FORENSIC SCIENCE

Academic Year

2012-2013

School

School of Humanities and Social Science School Web site

School Dean

Janet Dizinno, Ph.D. hssdean@stmarytx.edu

Department

Criminal Justice and Criminology

Department Chair

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Description of Program/Major

St. Mary's newest major, forensic science is an exciting field and one of the country's fastest growing job markets. Solving crime requires knowledge of biological, physiological, social and individual factors. St. Mary's program integrates biological science, social science and professional preparation so students are uniquely prepared for this cutting edge career path.

Forensic science is the application of science to the law. It relies on the physical and behavioral sciences for investigating and solving crimes and examining physical trace evidence.The School's forensic science degree with a criminology option emphasizes the integration of academic preparation and real world problem solving with a focus on ethical and professional commitment.

Degree Requirements

Core Curriculum (SMC)

St. Mary's University Core (30 Hours)
All St. Mary's Core SMC13## "Reflection" courses must be completed before registering for SMC23## "Practice" courses. "Reflection" courses can be taken in any order followed by "Practice" courses in any order.

SMC 1301	Foundations of Civilization	3
SMC 1311	Foundations of Reflection: Self (Formerly PL 1310)	3
SMC 1312	Foundations of Reflection: Nature	3
SMC 1313	Foundations of Reflection: Others	3
SMC 1314	Foundations of Reflection: God (Formerly TH 2301)	3
SMC 2301	Foundations of Practice: Ethics (Formerly PL 2332)	3

SMC 2302	Foundations of Practice: Civic Engagement and Social Action	3
SMC 2303	Foundations of Practice: Fine Arts and Creative Process (Formerly FA 1101, FA 1102, FA 1103)	3
SMC 2304	Foundations of Practice: Literature	3
SMC 4301	Capstone Seminar: Prospects for Community and Civilization	3

School Specific Core (SSC)

School of Humanities and Social Sciences School Specific Core (30 Hours)

Speech	SE 1321 (for international students), SE 1341, SE 2333, SE 3391	3
Composition and Rhetoric (grade of "C" or better)	EN 1311, EN 1313 (for international students)	3
Mathematics	MT 1301, MT 1302, MT 1303, MT 1305, MT 1306, MT 1411, MT 2412	3
Foreign Languages	Six hours at the sophomore level (2311, 2312) in a Foreign Language previously studied for a minimum of one year; Or, 6 hours of introductory level (1311, 1312) in a Foreign Language not previously studied; Or, 12 hours of CLEP credit for a language previously studied.	6
History	Any HS courses.	3
Science	BL 1301, BL 1302, BL 3311, BL 3312, CH 1303, CH 1304, CH 1401, CH 1402, EG 2300, ES 1300, ES 1303, ES 1304, ES 1373, PY 1300, PY 1310, PY 1401, PY 1402	3
Theology	Advanced Theology 33XX, HU 3303	3
Fine Arts	AR, DM, MU	3
Literature	EN 23XX	3

Four Year Degree Plan

Sample 4-year degree plan, Forensic Science (BA) Criminology Option

Department Courses and Descriptions

Introductory Sociology (3)
CR 1311
An introduction to the scope and methods of sociology, emphasizing the concepts of social structure, organization, institution, culture and socialization, and including analyses of primary and secondary groups, sex roles, social control, stratification, minorities, collective behavior, and population dynamics. Prerequisite for all courses in the Criminology program.

Police Role in Crime&Delinquen (3)
CR 2308
Study of police strategies and practices in the prevention and control of crime among juveniles.

Topics in Criminal Justice (3)
CR 2399
Topics in Criminal Justice (for elective credit only)

International Justice system (3)
CR 3303
A cross-na tional study of crime and crime control.

Law and Society (3)
CR 3305
Study of the interaction between the U.S. legal and social cultures.

Qualitative Research Methods (3)
CR 3306
An introduction to the methods used to conduct qualitative research in natural social settings. An examination of the methods of ethnography, participant observation/non-participant observation, focus group, interview, and use of documentary sources included. Students may have the opportunity to engage in hands-on research. Additional topics include data coding, data analysis, and research ethics.
Prerequisites: Junior standing

Corrections in the Community (3)
CR 3310
Study of probation, parole, and other commu nity-reintegration procedures.

Correctional Counsel&Treatment (3)
CR 3312
Study of the scope and purposes of correctional treatment and techniques of correctional counseling.

Correctional Institutions (3)
CR 3313
Study of the philosophy, organizational structure and practices of correctional institutions.

Substance Abuse (3)
CR 3314
Introduction to chemical dependency and the factors associated with the abusive use of chemicals; factors associated with helping the chemically dependent person.

Social Strarification (3)
CR 3320
An analysis of social stratification utilizing social class as the unit of study. The course will focus on the structure of social classes in the U.S. as a major factor influencing individual and group life chances with regards to education, crime, health, and disease, world views and life styles.

Victimology (3)
CR 3323

Study of crime victims and their interaction with offeders, criminal justice officals, and the public.

Juvenile Delinquency (3)
CR 3324
An examination of juvenile delinquency in the U.S.: its nature, extent, causes, effects, prevention and rehabilitation. Sociological approaches to delinquency are emphasized, but psychological and legal approaches are also considered.

Criminology (3)
CR 3325
An overview of the study of crime and the development of criminology. The nature, extent, causes, effects, rehabilitation and prevention of crime are examined from a sociological perspective. Psychological, legal, and philosophical approaches to crime are also considered.

Interviewing Techniques (3)
CR 3326
An introduction to principles, strategies, techniques and practical skills involved in interviewing. Ma jor types of interviews are considered, including information-gathering, information-providing, and counseling. Personal involvement and experience in conducting and evaluating actual interviews.

Mediation Techniques (3)
CR 3327
Study of methods and techniques of conflict resolution, communications, mediation, and diversity awareness. Upon completion of CJ 3327, students wishing to receive a Certificate of Training as a mediator must complete either CJ 4303 (Internship) or 100 hours of volunteer service as a media- tor in an appropriate setting approved by supervising faculty.

Research Methods Crim Justice (3)
CR 3330
Study of methods and techniques of social research with an emphasis on criminology and criminal justice.

Computer Tech in Criminal Just (3)
CR 3331
In tegrating computer application and research methods. Prerequisite: CJ 3330 or concurrently enrolled in CJ 3330.

Statistics in Criminology (3)
CR 3332
An introduction to inferential and descriptive statistics in the field of criminology. The course provides students with first-hand experience in the use of statistics and statistical packages.

Survey of Forensic Science (3)
CR 3335
Course is designed to present an overview of the different areas of the Forensic Sciences. These areas include but and not limited to Pathology, Crime Scene Investigation, Ethics, Criminalistics, and Technology.

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Crime Scene Investigation (3)
CR 3336
Introduction to techniques of crime scene investigation. Emphasis will be on scene diagramming, search techniques, and presentation of different categories of evidence.

Forensic Criminology (3)
CR 3337
This course blends the physical sciences with the science of criminology in the understanding, investigation, and the deterrence of crime.

Forensic Lab Techniques (3)
CR 3338
Laboratory and field exercises pertaining to the forensic sciences.

Forensic Victimology (3)
CR 3339
This course provides an understanding of the field of victimology as it is used to address investigative and forensic issues and problems.

The Family (3)
CR 3343
A study of the family as an institution and social system, including discussions of dating and mate selection, premarital and extramarital sex, birth control, abortion, illegitimacy, family planning, spousal relationships, interracial and interfaith marriages, socialization, social control, and change.

Social Psychology (3)
CR 3351
Theories and research on social factors in behavior, including such topics as attitudes, perception, leadership, and attraction.

Sex Crimes & Violent Crimes (3)
CR 3360
The application of the forensic sciences to the investigation of sex crimes.

Urban Sociology (3)
CR 3361
An analysis of cities, their historical development and social organization. Topics include urbanization in developed and developing societies, urban stratification and lifestyles, and urban, metropolitan and regional planning.

Demography and Ecology (3)
CR 3362
The demographic study of human populations, including fertility, mortality, migration, age, sex, class composition. The ecological study of relations between human societies and their environments. Analysis of environmental problems and proposed solutions.

Minority Relations (3)
CR 3371
A study of ethnic, religious and racial relations in the U.S. and other countries. Topics include power relationships, prejudice, discrimination, ethnic stratification, migration, assimilation and pluralism. Minorities to be considered include Blacks, Mexican-Americans and Native Americans.

Senior Seminar in Criminal Jus (3)
CR 4302
Capstone course designed to evaluate knowledge and skills acquired by criminal justice and crimi nology students about their discipline. Students will design, analyze, write, and present a re search project. The student must demonstrate knowledge of computer applications to research methodologies. In addition, the student must demonstrate critical thinking, problem-solving, oral and written communication skills, and the ability to effectively work within groups.

Internship in Crimi Just&Crimi (3)
CR 4303
The student must acquire a minimum of 160 hours of practical experience in an approved criminal justice or social service agency. Unless an exception is made, this course is to be taken between the junior and senior years.

Indept Study in Criminology (3)
CR 4304
Based on the student's professional and academic interest, the instructor will design an individuall ized reading course for the student.

Special Topics in Criminal Jus (3)
CR 4305
Selected topics in criminal justice or criminology.

Internship in Forensic Science (3)
CR 4308
Fieldwork experience in a criminal justice or related agency. A minimum of 160 hours of work experience is required.

Department Faculty

Forensic Science Faculty Website

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