



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Intent to Plan for a New Program

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
DEGREE(S) AND TITLE OF PROGRAM:	B.A. & B.S. in Criminology
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	2020-2021 Academic Year

Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2.4](#), which pertains to new intent to plan requests for new programs, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this intent to plan, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University

1/13/2020

Date

1. What is the general nature/purpose of the proposed program? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this program.

South Dakota State University (SDSU) proposes to offer a B.A. and B.S. in Criminology, the study of crime as a complex and multi-layered social phenomenon including its causes and consequences. Criminologists explore criminal behavior and societies' responses to crime. The program will address the increasing interest among students for a degree that can prepare them for careers related to law enforcement, law and policy as it relates to courts and law enforcement, professional development opportunities for those employed in law enforcement and related fields, and victim services.

The University does not request new state resources.

2. What is the need for the proposed program (e.g., Regental system need, institutional need, workforce need, etc.)? What is the expected demand for graduates nationally and in South Dakota (provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.)?

Currently, SDSU offers a minor in Criminal Justice which enrolled 131 students as of fall 2018. The majority of those students are in college to pursue a criminal justice or criminology-

related career.

Criminology and Criminal Justice are distinct disciplines. Criminology is a subfield of Sociology focusing on the social causes and consequences of crime. Criminologists apply research methods common to the social sciences to study why crime occurs, how society responds to crime, and how crime in turn shapes society. Criminal Justice is an applied field that studies police procedures, forensic analysis, courts, correctional institutions, and other components of the justice system. While Criminologists need a basic understanding of these topics, their primary interest is in the social forces that generate or mitigate criminal behavior. Criminal justice looks at the what, while criminology looks at the why.

Criminal justice and criminology are both fields that offer many job opportunities. Graduates for both programs may find positions in law enforcement including:

- Correctional officer
- Police officer
- Deputy
- Dispatcher
- Sheriff
- DEA Agent
- Parole Officer
- Homicide detective
- U.S. Marshal

Graduates of Criminal Justice programs generally seek work more closely aligned with criminal justice than criminology; however, graduates of criminology may find work in the areas of criminal justice or criminology. The Criminology program better prepares students for careers related to crime that require an understanding of who commits crime and how to use data in the administration of criminal justice and policy work. Typical positions include:

- Criminal investigator
- Corrections
- Criminologist
- Intervention programming
- Psychopathology specialist
- Sociologist
- Forensic scientist
- Crime scene investigator
- Police officer
- Fraud investigator
- Victim witness specialist
- Youth counselor
- Loss prevention specialist

Employment trends in Criminology-related fields

Occupation	Rate of increase
Forensic science technicians ¹	14%

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Forensic Science Technicians, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/forensic-science-technicians.htm> (visited October 07, 2019).

Occupation	Rate of increase
Victim services (Social and Community Service managers) ²	13%
Probation officers and correctional specialists ³	6%
Police and detectives ⁴	5%
Sociologists ⁵	9%

Current demand for law enforcement officers increases at a rate of about 5% each year. The requirements to enter law enforcement fields differ by state, jurisdiction, and agency. For federal, some metro, and most state law enforcement agencies, a bachelor's degree is typically required. Exceptions may exist in regard to years and types of experience. City and county agencies may only require a high school diploma depending on the location and the pay offered. Across the board, agencies prefer bachelor's degrees as there is evidence that those with the higher degree are less likely to be involved in excessive force and other complaints. South Dakota has a similar pattern where very small rural jurisdictions may hire high school graduates and larger metro areas such as Sioux Falls prefer a bachelor's degree. Incoming students would benefit from having access to a degree that includes coursework focused on crime and the control of crime designed to prepare them for law enforcement and related occupations as well as course work that addresses challenges, such as issues around mental health, race, and ethics, and opportunities in the field, such as developing leadership skills and the expanded use of data analytics and spatial analysis in related occupations.

A bachelor's degree serves as the primary educational qualification for many careers in the criminal justice system. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, probation officers and correctional treatment specialists, social and community services managers, and criminalist technicians all typically require bachelor's degrees. Federal corrections officers are also required to hold four-year degrees, and undergraduate coursework in Criminology or a related field can move them from a GL-05 to a GL-07.

Criminologists do work that straddles the line between sociology and law enforcement. Like sociologists, they study human social behaviors, but they often do so in the service of law enforcement, looking at behaviors that deviate from the norm. They might look back at a crime to analyze what caused it and if there were warning signs, or they might use predictive data to understand when and where a crime is likely to happen again.⁶ The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) doesn't offer salaries or the project job outlook specifically for criminologists, but it does have data for sociologists, which is a comparable field. According to the BLS, the job outlook for sociologists is growing at a rate of 9%.

² Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Social and Community Service Managers, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/management/social-and-community-service-managers.htm> (visited October 16, 2019).

³ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/probation-officers-and-correctional-treatment-specialists.htm> (visited October 07, 2019).

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Police and Detectives, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/protective-service/police-and-detectives.htm> (visited October 07, 2019).

⁵ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Sociologists, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/sociologists.htm> (visited October 17, 2019).

⁶ https://study.com/articles/Criminologist_Job_Description_Duties_and_Requirements.html

3. How would the proposed program benefit students?

SDSU's minor in Criminal Justice, housed in the Department of Sociology & Rural Studies, has strong enrollment and students exhibit a strong interest in crime and the control of crime. The proposed program will create an additional opportunity for students who wish to pursue a degree focused on crime and the control of crime, deeply rooted in the social sciences. Graduates will be well-positioned to pursue careers throughout the criminal justice system. The Criminology major would be designed to assist students interested in five different career areas related to understanding crime and the control of crime. Tracks will include:

- Law enforcement
- Victim services
- Court systems and services
- Professional development
- Law and policy

4. How does the proposed program relate to the university's mission as provided in South Dakota Statute and Board of Regents Policy, and to the current Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020?

Goal 2 of the BOR's Strategic Plan calls for "offering the highest quality academic programs that educate students broadly through strong Arts and Sciences offerings, coherent general education requirements, and majors and minors that prepare students with the skills and knowledge to thrive in a rapidly changing world." Likewise, SDSU's strategic plan *Imagine 2023: Aspire. Discover. Achieve.* aims to "develop and grow high-quality and distinct academic programs designed to meet the needs of diverse students and market demands."

The proposed baccalaureate program in Criminology will advance these goals by affording students the opportunity to develop proficiency in a high-demand field. It will be intentionally designed to help graduates pursue careers in the criminal justice system. By graduating highly-trained professionals, the program will enhance the safety and quality of life in local communities and the state of South Dakota.

5. Do any related programs exist at other public universities in South Dakota? If a related program already exists, explain the key differences between the existing programs and the proposed program, as well as the perceived need for adding the proposed new program. Would approval of the proposed new program create opportunities to collaborate with other South Dakota public universities?

The University of South Dakota (USD) offers a 33-credit B.A./B.S. in Criminal Justice. The required core of 18 credits includes coursework in criminal law, criminal procedure, criminology, introduction to criminal justice, information literacy in criminal justice, and a capstone. Northern State University (NSU) offers a 41-credit B.A. in Criminal Justice. Students take required courses in Sociology and Criminal Justice, four additional courses in one of three tracks, and nine elective credits.

Criminology differs from Criminal Justice. Criminal Justice focuses on the processes and procedures of the criminal justice system. Criminology studies social issues surrounding crime and justice. While these two fields share a connection, Criminology is more firmly rooted in the social sciences and is generally considered a subfield of Sociology. The Department of Sociology & Rural Studies at SDSU is well-positioned to develop an undergraduate program in

this discipline. The proposed program will include coursework related to mental health, race, ethics, leadership, and social science research methods including data analytics and spatial analysis.

- 6. Do related programs exist at public colleges and universities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and/or Wyoming?** *If a related program exists, enter the name of the institution and the title of the program; if no related program exists, enter “None” for that state. Add additional lines if there are more than two such programs in a state listed.*

	Institution	Program Title
Minnesota	University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	Sociology of Law, Criminology and Deviance (B.A./B.S.)
	University of Minnesota - Duluth	Criminology (B.A.)
North Dakota	NA	
Montana	University of Montana	Sociology (B.A.) - Criminology concentration
Wyoming	NA	
Iowa	University of Northern Iowa	Criminology (B.A.)

Other related programs in the region include Southeast Technical Institute and Lake Area Technical Institute - AAS in Law Enforcement; Western Dakota Technical Institute - AAS in Criminal Justice and Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement Emphasis; Mount Marty College - associates and bachelor’s degrees in Criminal Justice; Presentation College – B.S. and minor in Criminal Justice; and Colorado Technical University – B.S. in Criminal Justice.

- 7. Are students enrolling in this program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university?**

The Criminology major will attract three types of students. The Department anticipates a number of students new to the University who are interested in law enforcement, social services, and related careers as well as a shift in current Sociology majors to the proposed Criminology major. In addition, delivery of the program online will provide flexibility to meet the needs of working professionals who want to complete their degree. SDSU will also work with regional programs to develop articulation agreements that will establish a pathway for students to pursue the bachelor’s degree.

- 8. What are the university’s expectations/estimates for enrollment in the program through the first five years? What are the university’s expectations/estimates for the annual number of graduates from the program after the first five years? Provide an explanation of the methodology the university used in developing these estimates.**

Using data from the number of students who graduate with the minor in Criminal Justice, SDSU anticipates graduating 20 majors in five years, 30 in six years, 35 in seven years, and 40 each year after. The proposed program fills a demonstrated need for SDSU. Enrollment in the Criminal Justice Minor has risen from 58 students in fall 2015 to 131 students in fall 2018. This increase in enrollment indicates a high degree of student interest in the field. The creation of a Criminology major will allow interested students to pursue a baccalaureate program in a related field without leaving SDSU.

	Fiscal Years*			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<i>Estimates</i>	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
Students new to the university	10	15	15	20
Students from other university programs	3	5	5	5
Transfer and returning online students	5	10	15	15
Continuing students	0	10	25	40
=Total students in the program (fall)	18	40	60	80

9. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university intends to seek authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
On campus	Yes	2020-2021 Academic Year

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
Off campus	No		

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	Intended Start Date
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	Yes	015 - Internet Asynchronous– Term Based Instruction 018 - Internet Synchronous	2020-2021 Academic Year
Does another BOR institution already have authorization to offer the program online?	No	If yes, identify institutions:	

10. What are the university’s plans for obtaining the resources needed to implement the program?

	Development/ Start-up	Long-term Operation
Reallocate existing resources	Yes	Yes
Apply for external resources	No	No
Ask Board to seek new State resources	No	No
Ask Board to approve a new or increased student fee	No	No

11. Curriculum Example: Provide (as Appendix A) the curriculum of a similar program at another college or university. The Appendix should include required and elective courses in the program. Catalog pages or web materials are acceptable for inclusion. Identify the college or university and explain why the selected program is a model for the program under development.

Plans of study are included in Appendix A for the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Minnesota – Duluth. These two programs feature streamlined curricula based on

the same model that SDSU plans to implement. In addition, both programs are closely connected to Sociology, which aligns with SDSU's intent for the program.

Appendix A

Curriculum Example: University of Northern Iowa's B.A. in Criminology

Additional information regarding the B.A. in Criminology may be found at:
<https://catalog.uni.edu/planofstudy/collegeofsocialandbehavioralsciences/criminology/>

Plan of Study Grid		
Freshman		
Fall		
COMM 1000 (48C:001)	Oral Communication	3
ENGLISH 1005 (620:005)	College Writing and Research	3
HUM 1021 (680:021)	Humanities I: The Ancient, Classical, and Medieval Worlds	3
SOC 1000 (980:001)	Introduction to Sociology	3
		Hours 12
Spring		
CRIM 2022 (982:022)	Criminal Justice System	3
STAT 1772 (800:072)	Introduction to Statistical Methods	3
HUM 1022 (680:022)	Humanities II: The Renaissance, Reformation, and Enlightenment	3
LAC 3A - Fine Arts		3
LAC 5B - Individual And Institutional Perspectives		3
		Hours 15
Sophomore		
Fall		
CRIM 2025 (982:025)	Criminology	3
LAC 3B - Literature, Philosophy And Religion		3
LAC 4B - Physical Sciences		3
Topical Perspectives		3
University Electives		3
Hours		15
Spring		
LAC 2B - Non-Western Cultures		3
LAC 4A - Life Sciences		4
University Electives		9
		Hours 16
Junior		
Fall		
Group 1 Criminology Elective		3
Group 2 Criminology Elective		3
KAHHS 1020	Dimensions of Wellbeing Lecture	1
KAHHS 1030	Dimensions of Wellbeing Lab	1
University Electives		9
		Hours 17

Plan of Study Grid

Spring		
Group 1 Criminology Elective		3
Group 3 Criminology Elective		3
SOC 2010 (980:108)	Research Methods	3
University Electives		6
		Hours 15
Senior		
Fall		
Group 3 Criminology Elective		3
Group 1 Criminology Elective		3
Capstone Experience		3
University Electives		6
		Hours 15
Spring		
Group 2 Criminology Elective		3
CRIM 4575 (982:175)	Senior Seminar in Criminology	3
University Electives		9
		Hours 15
		Total Hours 120

Curriculum Example: University of Minnesota – Duluth’s B.A. in Criminology

Additional information regarding the B.A. in Criminology may be found at:
<https://academics.d.umn.edu/academics/majors-and-minors/criminology-ba>;
[https://onestop2.umn.edu/pcas/viewCatalogProgram.do?programID=869&strm=1199&campus=U
 MNDL](https://onestop2.umn.edu/pcas/viewCatalogProgram.do?programID=869&strm=1199&campus=U

 MNDL)

Department: Anthropology, Sociology & Criminology
 College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2019
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 42
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Criminology is the study of crime and criminal behavior. The criminology program focuses on crime as a social phenomenon and the causes of criminal behavior. The major provides an overview of institutions, issues and causes of crime, and social control; it also offers a strong foundation in liberal arts, a basic knowledge of behavioral sciences, and a strong professional growth potential for those pursuing a career in criminology or the criminal justice system. Many criminology majors enter law, law enforcement, corrections, and other social service careers or graduate school.

Honors requirements: The department honors program recognizes majors who demonstrate outstanding academic performance, provides special educational opportunities for such students, and encourages the development of specialty areas within the major. Honors students participate in independent research,

working closely with a faculty member. Qualified majors apply to the honors program before the end of the second week of the first semester of their senior year.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Program Requirements

- 1) A second field of study (either a minor, another major or dual degree).
- 2) Completion of the lower division core requirements before beginning the upper division core.
- 3) Study abroad is encouraged for all students and the department makes every effort to facilitate such experiences.

First Term Requirement (1 cr)

Transfer students with 24 or more credits and current UMD students who change colleges to CLA are exempt from this requirement. New first-year students with 24 or more PSEO credits may request to be waived from this requirement.

- [UST 1000](#) - UMD Seminar (1.0-2.0 cr)

Lower Division Core (12 cr)

A grade of C or better is required in each course.

- [CRIM 1301](#) - Introduction to Criminology [LE CAT8, SOC SCI] (4.0 cr)
- [CRIM 2311](#) - Criminological Theory (4.0 cr)
- [SOC 2155](#) - Introduction to Research Methods and Analysis (4.0 cr)

Upper Division Core (11 cr)

After successfully completing SOC 4587, a student must wait at least one semester before registering for SOC 4597. Students intern in a setting related to their career interests. Take SOC 4597 for at least 6 credits. (Students also majoring in psychology may request to substitute PSY 3020 for SOC 3155. See the department head for approval.)

- [SOC 3155](#) - Quantitative Research Methods and Analysis (4.0 cr)
- [SOC 4587](#) - Internship Preparation (1.0 cr)
- [SOC 4597](#) - Internship (6.0-8.0 cr)

Inequality Course (3 cr)

Students take at least one course listed below to fulfill this requirement. If both CRIM inequality courses are taken, one course will apply as elective credit toward the major.

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

- [CRIM 4323](#) - Women and Justice (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4340](#) - Race, Crime and Justice (3.0 cr)
- [SOC 3330](#) - The U.S. Civil Rights Movement [SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
- [SOC 3945](#) - Social Stratification (3.0 cr)
- [SOC 4947](#) - Sociology of Gender (3.0 cr)
- [SOC 4949](#) - Race and Ethnic Relations (3.0 cr)

Criminology Electives (9 cr)

Most CRIM 3xxx-4xxx courses will apply here.

Take 9 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [CRIM 3322](#) - Law and Society (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3324](#) - Sociology of Criminal Law (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3328](#) - Delinquency and Juvenile Justice (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3336](#) - Crime and the Media (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3338](#) - Sociology of Gangs (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3340](#) - Crime Prevention (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3344](#) - Law Enforcement and Society (3.0 cr)

- [CRIM 3350](#) - Psychopathology and Crime (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3361](#) - Correctional Continuum (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3369](#) - Correctional Assessment and Intervention (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3375](#) - Restorative Justice (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3380](#) - Death Penalty (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3395](#) - Special Topics: (Various Titles to be Assigned) (1.0-3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4305](#) - Mentally Ill Offenders in the Criminal Justice System (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4350](#) - Corporate and Government Crime (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4382](#) - Victimology (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4384](#) - Child Abuse and Child Protection in Minnesota (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4391](#) - Independent Study in Criminology (1.0-6.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4399](#) - Honors Project Criminology (1.0-8.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4910](#) - Teaching Assistantship in Criminology (1.0-3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 4930](#) - Understanding Violence (3.0 cr)
- [CRIM 3355](#) - Criminal Forensic Psychology (3.0 cr)
or [PSY 5155](#) - Forensic Psychology (3.0 cr)

Additional Required Elective (3 cr)

Students may apply an additional CRIM 3xxx-4xxx course to this area.

Take 3 or more credit(s) from the following:

- AAAS 3xxx-4xxx
or ANTH 3xxx-4xxx
or CRIM 3xxx-4xxx

Advanced Writing Requirement (3 cr)

- WRIT 3140 or 3160 are recommended.
- WRIT 31xx - Adv Writing (3 cr)