



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WHITEWATER

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

CRIMINOLOGY

MISSION STATEMENT

The Criminology Major offers students a range of social science and applied courses that enhance students' understanding of the nature and causes of criminal and delinquent behavior and the operation of the criminal justice system in the United States. The instructional curriculum and internship opportunities prepare students to pursue careers in law enforcement (local, state, and federal), juvenile and adult probation and parole, correctional counseling and group home work, private security and investigation, insurance claims, and criminal justice research.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are statements of what a student will know or be able to do when they have completed a program. They represent the knowledge and skills a program has determined are most important for students to gain from that program. The most useful SLOs are specific and measurable so the program can accurately assess the degree to which students have achieved each outcome, and they align with college and institution mission and values. Data on achievement of SLOs is used to make improvements in the program and increase student success.

Students who complete the Criminology Major will be able to:

- Identify different sources of US crime data and the trends and social patterns of criminality and victimization they reveal.
- Identify the basic general typologies of criminality and victimization.
- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of at least two typologies of criminality and victimization.
- Demonstrate analytical reasoning skills through a familiarity with criminological theory and research as applied to crime prevention and control policies.
- Identify causes of criminality and victimization for people of different class, racial-ethnic, gender, and age groups, as well as the different criminal justice responses to these groups.
- Identify the key stages of criminal justice system and the organizational processes and discretionary decision-making that occur at each stage.
- Demonstrate knowledge of constitutional law as it relates to the operation of the criminal justice system.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the US policing system, current policing practices, and the role of police in communities.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the US correctional system and current correctional practices in secure and community settings.
- Identify and apply theories of rehabilitative treatment to individual cases (applies only to Youth & Adult Corrections Track).
- Apply communication skills in writing, speaking, and other forms of communication to the criminal justice field.
- Apply basic quantitative literacy appropriate to the criminal justice field, including the interpretation of crime statistics.
- Demonstrate ethical reasoning.