

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

PSYCHOLOGY OF CRIME AND JUSTICE MINOR

OVERVIEW

This minor derives from the field of Psychology and Law (Division 41 of the APA). This field examines how the interface of psychology and criminal justice research can improve the legal systems and responses to justice-involved persons. Professionals in this field provide specialized expertise across the many social systems that justice-involved persons with mental illness utilize. This interdisciplinary minor also provides critical information about careers focusing on investigations, including risk assessment, expert testimony, interrogation processes, and forensic evidence. Social justice issues involving disparities and discrimination in legal decisions and access to services also are covered in the classes, and inform advocacy careers.

CURRICULUM

Students must complete a total of six courses to fulfill the minor requirements. For a complete list of these courses, visit LUC.edu/psych-cj

Psychology majors must complete four criminal justice and criminology (CJC) and two psychology (PSYC) courses in addition to their required major courses.

Criminal justice and criminology majors must complete two CJC and four PSYC courses in addition to their required major courses.

Students with other majors must complete three CJC courses and three PSYC courses to fulfill the minor requirements.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The minor in psychology of crime and justice gives students an advantage when applying for jobs in areas such as juvenile facilities, social service agencies, police departments, child care agencies, probation/parole offices, family courts, addiction services, hospitals, community mental health centers, and federal, state, or county agencies that have investigation units. Students also are better prepared to enter graduate programs in psychology and law, criminology, clinical psychology and forensic social work.

RESOURCES

Students completing the minor are encouraged to enhance their educational experience by participating in one of the capstone courses which can include an internship, field work, or research project focused on the psychology of crime and justice.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

CURRICULUM for Psychology of Crime and Justice Minor

The Psychology of Crime and Justice Minor allows students to select courses in CJC and PSYC that provide critical information for careers that intersect psychology and criminal justice fields.

Students must complete 6 approved courses. One course can count toward credit for another minor or major; thus, five unique classes are required.

REQUIRED CLASSES:

All students must complete two required 300-level: PSYC 372 Psychology and Law

Choose either: CJC 345 Social Justice & Crime OR CJC 346 Mental Illness & Crime

Psychology majors must complete CJC 101 (Criminal Justice in a Global Context)
Criminal justice and criminology majors must complete PSYC 101 (General Psychology).

Students who are neither Psych nor CJC majors must complete both CJC 101 and Psych 101.

Approved Elective Classes

PSYC 275 Social Psychology
 PSYC 331 Abnormal Psychology
 PSYC 338 Psychology of Personality
 PSYC 344 Principles of Behavioral Change
 PSYC 346 Psychopathology of Childhood
 PSYC 348 Psychopathology of Adolescence
 PSYC 360 Understanding Prejudice
 PSYC 375 Psychology of Addictions
 CJC 201 Theories of Criminal Behavior
 CJC 202 Criminal Courts
 CJC 204 Corrections
 CJC 302 The Juvenile Justice System
 CJC 322 Criminal Law
 CJC 360 Substance Use & Crime
 CJC 371 Victimology
 CJC 372 Race, Ethnicity and Crime
 CJC 373 Intimate Partner Violence
 CJC 374 Miscarriages of Justice
 CJC 376 Childhood Exposure to Violence
 PSCJ 399 Independent Research

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 18

