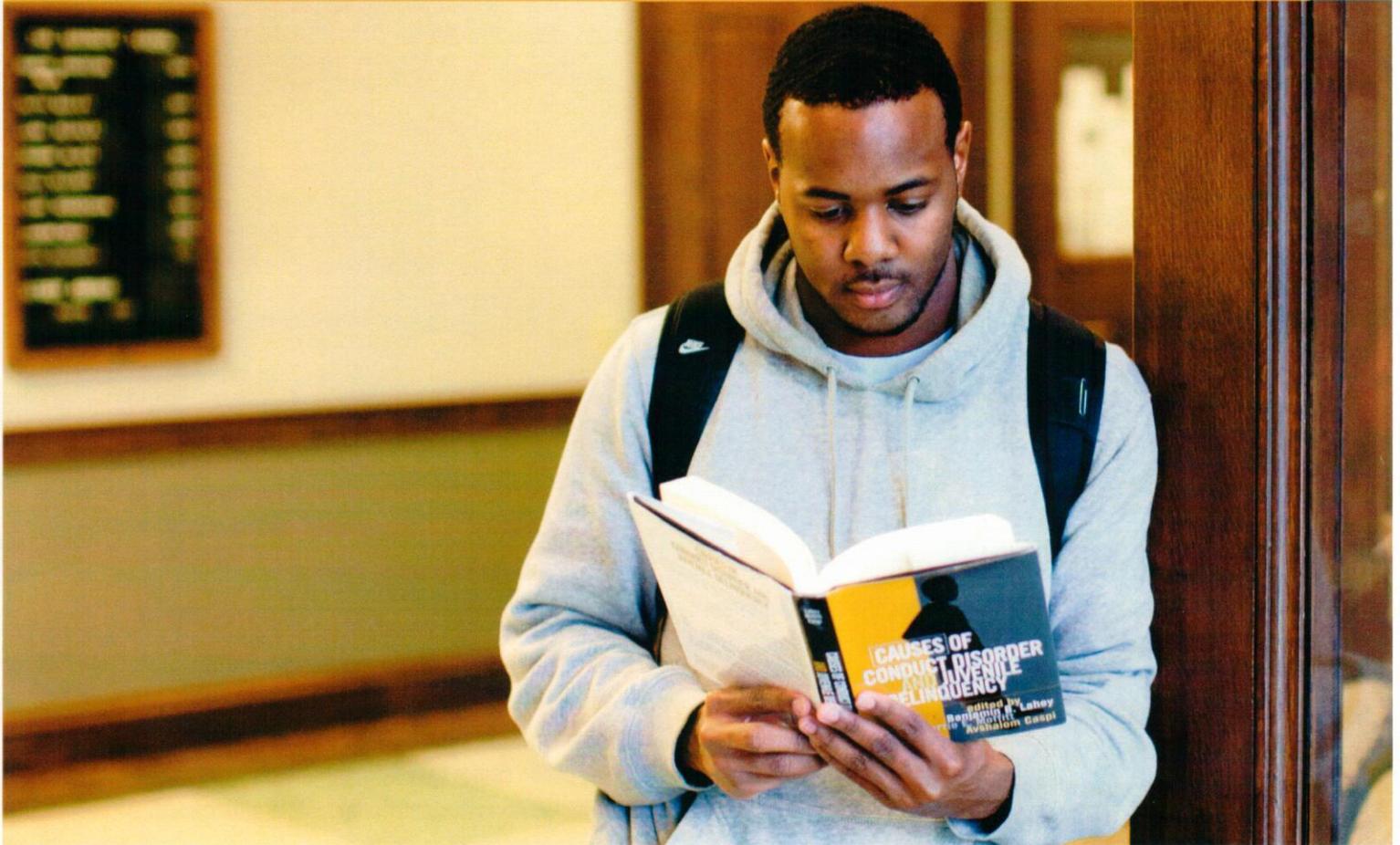


CRIMINOLOGY MINOR



The interdisciplinary criminology minor allows students to select either criminal justice or criminal administration as options for study. The curriculum is composed substantially of coursework from political science and sociology, but also includes relevant and important courses from business, economics, philosophy and psychology. The diversity of departments, wide range of courses and topics, and the student's ability to hand-select classes to fit their needs all contribute to the strength of the long-running program. The minor emphasizes the theoretical and conceptual contexts that will complement the practical training of police academies, but the relevance of the minor stretches well beyond the practice and profession of law enforcement. A criminology minor will motivate students to broaden their understanding of issues and challenges associated with law enforcement's role in a democratic society.

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CRIMINOLOGY MINOR



CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

While requiring 21 hours for the criminology minor, the program offers students a total of 60 hours of coursework, thus enhancing student selection and focus. Of the 21 hours that constitute the minor, nine hours are required; those include "Philosophy of Law;" "Civil Liberties in America" or "Criminal Law" or "Politics and the Legal Process;" and "Introduction to Criminology." Students, in consultation with their advisors and in reflection of their particular professional interests, are then free to select 12 elective hours from remaining program offerings.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Students who reach the internship requirements for either political science or sociology also are eligible for completing internships in the field of criminology through various law-enforcement agencies. Internships are non-graded, practical work experiences intended to expose students to various dimensions and settings in law enforcement, and can contribute one to 12 hours of upper-division credit to graduation.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND RELEVANCE TO YOUR MAJOR

Due to social, political and policy trends, employment in criminology/law enforcement is a growth field and will remain so. Venues for employment occur in both the private sector (corporate security) and the public sector (government departments and agencies at all levels, including municipal, county, state and federal). Moreover, law enforcement transcends shift patrol to include juvenile and parole supervision, the enforcement of conservation and fish and game laws administered by departments of natural resources, public health and safety statutes administered by county and state health departments, and even forensic investigation occurring both in the field and in the lab. As departments of law enforcement expand, so do their demands for budget analysis, planning, data analysis, technology, public relations, human resources and personnel administration. Employment in law enforcement does not always mean carrying a firearm. Hence, the minor in criminology is relevant to a wide array of majors, including biology, business, computer information systems, health, any of the social sciences and more.