9. **Attach Request Narrative.**
   Include in narrative on attached pages a rationale for the requested changes or creation of program. Include clarification concerning any courses that have not yet been approved. If requesting a program change also include a listing of course array for both the current and proposed program?

**Rationale for Program Creation:**

The Criminology Major expands on the existing Criminal Justice Minor by more effectively addressing the needs of UW-River Falls students and improving their marketability upon graduation. Courses in criminology and criminal justice have over 150 students enrolled in the minor program. Enrollment in the program has been restricted by its position as a minor only program because we lose numerous potential students each year when they find out that we don’t have a major. The number of students will certainly increase, as it becomes known that UW-River Falls offers a Criminology Major. There is strong demand for graduates in this area by criminal justice agencies throughout the St. Croix Valley and within the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area that the University of Wisconsin – River Falls serves.

A program offering a Criminology Major with a strong emphasis on the social causes of crime is rare in our region. There are only two schools offering a major in criminology, both of which are in Minnesota, and only the University of Minnesota-Duluth offers a stand alone Criminology Major. In Wisconsin, UW-Eau Claire is the only other school in our region that offers a major related to crime, however that program is a Criminal Justice Major that is affiliated most closely with the Department of Political Science. Academically a criminal justice program, such as the one at UW-Eau Claire, focuses on the actions and behaviors of the actors and agencies in the criminal justice system, an institutional focus. In contrast, the criminology program being proposed at UW-River Falls focuses on understanding the causes and consequences of criminal behavior and how social control affects crime.

**The Criminology Major will emphasize:**

- an appreciation of the complexities of criminal behavior.
- a greater understanding of the reasons why individuals become engaged in criminal behavior.
- a theoretical understanding of crime.
- the calculation, interpretation, and analysis of appropriate data.
- critical thinking skills related to criminal behavior and the response of society and the criminal justice system to this behavior.
- the way that the criminal justice system and the agencies within this system work to address crime and its underlying causes.
- the development of ethical and moral reasoning skills that can be used to assess and evaluate the actions of individual actors, the actions of agencies and institutions related to criminal justice, and the implications of policies.

**Relation to Institutional Mission, Strategic Plan, and Existing Program Array:**

Institutional Mission: The Criminology Major connects directly to the mission at UW-River Falls in two ways. First, the program will support and extend the regional partnerships that the University has with criminal justice agencies within the St. Croix Valley through the department’s internship program. The internship program has been an integral part of the student learning experience for more than two decades. Moreover, it enhances students’ success upon graduation by fostering contacts and opportunities for future employment. The
opportunity to expand the program beyond a Criminal Justice Minor to a Criminology Major will provide the campus with an opportunity to extend and strengthen these partnerships and provide them with the qualified and educated students that they seek. Second, the University of Wisconsin – River Falls “fosters a challenging, supportive, student-centered environment that is characterized by academic excellence, inspiring and preparing students to serve as ethical, informed citizens and leaders in an increasingly complex, diverse, and global environment.” The Criminology program is designed to ensure that students are well informed about social conditions related to crime and criminal behavior, such as race/ethnicity, sex, and social class.

Strategic Plan: The proposed Criminology Major makes an intentional effort to support and reflect the UWRF 2012-2017 Strategic Plan, “Pathways to Distinction.” First, the plan emphasizes becoming “national leaders in undergraduate and collaborative research, scholarship, and creative activity.” The core requirements for the Criminology Major include a series of courses on research methods and statistics. This portion of the core requires students to develop undergraduate research projects related to their interests and apply the skills they develop through the program. It is also expected that the students in the Criminology Major will foster additional collaboration with criminal justice agencies throughout the St. Croix Valley. These agencies have a continual flow of data and information that students will be able to use to analyze the complex problems that relate to crime and social control in their own community and findings can be presented back to the agencies to reinforce the inter-connectedness of the campus and the community. This element of the program ties directly into the “Innovation and Partnerships” goal of the university’s Strategic Plan.

Existing Program Array: Criminal Justice and Criminology have had a continual presence on campus for several decades within the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, first as an emphasis within the Sociology Major and then as a stand alone minor. Enrollment has been strong with constant interest in the program from a variety of students in the social sciences as well as those in areas like conservation, business, and the physical sciences. We have recently introduced a Bachelor of Applied Science in Law Enforcement for those students from our two-year partner institutions with a background in law enforcement. This program is of great value for those students who reach us by that route, but does not provide for the educational and occupational needs of current and future students who come directly to UW-River Falls. By thoughtfully expanding the program from a minor to a major, there is no overlap or duplication to other programs at the university. The Criminology Major will benefit the campus and community by producing more degree holders, fully in line with Strategic Goal #1 in the UW Growth Agenda.
Proposed Curriculum for Criminology Major and Minor:

New Criminology Major = 36 Total Credits

Required Core Courses: 18 Credit Hours
- CRIM 130 – Introduction to Crime, Law, and Society 3 cr. (req. supporting course)
- SOCI 200 – Sociological Inquiry 3 cr.
- CRIM 201 – Theories of Crime 3 cr.
- CRIM 210 – Criminal Behavior 3 cr.
- SOCI 250 – Statistics 3 cr.
- SOCI 300 – Research Methods 3 cr.
- SOCI 480 – Senior Seminar 3 cr.

Directed Electives: 18 Credit Hours
- At least 6 credits from the Criminal Behavior Courses:
  - SOCI 218 – Deviant Behavior 3 cr.
  - CRIM 311 – Juvenile Crime and Justice 3 cr.
  - CRIM 312 – Gangs and Gang Behavior 3 cr.
  - CRIM 313 – White Collar Crime 3 cr.
  - CRIM 389 – Special Topics in Crime and Justice 3 cr.
  - CRIM 490 – Readings in Criminology 1 – 2 cr.
  - CRIM 499 – Independent Study in Criminology 1 – 2 cr.

- At least 6 credits from the following Crime and Justice Courses:
  - CRIM 241 – Victimology 3 cr.
  - CRIM 341 – Restorative Justice 3 cr.
  - CRIM 351 – Women, Crime, and Justice 3 cr.
  - POLS 359 – Criminal Justice Politics and Policy 3 cr.
  - CRIM 379 – Internship in Crime and Justice 6 – 12 cr.
  - CRIM 399 – Law Enforcement Certification 6 – 12 cr.
  - CRIM 441 – Trends and Issues in Incarceration 3 cr.
  - CRIM 442 – Alternatives to Incarceration 3 cr.

The formulation of the Criminology major is based on ensuring that students have a strong understanding of different forms of criminal activity, the way the justice system responds to crime, and the methodological skills necessary to undertake research that can enhance student understanding of criminality. Rather than replicate classes related to statistics and methods, the new major draws upon courses that are provided in our department. It is expected that a number of existing Sociology majors would move toward a double major rather than majoring in Criminology and minoring in Sociology. If the courses are cross-listed it may create unnecessary confusion when dealing with double-counting situations. Beyond the core courses addressing methodological skill development, the other courses, CRIM 201 and CRIM 210, provide the foundation in understanding criminal behavior that is extended within the directed electives. The two directed electives sections focus on the issue of crime from two general perspectives, the understanding of criminal behavior and the addressing how the justice system deals with criminality.
New Criminology Minor = 24 Credits

Required Core Courses: 12 Credits
CRIM 130 – Introduction to Crime, Law, and Society 3 cr.
CRIM 201 – Theories of Crime 3 cr.
CRIM 210 – Criminal Behavior 3 cr.
SOCI 210 – Social Problems 3 cr.

Directed Electives: 12 Credits
SOCI 218 – Deviant Behavior 3 cr.
CRIM 241 – Victimology 3 cr.
CRIM 311 – Juvenile Crime and Justice 3 cr.
CRIM 312 – Gangs and Gang Behavior 3 cr.
CRIM 313 – White Collar Crime 3 cr.
CRIM 321 – Race and Crime 3 cr.
CRIM 341 – Restorative Justice 3 cr.
CRIM 351 – Women, Crime, and Justice 3 cr.
POLS 359 – Criminal Justice Politics and Policy 3 cr.
CRIM 379 – Internship in Crime and Justice 6 cr.
CRIM 389 – Special Topics in Crime and Justice 3 cr.
CRIM 399 – Law Enforcement Certification 6 cr.
CRIM 441 – Trends and Issues in Incarceration 3 cr.
CRIM 442 – Alternatives to Incarceration 3 cr.

Current Criminal Justice Minor (Sociology Major) = 24 Total Credits

Required Core Courses: 12 Credits
CJ 202 – Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 cr.
CJ 320 – Juvenile Delinquency 3 cr.
CJ 322 – Criminology 3 cr.
CJ 430 – Trends and Issues in Incarceration OR
CJ 435 – Alternatives to Incarceration 3 cr.

Directed Electives: 12 Credits
6 Credits from the following:
CJ 376 – Law Enforcement Certification 6 – 12 cr.
CJ 379 – Internship in Criminal Justice 6 – 12 cr.

6 Credits from the following:
SOCI 218 – Deviant Behavior 3 cr.
CJ 310 – Gangs in the United States 3 cr.
CJ 360 – White Collar Crime 3 cr.
SOCI 445 – Power and Inequality 3 cr.
POLS 225 – Introduction to Public Administration 3 cr.
POLS 253 – State and Local Politics 3 cr.
POLS 354 – Women and the Law 3 cr.
POLS 416 – Constitutional Law 3 cr.
PSYC 325 – Abnormal Psychology 3 cr.
Current Criminal Justice Minor (Non-Sociology Major) = 24 Total Credits

Required Core Courses: 18 Credits
- CJ 202 – Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 cr.
- CJ 320 – Juvenile Delinquency 3 cr.
- CJ 322 – Criminology 3 cr.
- CJ 430 – Trends and Issues in Incarceration OR 3 cr.
- CJ 435 – Alternatives to Incarceration 3 cr.
- SOCI 200 – Sociological Inquiry 3 cr.
- SOCI 445 – Power and Inequality 3 cr.

Directed Electives: 6 Credits
Choose from the following courses:
- CJ 310 – Gangs in the United States 3 cr.
- CJ 360 – White Collar Crime 3 cr.
- CJ 376 – Law Enforcement Certification 6 – 12 cr.
- CJ 379 – Internship in Criminal Justice 6 – 12 cr.
- SOCI 208 – Sociology of Diversity 3 cr.
- SOCI 218 – Deviant Behavior 3 cr.
- SOCI 225 – Race and Ethnicity 3 cr.
- SOCI 240 – Social Problems 3 cr.
- SOCI 330 – Social Organizations 3 cr.
- SOCI 410 – Social Psychology 3 cr.

The curriculum for the proposed Criminology minor will replace the existing Criminal Justice minors. Based on the proposal of a Criminology major it is important to ensure that the minor reflects this academic tradition. The proposed minor is expected to continue to serve students from a wide array of majors, from traditional social and behavioral sciences to the physical sciences, in the same way that the current minor does. The new core requirements keep the focus on the understanding of criminal behavior (CRIM 130, CRIM 201, and CRIM 210), which is parallel to the content specific requirements of Criminology majors. The other course in the core, SOCI 210, is included to ensure that students are introduced to the importance of looking at structural conditions in society that play an important role in the causes of criminality. The choice of SOCI 210 is done in coordination with recommendations provided by the American Sociological Association regarding the development of Criminology programs. The reason for leaving the directed electives as a single category is that it provides maximum flexibility for students choosing the minor while ensuring that they are exposed to a valuable diversity of topics that relate to crime and justice.
### Nature of the Courses in the Criminology Major and Minor:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous Course # and Title</th>
<th>Proposed or Existing Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Nature of Course Proposal Submitted</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REQUIRED CORE COURSES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CJ 202</td>
<td>CRIM 130</td>
<td>Introduction to Crime, Law, and Society</td>
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<td>Sociological Inquiry</td>
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<td>Criminal Behavior</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Research Methods</td>
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<td>Senior Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCI 218</td>
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<td>Readings in Criminology</td>
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<td>Independent Study in Criminology</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIM 241</td>
<td>Victimology</td>
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<td>CRIM 341</td>
<td>Restorative Justice</td>
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<td>Women, Crime, and Justice</td>
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