requirement. For most students, the capstone will be an internship during the Spring or Summer semesters of their third or fourth years, allowing students to gain practical experience for entering a career. For students who are focused on graduate school or research-oriented careers, they may fulfill the capstone requirement through six credit hours of M.A. level graduate courses, providing them experience with more intensive academic skills. Students shall complete six credit hours of related coursework (listed as “Required Criminology Foundation Courses”), which will complement their education in the criminology program.

The courses listed in the following tables comprise a recommended path to completion for students looking to complete the requirements for a Criminology major together with general University and College requirements. This path assumes students are pursuing a BA rather than a BS (the latter would give them more flexibility with their course selections).

Year 1: Fall

SCH = Semester Credit Hours

Course #	Course Name	SCH 14
SOCIO 211	Introduction to Sociology	3
ENGL 100	Expos. Writing I	3
MATH 100	College Algebra	3
FREN 101	French I	5

Year 1: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH 14
CRIM 361	Criminal Justice Systems	3
COMM 106	Public Speaking I	3
STAT 325	Intro Statistics	3
FREN 102	French II	5

Year 2: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH 15
CRIM 362	Police and Society	3
ENGL 200	Expos. Writing II	3
BIOL 198	Principles of Biology	4
FREN 300	French III	5

Year 2: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH 15
CRIM 364	Criminological Theory	3
CRIM 367	Real World Criminology	1
SOCIO 423	Methods of Social Research	4
FREN 301	French IV	4
MUSIC 100	Introduction to Music Theory	3

Year 3: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH 12
SOCIO 571	Race and Ethnic Relations in the USA	3
PHILO 100	Introduction to Philosophical Problems	3
SOCIO 431	Comparative Social Theories	3
FREN 502	French Literature in Translation	3

Year 3: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH 16
CRIM 460	Youth and Crime	3
SOCIO 361	Social Problems	3
SOCWK 510	Social Welfare as Social Institution	3
GEOG 121 & 122	Introductory Physical Geography: Earth Systems Science	4
MUSIC 170	History of Rock and Roll	3

Year 3: Summer

Course #	Course Name	SCH 6
CRIM 568	Internship in Criminology	6

Year 4: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH 15
CRIM 462	The War on Drugs	3
CRIM 665	Women & Crime	3
ENTOM 301	Insects and People	3
MUSIC 245	Introduction to American Music	3
MUSIC 173	Music as Protest and Propaganda in the United States	3

Year 4: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH 13
CRIM 562	Study of Serial Murder	3
MUSIC 171	Inventing the Future: Underground Rock: 1968-1993	3

CRIM 550	Technocrime, Security, & Society	3
CRIM 592	Rampage: Mass Murder	3
MUSIC 208	Guitar Class I	1

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours 120

VIII. Core Faculty

Note: * Next to Faculty Name Denotes Director of the Program, if applicable
 FTE: 1.0 FTE = Full-Time Equivalency Devoted to Program

Current sociology faculty will be cross listed with the new criminology program. This will allow us to offer a criminology major while continuing to operate as a single unit within our department. Currently, our department has three programs (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work) that operate relatively autonomously within the department. Rather than create a fourth autonomous program (Criminology), we are looking to have Sociology faculty step into both Sociology and Criminology programs and continue to operate as we have. This will allow us to meet the needs of students, offer more appealing degree options, and continue to operate with our current resources. In this sense, general sociology faculty will contribute to the criminology program while criminology faculty will continue to contribute to sociology. That said, we are differentiating FTE in a manner that will highlight the emphasis each faculty will have to the respective programs. Criminologists will be set at .75 FTE for the criminology program and .25 for sociology with the proportion inverted for general sociologists (with two exceptions for faculty who also have other commitments on campus).

Further, sociology faculty teach important courses within the criminology curriculum including research methods and structural inequalities courses. They may teach the graduate courses students may complete for their capstone requirement. Finally, sociology faculty may also oversee student theses completed to fulfill their capstone requirement. In this manner, while sociology faculty may not teach the bulk of criminology courses, they still provide important services for the program.

Faculty Name	Rank	Highest Degree	Tenure Track Y/N	Academic Area of Specialization	FTE to Proposed Program
Jeremy Briggs	Instructor	Ph.D.	N	Criminology	.75
Travis Linnemann	Assistant Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Criminology	.75
Corina Medley	Instructor	Ph.D.	N	Criminology	.75
Lisa Melander*	Associate Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Criminology	.75
Kevin Steinmetz	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Criminology	.75
Sue Williams	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Criminology	.75
Chardie Baird	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Sociology	.125
Alisa Garni	Associate Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Sociology	.25
Gerad Middendorf	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Sociology	.25
Matthew Sanderson	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Sociology	.125
Nadia Shapkina	Teaching Assistant Professor	Ph.D.	N	Sociology	.25
Frank Weyher	Associate Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Sociology	.25

Number of graduate assistants assigned to this programapproximately 15*

*This number refers to existing GTAs. We are not asking for additional graduate assistant positions.

Further, the actual available graduate assistant positions may vary based on department needs and funding at the time.

IX. Expenditure and Funding Sources (List amounts in dollars. Provide explanations as necessary.)

A. EXPENDITURES	First FY	Second FY	Third FY
Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions			
Faculty salary	\$338,151	\$338,151	\$338,151
Administrators (<i>other than instruction time</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Graduate Assistants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Support Staff for Administration (<i>e.g., secretarial</i>)	\$42,025	\$42,025	\$42,025
Fringe Benefits (<i>total for all groups</i>)	\$117,101	\$117,101	\$117,101
Other Personnel Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Existing Personnel Costs – Reassigned or Existing	\$497,277	\$497,277	\$497,277
Personnel – New Positions			
Faculty	\$0	\$0	\$0
Administrators (<i>other than instruction time</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Graduate Assistants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Support Staff for Administration (<i>e.g., secretarial</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits (<i>total for all groups</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Personnel Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Existing Personnel Costs – New Positions			
Start-up Costs - One-Time Expenses			
Library/learning resources	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment/Technology	\$0	\$0	\$0
Physical Facilities: Construction or Renovation	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (Advertising)	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$2,000
Total Start-up Costs	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$2,000
Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses			
Supplies/Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Library/learning resources	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment/Technology	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
GRAND TOTAL COSTS	\$502,277	\$500,277	\$499,277

B. FUNDING SOURCES <i>(projected as appropriate)</i>	Current	First FY (New)	Second FY (New)	Third FY (New)
Tuition / State Funds	\$1,385,394	\$1,385,394	\$1,513,496	\$1,655,831
Student Fees	\$76,212	\$76,212	\$83,259	\$91,089
Other Sources				
GRAND TOTAL FUNDING	\$793,492	\$1,461,606	\$1,596,755	\$1,746,920
C. Projected Surplus/Deficit (+/-) (Grand Total Funding <i>minus</i> Grand Total Costs)		+\$959,329	+\$1,096,478	+\$1,247,643

X. Expenditures and Funding Sources Explanations

A. Expenditures

Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions

As we are looking to convert our specialization to a major, we require no new resources outside of those already allocated to the existing sociology program. The only expected start-up cost for the program is advertising. Faculty costs are calculated for those reassigned at least .75 FTE to the new program and major (salary x .75 FTE). Advising associated with the program will be completed by existing department level advising staff and represent no new cost. Currently two department level advisors provide services to all department undergraduate program advisees and additional advising to the College of Arts and Sciences warranted. Faculty salary and fringe benefits are the primary cost as these positions shift from assignment to Sociology and into the new Criminology major. The cost of salary in the program is \$338,151 and the fringe cost are \$117,101. Support staff includes one half-time Office Specialist II at a cost of \$42,025 per year. The only expected start-up cost for the program is new advertising and outreach at a total three-year projected cost of \$10,000.

Personnel – New Positions

N/A

Start-up Costs – One-Time Expenses

We are going to request an advertising budget to promote the major. An exact figure will depend on a more robust assessment provided by K-State Marketing. They provided a tentative figure of \$5,000 for regional promotion. We would request this funding from our Department and the College of Arts & Sciences.

Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses

As we are simply converting our specialization to a major, there are no new expenditures for operating costs.

B. Revenue: Funding Sources

Items presented in "B. Funding Source" represent the expected SCH and fees generated by Criminology majors enrolled at K-State at the current SCH cost of \$316.30 a credit hour and College of Arts and Sciences fee of \$17.40 per credit hour. Currently students enrolled at K-State in the Criminology subplan generate \$1,461,606 in tuition and fees. Based on projected growth in majors by year two of the program, we expect tuition and fees generated by Criminology majors to be \$1,596,755. Funding in the fourth year should reach \$1,748,490. Criminology will primarily lean on tuition and fee revenue through student credit hour produced by students and returned to the College of Arts and Sciences via the RCM model. However, our faculty are also research productive and some additional funds are cultivated through success in extramural funded awards. For example,

faculty currently have funded projects through the National Science Foundation and subawards from Bureau of Justice Assistance.

C. Projected Surplus/Deficit

Criminology and sociology have always been heavy student credit hour generators and thus generally produce a surplus. We are cost effective. Based on total SCH and fees the program will generate significant surpluses for K-State in each year of implementation relative to program cost.

XI. References

- Bouffard, L. & Armstrong, G. (2020, June 18). 5 reasons police officers should have college degrees. *The Conversation*. Retrieved November 3, 2020 at <https://theconversation.com/5-reasons-police-officers-should-have-college-degrees-140523>.
- Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2020). Occupational projects and worker characteristics. Washington, DC: United States Department of Labor. Retrieved November 2, 2020 at <https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/occupational-projections-and-characteristics.htm>.
- Emsi (labor analytics firm) (2020). This data was compiled on request for K-State Global Campus utilizing data from the National IPEDS database operated the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics.
- Gardiner, C. (2017, September). *Policing around the nation: Education, philosophy, and practice*. Washington, DC: National Police Foundation.