VICTIM STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science

SHSU KATFACTS

BEST COLLEGES
FOR THE MONEY

OVER EIGHTY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES & COUNTING

FACULTY TO STUDENT RATIO
1:25

MORE THAN 230 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Student Organizations:
- Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society
- Crime Victim Services Alliance (CVSA)
- Kats for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- Lambda Alpha Epsilon American Criminal Justice Association (LAE)
- National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ)
- National Organization of Hispanics in Criminal Justice (NOHJC)
- Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity
- The Society of Forensic Science (SFS)
BACHELOR’S DEGREE IN VICTIM STUDIES

SHSU’s bachelor’s degree in victim studies, offered by the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, is the only program of its kind in Texas and one of few in the nation. Graduates of this program are prepared to work in a wide array of career areas with victims of crime, including victim service agencies, police departments, correctional facilities, child protective services, programs serving at-risk youth, and legal advocacy for victims. Victim advocates’ responsibilities include working with the victim to explain legal procedures and available resources, along with encouraging and supporting the victim throughout the court process. They also try to minimize the physical, psychological, and emotional consequences on the crime victim.

REQUIREMENTS

Five core criminal justice courses are required as well as six credits in victim studies-specific classes — including Child Abuse and Neglect, Family Violence, and Crimes Against Women or the Elderly — as well as victim services classes — such as Trauma, Victims Right, and Interviewing. In addition to the core curriculum, the electives include two courses in social justice and three additional offerings in criminal justice, sociology, and psychology.

Minor: This program does not require a minor; however, a minor in human services is commonly chosen and suggested for victim studies majors.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Once accepted, students may apply for relevant scholarships by completing the Scholarships4Kats online application. Transfer scholarships are available for students who would like to continue their academic career at Sam Houston State University.

INTERNSHIPS

An integral part of all degree offerings is the opportunity for career exposure. The internship program is designed to provide students valuable work experience, on-the-job training, and a chance to develop a professional networking base for the future. Students in the criminal justice programs are offered unparalleled opportunities to participate in one of the nation’s leading internship programs.