

Online Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

120 Credit Hours

Admission Requirements:

- Submit official high school and/or college transcripts.
- Complete the online program application accompanied by a non-refundable processing fee.
- Students are not required to submit ACT or SAT test scores.

Cost:

- Per Credit Hour - \$395
- A \$300 resource fee will be administered per part of term.
- Total cost of degree program will vary depending on transfer credits.



Graduation Requirements:

Students must earn a 2.0 GPA or higher to meet graduation requirements. Additionally, students must earn a C or higher in each major course and have a minimum GPA of 2.25 in the major.



Locked-In Tuition

Once you enroll in a bachelor's degree program at ACU Online, our Locked-In Tuition plan guarantees you'll pay the same price for your entire program.

Job Outlook in Texas:



322,387 Jobs
Open in 2020*



384,346
Unique Postings (9/16-12/21)



\$74,000 per year
Median Earnings

*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Bachelor's degree.
Source Emsi Analyst 2022.

Acquired Skills:

Top Hard Skills

- Project Management
- Marketing
- Auditing
- Finance

Top Common Skills

- Communication
- Management
- Leadership
- Operations

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Major Requirements:



PLCO 205: Introduction to Criminal Justice An introduction to the concepts of criminal justice, the criminal justice system, deviance, crime, social control, law, justice, and constitutionalism, including the roles of the police, the courts, and corrections in the context of the American system of criminal justice.

PLCO 250: Police Systems and Practices Introduction to the philosophy and history of law enforcement; US Constitutional limitations imposed on law enforcement in a democratic society; agencies within and levels of American policing and their functions; role and place of law enforcement in the total justice process; and current issues in policing.

PLCO 320: Criminal Law The study of general criminal law and concepts from the Model Penal Code developed by the American Law Institute, and the role of court decisions.

PLCO 330: Domestic Violence Examination of legal remedies for victims of intimate partner/domestic violence, including laws in the Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, Family Code, Occupations Code, Insurance Code, U.S. Code, and Rules of Evidence.

PLCO 365: Search and Seizure Study of arrest, search, and seizure law with practical applications for criminal justice professionals.

PLCO 420: Law Enforcement Leadership Study of leadership theories in policing, including case studies of senior leaders in the field.

PLCO 430: Evidence and Procedure Evidence and procedure in U.S. legal system, including understanding of the court system and law enforcement functions.

PLCO 455: Professionalism and Ethics in Criminal Justice Exploration of theories supporting ethical models and analyses and how they impact decision-making in a criminal justice profession. Emphasis on the application of professionalism and ethical assessments for faith-based decision-making.

PLCO 499: Criminal Justice Capstone This course is designed to introduce students to career opportunities in the criminal justice system. It will provide students with experiences and skills to improve their employment opportunities after graduation such as shadowing, interviews, resume building, or an internship in appropriate situations. Available for variable credit.

Supplement for the Major Requirements (15 hours)

(PLSO 225, PLSO 384, and PLSO 315 are required. Students are then required to choose 3 additional courses from the Political Science, Sociology and Criminal Justice sections).

PLSO 225: National Government The American political system.

PLSO 384: American Judicial Process Explores the structure and function of the judicial branch of government as it exists in our society today.

PLSO 315: Political Science and Criminal Justice Research

Methods Theories, methods and statistical analyses used in political science and criminal justice will be evaluated, compared and critiqued. Students will gain an appreciation of research design, statistical analysis, and the application of these principles.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

PLSO 432: Constitutional Law: Civil Rights Examines the civil rights and civil liberties of individuals in the United States. Topic areas include free speech, criminal procedures, cruel and unusual punishment, privacy, and equal protection issues.

PLSO 487: Terrorism Studies Examines and critiques the major themes of the field of Terrorism Studies. Will seek to answer: how do liberal democracies resolve political violence without betraying the rights and liberties of their citizens?

SOCIOLOGY

SOCI 388: Crime and Delinquency An overview of the extent, trend, and types of criminal and delinquent behavior as well as research findings and theories associated with it.

PLCO 355: Social Deviance A theoretical and descriptive analysis of socially deviant behavior and the social interactive process in its definition and control.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

PLCO 350: Corrections: Prison, Probation, and Parole Study of the goals of the American correctional system and the roles of courts, prosecutors, pretrial officers, correctional officers, probation officers, parole officers, and re-entry specialists. Provides a practical understanding of the First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments as related to correctional issues.

PLCO 370: Forensic Evidence Forensic Evidence introduces the student to the history, theory, principles and practices of forensic science as it relates to the collection and analysis of evidence in criminal investigations. Students will gain a basic understanding of the scientific and analytical approach to determining the value of evidence as it relates to the court of law. Topics include crime scene investigation, trace evidence, fingerprints, firearms examination, DNA and bloodstain pattern analysis.

ELECTIVES

22 hours

GENERAL EDUCATION/UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

56 hours of general education and university requirements are needed to fulfill this degree, including 9-15 hours of Bible courses. Specific courses will be determined based on a student's incoming transfer credits.

Please see the program director to explore additional course options.