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Information  
Contact:  
(512) 245-2526



A collaboration between the  
Texas State Psychology &  
Criminal Justice Departments

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Looking for a minor that will  
help prepare you for work in  
Forensic Psychology, Criminal  
Justice or other professions  
that come into close contact  
with the court system?

The Psychology and Criminal  
Justice Departments may have  
just the right minor for you.

See inside this brochure and  
contact the Psychology De-  
partment for more information  
on the Minor in Forensic Psy-  
chology. For more information  
please email us at  
[info@www.psych.txstate.edu](mailto:info@www.psych.txstate.edu)



## Organization

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Texas State  
Departments of  
Psychology & Criminal  
Justice

## Minor in Forensic Psychology



"Better that many guilty  
persons should go free than  
one innocent person should  
suffer"

Tel: 512-245-2526

# What is the Minor in Forensic Psychology All About?

Forensic is defined as, "evidence" or as "relating to, used in, or appropriate for courts of law." This minor looks at forensic issues from both psychological and criminal justice perspectives. The minor is suitable for criminal justice majors or any individual wishing to pursue a



What is Justice?

background in psychology and criminal justice. The minor also would be good preparation for those individuals wishing to pursue pre-law or social work and for individuals considering graduate coursework

in forensic psychology. Students wishing to pursue this minor need to complete a minor declaration form in the Psychology Department Office.

The minor is designed to assist students in exploring many questions. Just a few of these questions include (a.) What theories are used to explain crime? b.) What determines whether an eyewitness's testimony will be believed? c.) How do we determine an individual's competence to stand trial? d.) How do juries function as a group and reach decisions? e.) How do psychologists determine whether an individual was legally sane at the time that a crime was committed? f.) What is "competence" and why is it important? g.) How are confessions obtained from suspects and what happens if those confessions have been coerced?

## Minor in Forensic Psychology—Requirements

### Minor in Forensic Psychology

This interdisciplinary minor provides foundation and depth courses in both psychology and criminal justice that will assist students in coming to understand the legal system and the workings of the court from both legal and psychological perspectives. Issues of law, evidence, competency, insanity defense, criminal profiling, personality theory, mental health and the law, among others will be explored.

### Students pursuing the Forensic Psychology minor must complete 21 hours:

*The following 9 hours in Psychology*

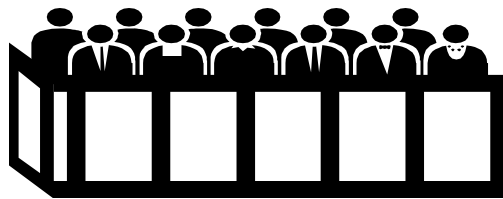
PSY 3335 - Forensic Psychology  
PSY 3331—Social Psychology, and either  
PSY 3315—Abnormal Psychology **OR**  
PSY 3316—Personality Psychology

*The following 9 hours in Criminal Justice:*

CJ 1310—Introduction to Criminal Justice  
CJ 2360—Fundamentals of Criminal Law  
CJ 3329—Forensic Evidence

*One additional course from the following:*

ANTH 3344—Forensic Anthropology and Osteology or  
CJ 4340—Crime Theory & Victimization  
or  
SOC 3343—Criminology



Are you convinced beyond a reasonable doubt?

## Notes for Forensic Psychology minors:

1. Psychology majors pursuing the forensic psychology minor cannot double count courses toward their major and the minor.
2. The prerequisite requirements for CJ 3329 and CJ 4340 will be waived only for students pursuing this minor. This is justified by the fact that students will be exploring many of the issues covered in those requisite courses in the psychology coursework portion of the minor.
3. Enrollment in the required Psychology courses assumes that non-psychology majors will have completed the PSY1300 introduction course as part of their social science core curriculum component. If the Psychology 1300 course is not taken as part of the social science component, PSY 1300 is a prerequisite for PSY 3335, 3315, 3316, 3331.
4. Criminal Justice majors pursuing this minor should consult with either a psychology department advisor or a faculty member in criminal justice about the double counting of courses in the CJ major and the Forensic Psychology Minor.