

## **Criminology (BA) Overall Learning Goals**

### **1. Students will demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the core literature and debates that make up the discipline of criminology.**

Students are expected to:

- show an understanding of the social construction of crime and deviance, the nature and causes of crime, the behavior of offenders, the social reaction to crime and deviance, the relationship between criminology and public policy.
- critically engage with and cite the relevant literature.
- be able to contextualize their thinking in relation to the criminological literature.

### **2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the key components of criminological theory and the ability to apply theory to specific contexts.**

Students are expected to:

- show a knowledge of contemporary and classical criminological theory.
- relate criminological theory to specific subject areas as in the elective courses, for example, violence, juvenile delinquency, drugs
- present arguments for and against specific theoretical positions.

### **3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods of criminological research.**

Students are expected to:

- show a knowledge of the key methods of data collection.
- have an awareness of the problems of researching crime and deviance, for example, the hidden figure, the use of different definitions of crime and deviance, difficulties of sampling and so on
- cite exemplars of criminological research
- be able to plan and develop independent research projects.

### **4. Students will demonstrate the ability to make reasoned and informed judgment on issues relating to crime and punishment**

Students are expected to:

- show a critical awareness of public debate in the areas of crime and punishment.
- illustrate how debates on crime and punishment exist within a wider social, political and historical context.
- engage in intellectually grounded debate
- question and test conventional wisdom relating to crime
- to analyze and evaluate the contemporary response to criminality

**5. Students will demonstrate the ability to organize their thoughts and communicate their arguments effectively in writing.**

Students are expected to:

- write academic essays using the proper syntax and grammar with correctly cited sources and bibliographies
- write clear and meaningful research statements or questions
- present their work with clarity with evidence gleaned from the literature to support their arguments
- draw appropriate and informed conclusions