MEMORANDUM

To: University Undergraduate Program Committee (UUPC)

From: Dr. John Smykla, Director
School of Criminology & Criminal Justice (SCCJ)

Dr. Bruce J. Arneklev, Assistant Director
Undergraduate Coordinator SCCJ

RE: Changes to the Undergraduate Program in the SCCJ

g changes to the BA in Criminal Justice. Most of the changes reflect attempts
on in our School.

(CC4700) a prerequisite to ***C***

(CE3692C) as a Required Core course and add it
cted Elective course
Co course credit hours from 12 Credit Hours to 9 Credit Hours
the elimination of CJ Technology as a Required Core course (keeping
gy – CCJ3014; Methods of Research in CJ – CCJ4700 and Ethics in the Justice
CJ4054 as the three remaining required courses – 3 credits each).
dents to take three (9 credits) rather than just two (6
m our courses, which will keep the SCCJ Undergraduate
s a 30 credit hour program.

(CC4700) has a very high D/F/W rate and it
ime to graduation because SCCJ undergraduate students often put off taking it
very last semester at FAU and then, when they do, they oftetnt

Inquiry's (CDSI) Undergraduate Advisers constantly remind students to not take "Methods" during their last semester. Yet, students still often take it in their last semester and it is typically those students that are least likely to pass the class that seem to be the ones that are most likely to put it off until their last semester. CCJ4700 was the third highest course of the "Top 10 flagged courses" at FAU in the spring of 2014.

In order to ensure that students do not take "Methods" for the first time in their last semester, the SCCJ would like to change our program so that ***MethodsC*** (CCJ4700) is a prerequisite to our Required ***Criminology (CCJ3024)*** course.

- ***Criminology*** is a course that focuses on criminological theories. Criminological theories are seen as "theories" because they are supported by the empirical evidence. Therefore, since the ***MethodsC*** course covers the scientific method and how we gather empirical data to evaluate theories, it is logically the correct course to offer as a prerequisite for Criminology.

Many of the professors teaching Criminology have stated that having Methods as a prerequisite to the class will improve their ability to increase the quality of how it is taught because students will already understand the scientific methods prior to taking it. Therefore, they will be able to much greater detail about the specifics of each theory, including the different methodologies for how they can be tested, and if they are supported by the empirical evidence.

2. In the fall of 2014, ***CJ Tech (CCJ3692C)*** became the SCCJ's highest D/F/W course with as many as 25% of the students in a class taking it ending up on the D/F/W list. By moving it from a Required CCJ Course to a restricted elective we hope to greatly lower this percentage.
3. By removing CJ Tech as ***Req Core*** course it reduces the number of Required Core credits hours from 12 (four courses) to 9 (three courses).
4. By reducing the number of Required Core courses from four courses (12 credits) to three courses (9 credits) the SCCJ needed come up with three more credits (i.e. 1 more course) for students to take to keep the program as a 30 credit program. This could have been done by requiring undergraduate SCCJ students to take an additional Restricted Elective ***OR*** an additional Elective. Since we are moving CJ Tech to being a Required Elective we are asking students to now choose ***two*** courses from the six courses to choose from there (rather than two from the previously offered five courses).

CATALOG: After the changes to the SCCJ Undergraduate Program have been made, it will look something like the following in the catalog (changes in red)

Criminal Justice Core Courses – 12 9 credits		
Criminology	CCJ 3014**	3
Ethics and the Justice System	CCJ 4054	3
Methods of Research in Criminal Justice	CCJ 4700*	3
Criminal Justice Technology	CJE 3692C	3
* Requires STA 2023 or STA 3163 as a prerequisite. **Requires CCJ4700 as a prerequisite.		

Q scn s 569.4 /CS0 cs 0 scn /TT0 1 Tf 12 0 0 [(Q scn