



Crime and Justice Studies (CJS) Program

Honors Program

Overview

The Crime and Justice Studies (CJS) Program will recognize those students who have attained superior academic achievement, completed coursework designed to apply and extend their knowledge of the field, and who desire to graduate with honors in the Program. Superior achievement is identified when students maintain a high standard of excellence throughout their coursework and when a CJS Honors Project is completed.

Eligibility

Honors students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average overall and a 3.5 average within the CJS major. To earn Departmental Honors, students must complete all standard requirements for a CJS degree. Admission into the CJS Honors Program must be attained at least two semesters before the date of a student's graduation. Students should have completed the bulk of the required coursework in the major and may not begin work on the Honors Project prior to their junior year.

CJS Program Honors Committee

Interested students should submit the application (page 3), including a detailed proposal for an honors research or service learning project, and then must meet with the CJS Program Director or Assistant Director. A faculty Honors advisor is a CJS faculty member of associate or full professor rank from one of the three participating departments: Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology, and Urban Affairs and Geography. This faculty member will actively guide the student's progress during the course of the development of the project proposal and the execution of the project.

The CJS Honors Committee consists of the program director, the student's faculty Honors advisor, and one additional program faculty appointed by the program director. The student must present the project to the committee for final defense and approval. A majority of supporting votes by the members of the CJS Honors Committee will constitute successful completion of the Honors Project.

Honors Project

Students meeting the eligibility requirements may apply for entry into the Honors program by submitting a written proposal detailing an Honors project and meeting with the CJS Program Director. These tasks must be completed no later than the last semester in which the student has junior standing. The CJS Program Director will review the proposal during the semester it is submitted. Honors proposals will be further developed under the guidance of the student's faculty Honors advisor.

Coursework for the Honors project should be pursued within the faculty Honors advisor's home department and correspond to the course number(s) associated with that department's course listing for independent research projects (e.g. PLS 4910 for Political Science, SOC 4080 for Sociology and URS 4990 for Urban Affairs and Geography).

In fulfillment of the independent research requirement noted above, students must enroll in a minimum of one term (three semester hours) and a maximum of two terms (six semester hours) of independent research courses in their faculty Honors advisor's home discipline, earning a B or better in these courses. Credit for these classes will be included in the Advanced CJS Electives section of the CJS Program requirements.

Evaluation

The CJS Honors Committee will review the completed project. A student will receive Honors if passed by two of the three committee members. Students passed by the Honors Committee will receive a grade of A or B from their Honors advisor. Students passing and graded A go on record as having passed with high honors.

If two of the three CJS Honors Committee members vote not to pass a student, the student will receive a grade of C or below for all work done.

Withdrawal

Students may leave the program at any time without prejudicing their status as CJS majors. The faculty Honors advisor may also ask students to leave the program if the advisor believes that insufficient progress toward completion is being made, also without prejudicing their status as CJS majors.

National Honor Society

CJS majors may become eligible for membership in The National Criminal Justice Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma Chapter. Interested students should contact the CJS Program Director for more information or visit either the [program's website](#) or [Alpha Phi Sigma](#).



APPLICATION FORM

Crime and Justice Studies Program – Honors

Date: _____

1. Name _____ UID _____

2. Address _____

3. City _____ State _____ Zip _____

4. Phone number _____

5. Email address _____

6. Expected date of graduation _____

7. Cumulative grade point average for all courses _____

8. Cumulative grade point average for CJS courses _____

9. Name of faculty Honor s advisor for project _____

10. Anticipated project completion date _____

11. Tentative title of honors project _____

Approved/Date:

_____ CJS Honors project advisor

_____ Director, Crime and Justice Studies Program