



Department
of Sociology

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
COLORADO SPRINGS

Undergraduate Certificate in Criminology and Justice Studies

This certificate provides undergraduate-level sociology students with a greater understanding of an array of aspects of the criminal justice system, highlighting the impact of law and society, corrections systems, and structures of deviance in the social order. This certificate is beneficial for enhancing future career options with law enforcement, state, and community action and social service organizations. It is also beneficial for students who are applying to law schools, social work programs, and graduate programs.

Specific skills covered include:

- Critical thinking - problem solving, practical analysis, and theoretical application
- Critical writing
- Team-based research, including communication and oral presentation skills
- Research methodologies that apply to these broader settings

General Requirements

- **Minimum requirement for completion: four courses, for a total of twelve credits.**
- **A minimum grade of 3.3 is required for each course applied toward the certificate.**
- **All courses must be at the 3000 level or above in Sociology; independent studies may not be used to earn this certificate.**
- **Additional sociology special-topic methods courses may be offered that can be counted toward the certificate. These courses must be approved in advance by the certificate coordinator.**
- **To complete the certificate program, students are required to submit a transcript and a five-page self-statement, evaluating theoretical and methodological perspectives that relate to this field of study. Students will also evaluate changes in their perceptions of the larger justice system as a result of program participation and implications for future scholarly and professional work.**
- **The certificate will be mailed to recipients upon completion of a certificate audit and graduation and will appear on the transcript.**

Required Courses

SOC 3410 Law and Society
SOC 3400 Criminology

Suggested Courses

SOC 4190 Deviant Behavior
SOC 4960 Juvenile Delinquency
SOC 4110 Sociology of Homelessness
SOC 3490 Youth Gangs
SOC 3360 Drugs and Addiction

For Further Information:
Dr. Michèle Companion
Certificate Coordinator
mcompani@uccs.edu (719) 255-4141