



THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

Criminal Justice

Dual-Credit Pathway

Pathway Description:

Criminal justice is a popular college major because it prepares students for a variety of careers in the law enforcement, court, and corrections fields. The degree can also be used for law and justice careers in the private sector. The program emphasizes critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills set in the context of an integrated liberal arts education. Programs with dual majors in Psychology, Law, Accounting, Political Science and Sociology are encouraged.

Pathway Courses (to be taken in order):

<u>Course</u>	<u>Title</u>
CRJ 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice
SOC 105	Principles of Sociology
CRJ 225	Criminology
Pick one of the following: SOC 216 or 217	Class, Race and Gender (SOC 216) OR Social Problems (SOC 217)

Pathway Course Descriptions:

- **CRJ 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice**
 - Prerequisite: None
 - Description: An introduction to the philosophical and historical background and development of the criminal justice system. Review of criminal justice functions, processes and procedures, and an examination of current trends and concepts are also explored. A grade of C or higher in this course is required for all higher-level Criminal Justice courses.
- **SOC 105 Principles of Sociology**
 - Prerequisite: None
 - Description: A course intended to foster the student's "sociological imagination", provide the student with exposure to the basics of the academic discipline and emphasize examination of: 1) the "ultimate meaning of life" through analysis and evaluation of the social construction of reality, socialization processes, and institutions, cultural (including value, linguistic, belief, and normative systems), and structural processes/components which provide the "meat and bones" of social life; 2) "one's place in the world" through the analysis and evaluation of cultural relativism, ethnocentrism, multiculturalism, population demographics, and various other social problems; and 3) "one's social and ethical" responsibility to others through the analysis and evaluation of stratification systems (particularly class, race, and gender), class, racial, ethnic, and gender relations, the role of social movement and activism in



THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

fostering social awareness and change, and the relationship of critical sociology to theological and philosophical systems of thought. Considerations of the position of sociology as an empirical science, its historical underpinning, its methodology, and other major components are also made. This course fulfills a core requirement in the social science category. A grade of C or higher in this course is required for all higher-level Sociology courses.

- **CRJ 225 Criminology**
 - Prerequisite: C or better in CRJ 101
 - Description: Criminology examines crime and the criminal in society. The nature of crime and criminal law, theories of crime and crime causation, and methods of treatment and prevention are also addressed.
- **SOC 216 Class, Race and Gender**
 - Prerequisite: C or better in SOC 105
 - Description: SOC 216 A survey course exposing students to the inquiry of race, class, and gender via a sociological perspective. Race, gender, and class have been key variables in terms of understanding power and the distribution of resources in the American political system. The primary focus of the course is to establish a basic understanding of how the American system of governing operates and then to analyze this in terms of placing a template of race, gender, and class upon it.
- **SOC 217 Social Problems**
 - Prerequisite: C or better in SOC 105
 - Description: SOC 217 This course entails an exploration of issues that are considered harmful to the human condition, such as population, crime, domestic violence, environmental sustainability, and poverty.

Certifications Earned:

- n/a

Additional Notes:

- Department majors complete an experiential learning component through an internship with a criminal justice agency. This is completed in the senior year.

Links:

- Program website: <https://www.thomasmore.edu/program/criminal-justice/>