

# Criminology

*Chair of the Department:* David C. Powell, 1 Chamberlain Ave., Portland  
*Professors:* Beime, Bjelic, Messerschmidt, Powell; *Associate Professor:* Wachholz

The Department of Criminology offers a four-year program leading to a bachelor of arts degree in criminology. The program provides students with a liberal arts education whose focus is the complex relations among crime, law, and society, and which emphasizes the social sciences. The curriculum is a rigorous series of courses which provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of crime and crime control in contemporary, historical, and comparative perspective. The core of the curriculum is an integrated set of required courses. These courses are designed as a cumulative set of experiences and must be taken in sequence. Elective courses enable students to place their criminological interests in a broader perspective.

Many students in the program are interested in social and human service occupations related to criminal, juvenile, and social justice. The program also prepares students for a wide variety of other career options and provides an excellent basis for graduate study in criminology, other social sciences, and law.

The Department is well-known for its critical perspectives and published research on criminological theory, gender, multi-cultural, and comparative analyses. The faculty have won regional, national, and international awards for scholarship, teaching innovations, and community service. In addition, all faculty members have had significant professional training outside the United States, including Australia, Britain, Sweden, and the former Yugoslavia.

While some students enroll in the major expecting to learn law enforcement skills and strategies, psychological profiling, forensic investigation, and approaches to prosecution, this is not the program's focus. Criminology courses examine social structural foundations of crime, deviance, and social harm, including the social control institutions, as well as the power dynamics involved in defining crime, prosecuting crime, and official sanctions for deviance and those "at risk." The dynamics of racism, sexism, class inequality, and heterosexism as they impact perceived realities of "crime" are also systematically explored in the program's courses. The notion that "crime" is simply about breaking the law is not accepted at face value; the concept and the broader discipline of criminology as it relates to faculty research, teaching, and community service are examined.

## *Internships*

The Department of Criminology offers a strong and established internship program. Credit internships actively seek to bring together student academic work and community involvement. Students interested in an internship placement are encouraged to meet with the internship coordinator.

## ***Programs and Requirements***

The minimum number of credits (exclusive of the University's Core curriculum) required for the major: 36.

### Required Courses (24 credits)

CRM 100J	Introduction to Criminology
CRM 216	White-Collar Crime
CRM 220	Research Methods in Criminology
CRM 301	Criminological Theory
CRM 317	Gender and Crime
CRM 330	Crime and Social Control
CRM 334	Law and State
CRM 401	Comparative Criminology

### Elective Courses (12 credits)

Students are also required to choose four elective courses (12 hours) from the following courses:

#### *Criminology*

CRM 217	Crime in Maine
CRM 222	Field Studies in Informal Social Order
CRM 225	Crimes against the Environment
CRM 230	Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
CRM 310	Classical Theories of Social Order
CRM 320	Film and Social Order

CRM 325	Domestic Violence
CRM 327	Animal Abuse
CRM 337	Youth Crime
CRM 340	Criminal Law
CRM 345	Criminology in Sweden
CRM 350	Topics in Criminology
CRM 360	The Death Penalty
CRM 370	Reflexive Criminology
CRM 375	Media, Crime, and Criminalization
CRM 380	Restorative Justice
CRM 390	Independent Projects
CRM 395	Internship
CRM 402	Senior Seminar

### *Major Credit and Minimum Grade Policy*

Courses to be taken for major credit at other colleges and universities must be approved in advance. Grades of C or better must be achieved in all courses for major credit. Courses taken pass/fail are not acceptable in the major. Before taking upper-level criminology courses, students must have completed CRM 100J with a grade of C or better. To complete the major successfully, students must have achieved a grade of "C" or better in all courses taken for the major.

### *Curriculum Summary and Guide*

The criminology curriculum is a series of structured and integrated courses that should be taken in sequence if possible.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Required Courses</i>	<i>Elective Courses</i>
1	Introduction to Criminology	
2	White-Collar Crime Research Methods in Criminology	
3	Crime and Social Control Gender and Crime Criminological Theory	Electives
4	Law and State Comparative Criminology	Electives

### *Transfer Students*

Transfer students and students contemplating transfer into the Criminology Department are urged to meet with the Department chair as early as possible for an evaluation of their progress and their requirements in the major.

Supplementary information is published each semester by the Criminology Department to assist students in planning their course schedules. The information includes a summary of major courses, listings, and descriptions of special courses, and general information for majors.

For more information, write to: Administrative Assistant, Criminology Department, University of Southern Maine, 96 Falmouth Street, P.O. Box 9300, Portland, Maine 04104-9300 or telephone (207) 780-4105.

### *Minor in Criminology*

The number of credit hours required for the minor is 18. A grade of "C" or better is required in any course used for criminology minor credit.

#### *Required Courses*

CRM 100J	Introduction to Criminology
CRM 216	White-Collar Crime
CRM 220	Research Methods in Criminology

#### *Choose ONE of the following:*

CRM 301	Criminological Theory
CRM 317	Gender and Crime
CRM 330	Crime and Social Control
CRM 334	Law and State
CRM 401	Comparative Criminology

#### *Elective Courses*

Choose any TWO CRM courses.

**CRM 100J Introduction to Criminology**

This course focuses on the nature of crime and on problems concerning its measurement and distribution. The course examines some of the popular images of crime in the media and elsewhere, the creation and utility of official and unofficial crime statistics, and theories about the causes of crime. No prerequisites. A grade of "C" or better is required in this course in order to continue in the major. Cr 3.

**CRM 216 White-Collar Crime**

This course provides an analysis of different criminological perspectives on white-collar crime, and focuses on some specific types of white-collar crime: occupational crime, corporate crime, syndicated crime, and political crime. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 217 Crime in Maine**

An introduction to crime and penal policies in Maine, including official and unofficial crime statistics; common crimes; white-collar crimes; and selected aspects in crime control. The course presents interstate comparative analysis, and several guest lectures by Maine speakers. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 220 Research Methods in Criminology**

This course is an introduction to methodological issues in criminology. The emphasis is on critical evaluation and application of the basic instruments of inquiry. Students will learn how to "do" criminology, as well as how to assess existing criminological literature. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 222 Field Studies in Informal Social Order**

This course will study informal social order as the tacit framework for the formal legal order. This will be an empirical test of criminological theories introduced in CRM 215. Through different methods of field research, students will be asked to observe and analyze the informal order of legal institutions such as courtrooms, prisons, and police stations. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 225 Crimes against the Environment**

This course is designed to expose students to many of the prominent controversies and challenges associated with defining, measuring, and responding to crimes against the environment. Central to the course is an examination of the relationship between socioeconomic power and its effect on responses to environmental change. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 230 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System**

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the criminal justice system in the United States from a sociological perspective. Students will become familiar with criminal justice

functions such as policing, trials, defense and prosecution of cases, and corrections. Also, students are required to prepare a mock trial of a criminal case. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 301 Criminological Theory**

This course focuses on the development of criminological theory from 1930 to present. The course is historical in nature and addresses such fundamental problems as why certain behavior is defined as criminal, the causes of crime, and the consequences for the individual of being labeled as a criminal. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 310 Classical Theories of Social Order**

This course will examine how the concept of social order and the invention of criminology arose simultaneously. Classical social theories of the Enlightenment and Modernity will be used to study the origin of the modern state and the criminalization of various social groups. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 311 Contemporary Theories of Social Order**

This course is a continuation of CRM 310. After reexamining classical theories, the course will introduce students to contemporary theories of social order. The theoretical focus will be on crime and criminalization as forms of social action. Prerequisites: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 317 Gender and Crime**

This course concentrates on gender and its relation to crime. It explores such issues as histories of gender inequality, the gendered character of criminological theory, and how gender is related to a variety of crimes such as rape, violence in the family, crimes by women, property crimes, and corporate crime. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 320 Film and Social Order**

The intent of this course is to engage in a cross-cultural study of the relationship of film to social order and crime. Films construct images about social reality. The ways in which these images present and interpret this relationship will be examined from various analytical standpoints, including ethnomethodology, semiology, and post-modernism. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 325 Domestic Violence**

This course explores contemporary theoretical and policy debates on domestic violence as a social problem and crime. Topics include partner abuse, child abuse, and elder abuse. The definition and measurement of domestic violence are analyzed. Comparison of legal and community responses to domestic violence is emphasized. Special attention is given to economic and ethnic diversity as they relate to domestic violence. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 327 Animal Abuse**

Key questions about the nature and forms of animal abuse are subjected to interdisciplinary inquiry spanning sociology, criminology, moral philosophy, and law. The course begins with individualized forms of animal abuse, such as cruelty, neglect, and sexual assault. It then examines institutionalized forms of abuse in research, zoos, hunting, sport/entertainment, and food production. Attention is also given to the link(s) between animal abuse and interhuman violence. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission.. Cr 3.

**CRM 330 Crime and Social Control**

This course explores theoretical and practical issues of modern systems of social control, including punishment, policing, prisons, parole, probation, and the role of the state in social control. The history of Western social control systems is stressed, with emphasis on race, gender, and class effects. Students are required to engage in experiential learning. Prerequisites: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 334 Law and State**

This course explores the relationship between the United States's social welfare policies and contemporary crime control problems and practices. It includes an examination of the United States's residual welfare state, theories on social welfare development, and the Nordic model of crime prevention, which is based on the premise that crime can be reduced through social policies designed to lessen structural inequalities. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 337 Youth Crime**

This course provides an overview of justice issues as they affect juveniles. Theoretical explanations for youth crime as well as the emergence of both "adolescence" and "delinquency" as socially constructed concepts will be examined. In general, the course adopts an historical approach to youth crime. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 340 Criminal Law**

This course offers students an intensive study and review of statutory law, case law, and criminal procedure. Substantive topics covered include responsibility; insanity; grand jury; 4th, 5th, 8th and 14th Amendment issues; pre-trial; trial; sentencing and appeals. Materials are drawn from U.S. Supreme Court and Maine Judicial Court opinions. Prerequisites: CRM 100J or permission.. Cr 3.

**CRM 345 Criminology in Sweden**

This special summer course in Sweden provides students with the opportunity to live in, study, and experience another culture and to gain an understanding of crime, criminology, and social control in another country. Visits will be made to the police department and court system in Stockholm and to several prisons in other cities. Lectures will be pro-

vided by sociologists at the Criminology Institute at the University of Stockholm, as well as by a variety of lawyers, judges, and political party leaders. Offered Summer Session only. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 6.

**CRM 350 Topics in Criminology**

Specially developed courses exploring areas of interest and concern in depth. Among these topics currently considered are war crimes, race and crime, ethnology, homicide, visual criminology, film and crime, self and crime, sexuality and crime, and social theories of non-violence. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 360 The Death Penalty**

This course is designed to provide students with historical and current information on the death penalty in the United States. The following topics are covered: historical applications, deterrence, racial and gender bias, execution of innocent people, and the legal, political, economic, and moral perspectives of the death penalty. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 370 Reflexive Criminology**

A reflexive approach to criminology examining criminological theories and perspectives as cultural and ideological products. Using cross-cultural and historical comparisons, the course analyzes the conditions under which "criminology" is produced. We also explore the connections between the product of the "criminology industry" and the reproduction of broader cultural and ideological patterns. Prerequisites: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 375 Media, Crime, and Criminality**

It is important to examine how the media assemble, select, and disseminate "crime knowledge" to audiences and thus influence their understanding of crime. The course uses a social constructionist approach to explore structural, institutional, and interactional contexts of media production. Prerequisite: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 380 Restorative Justice**

This course explores theory and research on restorative justice, which is an international movement of "progressive" reform that claims to reduce social inequalities generating crime. Students explore theoretical and empirical developments in restorative justice and examine programs claiming restorative components, such as victim-offender mediation and diversionary conferences. Prerequisites: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3.

**CRM 390 Independent Projects**

Individually or collectively arranged reading and/or research for juniors and seniors under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisites: CRM 100J and permission of instructor. Cr var.

**CRM 395 Internship**

The course is designed as a field experience/reflection opportunity for upper-level criminology majors with substantive background or coursework in the area of internship placement. It also provides a work/action experience and insight into professional roles in a variety of community agencies and organizations. The emphasis is on the application of social science perspectives, substantive knowledge, and methodologies to understand a particular organizational situation. In addition to field placement, students are expected to meet for a series of internship seminars, for which readings and reports will be required. Also, students must have completed 53 or more credit hours by the end of the semester in which they register for the course. Contact Department internship coordinator for details. Prerequisites: CRM 100J or permission. Cr 3-6.

**CRM 401 Comparative Criminology**

This course focuses on the application of U.S. criminological theory in cross-cultural contexts. Specific emphasis is given to the problems of cultural relativism and intellectual imperialism while providing an integrative senior experience for majors. Prerequisites: CRM 100J, CRM 220, and senior class standing. Cr 3.

**CRM 402 Senior Seminar**

This course is intended to furnish senior criminology majors with an opportunity to reflect on and integrate the material in their other major courses. Its focus is a major research project. The course combines individualized instruction, small group meetings, and seminars. Prerequisites: CRM 100J, CRM 220 and junior or senior class standing. Cr 3.