Department of Criminology, Law, and Justice

Contact Information:
Campus Location: 4022 Behavioral Sciences Building (BSB) 
(312) 996-5290
clj.uic.edu

Administration:
Department Head, Beth Richie
Associate Department Head, Lisa Frohmann
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Amie M. Schuck

Criminology, law, and justice is a social and behavioral science field of study that selects crime, law, and the criminal justice system for its subject matter. Using social science methodologies, the program examines the nature, extent, and causes of crime in various settings, the impact of crime on victims and society, and both formal and informal responses to crime. These responses include individual and community reactions, the investigation of crimes and arrest of offenders by the police, and their prosecution, defense, and adjudication by the courts; and an array of sentencing and correctional outcomes. The nature and effectiveness of criminal justice reform efforts are also studied.

The degree prepares graduates for a broad range of professional roles in the criminal justice system, advocacy, as well as the broader legal system. It also serves as entry to graduate programs of criminal justice and related research and professional programs such as law, sociology, public administration, paralegal studies, public health, and various social services.

Distinction

Departmental Distinction. A candidate must have a 3.50/4.00 cumulative GPA in all criminology, law, and justice courses and a 3.25/4.00 cumulative GPA in all UIC courses.

High Distinction. A candidate must have a 3.50/4.00 cumulative GPA in all criminology, law, and justice courses, a 3.25/4.00 cumulative GPA in all UIC courses, and complete a paper written for CLJ 399, which will be reviewed by a faculty advisor and the Departmental Undergraduate Committee. Qualified students should contact the departmental undergraduate director one term in advance of graduation.

Degree Program

• BA with a Major in Criminology, Law, and Justice

Minors

• Minor in Criminology, Law, and Justice
• Minor in Law and Society

CLJ 101. Introduction to Criminology, Law, and Justice. 3 hours.
Introduction to key components of the justice system (including police, courts, and corrections) and contemporary trends in crime and delinquency. Critiques of the effectiveness and fairness of the system and emerging ideas for advancing justice. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Discussion. US Society course.

CLJ 102. Foundations of Law and Justice. 3 hours.
Philosophical origins and historical development of U.S. criminal law in comparative perspective. Transformation of rights and due process; approaches to punishment and social control; legal institutions and procedures. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture-Discussion. US Society course.

CLJ 110. Rights, Justice and the Law. 3 hours.
The historical development, philosophical justification and political underpinnings of the human rights framework. Exploration of specific human rights in U.S. vs. non-U.S. contexts. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture-Discussion. US Society course.

CLJ 114. Race, Class, Gender and the Law. 3 hours.
Exploration of the relationship between social inequality and law/justice in the US, with specific attention to the importance of race, class, and gender. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture-Discussion. US Society course.

CLJ 120. Crime and Society. 3 hours.
An introduction to theories of social deviance and control. The historical development, empirical basis, strengths, and limitations of various theories are analyzed. Course Information: This course may be taught in a blended-online and classroom format. When that is the case, use of a computer and Internet access will be required. A high-speed connection is strongly recommended. Please check the online class schedule for blended-online sections. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture-Discussion. US Society course.

CLJ 121. Violence in Society. 3 hours.
Theoretical perspectives on the causes and consequences of violence in society. Examination of violence perpetrated by individuals, groups, and the state. Course Information: This is a blended-online and classroom course. Use of a computer and Internet access is required. A high-speed connection, while not required, is strongly suggested. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture-Discussion. US Society course.

CLJ 122. Gangs and the Media. 3 hours.
Popular images of gangs in the mass media are contrasted with perspectives from social science literature. Course Information: Blended online and classroom course. Use of computer and internet access is required. A high speed connection, while not required, is strongly suggested. US Society course.

CLJ 200. Law and Society. 3 hours.
Development of law and legal institutions from historical, comparative, and contemporary perspectives; interrelationships of law, custom, morality, and social change; the legal profession. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion and one Lecture. US Society course.

CLJ 210. Principles of Criminal Law. 3 hours.
A survey of the basic principles of criminal law and procedure: proof of fact, act and intent, responsibility. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101.
CLJ 220. Criminology. 3 hours.
Introductory survey of theories exploring the origins, organization, meanings, and control of crime. Course Information: Same as SOC 231. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture.

CLJ 261. Research Methods I. 3 hours.
Introduction to research in criminology, law, and justice. From conceptualization to description of results. Research design, observation, archival, survey, and experimental methodologies in criminal justice related settings. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101.

CLJ 262. Research Methods II. 3 hours.
Statistical data analysis in the criminology, law, and justice context. Probability, t-tests, correlation, regression, sampling theory, tests of significance. Problems with police and crime survey data. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): MATH 090 or MATH 105.

CLJ 265. Intergroup Dialogue in Criminology, Law, and Justice. 3 hours.
A dialogue intensive course that explores social identity and access to power and privilege in the criminal justice system. Students will explore these themes by reading, discussing, and analyzing scholarly texts as well as their own experiences. Course Information: Recommended background: Grade of C or better in CLJ 101.

CLJ 271. Race and the Politics of Incarceration. 3 hours.
Examines how incarceration and criminalization affects black people in contemporary society. Course Information: Same as BLST 271 and SOC 271. Prerequisite(s): Grade of C or better or concurrent registration in BLST 100 or Grade of C or better or concurrent registration in SOC 100 or Grade of C or better in CLJ 101. Individual and Society course, and US Society course.

CLJ 303. Introduction to Forensic Science. 3 hours.
Reviews the basic principles and judicial uses of forensic science. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Junior standing and major in either Criminology, Law, and Justice or a natural sciences discipline; or consent of the instructor. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Discussion/Recitation and one Lecture.

CLJ 311. Criminal Procedure. 3 hours.
Legal problems associated with the investigation of crime, acquisition of evidence, commencement of adjudication, sentencing and appellate rights. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): One 200-level criminology, law, and justice course.

CLJ 321. Youth, Crime, Law and Justice in Society. 3 hours.
Theories of juvenile delinquency and rule-breaking; juvenile rights; organization and administration of the juvenile justice system in the U.S. Course Information: Previously listed as CLJ 421. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level CLJ courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 340. Immigration, Law, and Rights. 3 hours.
Explores the histories, cultures, and experiences of immigration to the United States by examining legal discourses and historical analyses alongside cultural productions such as literary and visual narratives. Course Information: Same as GLAS 340. Prerequisite(s): Grade of C or better in GLAS 100.

CLJ 345. Police in Society. 3 hours.
The functions and organization of police/investigative agencies, especially those on the local level, the nature of the experience of being a police officer. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level criminal justice courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 350. Courts in Society. 3 hours.
Behavior and structure of state and federal criminal courts including preadjudication processing, prosecutorial and defense decisions, guilty-plea processes, bench and jury trials, sentencing, judicial selection, court administration. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level criminology, law, and justice courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 355. Punishment, Prisons and Corrections. 3 hours.
A survey of American corrections from local jails to mega prisons; correctional field services; probation and parole and recent developments in alternatives to incarceration. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level criminology, law, and justice courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 356. Community Corrections and Reentry. 3 hours.
Experience of the reentry process in the context of enrollment in programs organized for supervising offenders in community setting, such as probation, parole, halfway houses, restitution, treatment facilities, community service, home confinement. Course Information: Previously listed as CLJ 456. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level CLJ courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 361. Criminal Investigation. 3 hours.
Methods used for reconstructing crimes and criminal intent, incorporating information derived from people, physical evidence, institutional and electronic data. Scientific, organizational, legal, and ethical considerations informing the process. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level criminal justice courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 363. Drugs and Addiction in Society. 3 hours.
Explores drugs and addiction in US society. Topics include history and classifications of drugs, drug policies in the US, the social, psychological, physical effects of substance use, and how drug use shapes interaction in social systems. Course Information: Credit is not given for CLJ 363 if student has credit for the comparable CLJ 394 topic section Drugs, Addiction and Society. Recommended background: CLJ 101 and two 200-level Criminology, Law and Justice courses; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 373. Introduction to the School-Prison Nexus. 3 hours.
Using contemporary social theory, this course investigates the disciplining, punishing, and criminalization of youth in urban schools, paying particular attention to the racialized, classed, gendered, and ableist contours of these social processes. Course Information: Same as ED 373. Recommended Background: CLJ 101 and two 200-level CLJ courses.

CLJ 374. Dismantling the School and Prison Nexus. 3 hours.
Political relationship between historically dis-invested K to 12 schools and prisons. Parallels in disciplinary practices and rationales in both. Engagement with affected communities that challenge carceral logics in education. Course Information: Same as ED 374. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level CLJ courses; or consent of the instructor. Recommended Background: CLJ 373.
CLJ 375. Introduction to Poverty Law. 3 hours.
Examines poverty and the history of anti-poverty policy in the United States. Themes include the welfare state, criminalization, litigation, labor, and social movements. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level Criminology, Law, and Justice courses; or consent of the instructor. Recommended background: CLJ 200.

CLJ 394. Topics in Criminology, Law, and Justice. 3 hours.
The analysis and exposition of historical or contemporary issues in the Criminology, Law, and Justice field. Topics may vary from semester to semester. Course Information: May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101 and two 200-level Criminology, Law, and Justice courses; junior or senior standing; or consent of instructor.

CLJ 395. Internship. 3 hours.
Observation of and participation in the daily work of a criminal justice agency, private or public. Work is supervised by a faculty member and the management of personnel of the agency. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. A maximum of three credit hours may be used to satisfy the nine credit hour upper-division (300 and 400 level) requirement for the Major in Criminology, Law, and Justice. Prerequisite(s): A cumulative grade point average of 2.50. Preregistration in the department is required. Completion of five CLJ courses and junior or senior standing; or consent of the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

CLJ 399. Independent Study. 2-6 hours.
Independent study and research under the supervision of a faculty member on a subject not covered in the regular curriculum. Course Information: May be repeated for up to 8 credit hours. Prerequisite(s): Preregistration with the Department is required. Nine credit hours at the 200 level and three credit hours at the 300 level; a 3.00 overall grade point average, and a 3.50 grade point average in CLJ coursework, or consent of the Director of Undergraduate Studies. For criminology, law, and justice minors and majors only.

CLJ 402. Trial Interaction. 3 or 4 hours.
Language use, culture, and law in the trial process. Analysis of qualitative methods applied to legal processes and change. Course Information: Same as LING 402. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 261 and CLJ 350; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 405. The Problem of Justice. 3 or 4 hours.
Pre-modern, modern and non-western views of justice and their practical utility in analyzing legislative, executive, and judicial programs for enhancing or restricting justice. Course Information: Same as POLS 405. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101, plus two 200-level courses in CLJ or two 200-level courses in POLS.

CLJ 422. Victimization. 3 or 4 hours.
Survey of criminal victimization theory and research. Examination of causes, consequences, and prevention of violent crime and of victims' experiences in the criminal justice system. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 423. Violence. 3 or 4 hours.
Survey of violence theory and research. Examination of types, causes and consequences of violence historically and in the present. Exploration of acts of resistance to violence. Course Information: Same as ANTH 424. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 424. Gender, Crime, and Justice. 3 or 4 hours.
An in-depth examination of the etiology of female crime and the involvement of females in the criminal justice system as offenders, victims, and workers/professionals. Course Information: Same as GWS 424. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 425. Violence Prevention. 3 hours.
Examination of contemporary approaches to violence prevention at the individual, family, community, and organizational levels, as well as within the larger society. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 430. Homicide. 3 or 4 hours.
Overview of forms and patterns of homicide in the US. Theories of homicide. Situational dynamics, types of offender motivation, investigative techniques (including profiling), impact on families and society, and intervention strategies. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 435. White Collar Crime. 3 or 4 hours.
Examination of how white-collar crime is defined, investigated, defended, and adjudicated. Comparison of "suite" and "street" crime from a socio-legal perspective. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 442. Comparative Criminal Justice Institutions. 3 or 4 hours.
Comparative study of law, jurisprudence, enforcement, and punishment in Western and non-Western societies, including civil law, common law, and Islamic systems. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 450. Surveillance and Society. 3 or 4 hours.
Theoretical and empirical overview of the conceptualization, application and interpretation of surveillance in society, examined through the lens of various social topics. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 451. Topics in Rule Breaking. 3 or 4 hours.
Content of course varies, addressing forms of deviance and illegality. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated up to 1 time(s). Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses, Junior standing or above, or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 452. Topics in Rule Application. 3 or 4 hours.
Content of course varies, addressing major issues. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated up to 1 time(s). Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses, Junior standing, or consent of the instructor.

CLJ 491. Topics in Critical Criminology. 3 or 4 hours.
Content of course varies, addressing major issues in critical criminology. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated up to 1 time. Students may register for more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Two 200-level CLJ courses; junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.