

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, MS

The interdisciplinary field of criminal justice has grown exponentially over the last two decades. The Master's of Science in Criminal Justice degree provides insight into this incredibly rich discipline and seeks not solely to explain the dysfunctional aspects of society but to contribute to the advancement of the larger society. The criminal justice professional has developed a social science arsenal that transcends the use of physical and/or deadly force. The incorporation of crime reduction strategies, the burgeoning impact of forensics, community-based initiatives, and advanced criminology theories have made the study of criminal justice exciting and gratifying. Courses in this major, notwithstanding internships, are offered either in a hybrid format or fully on-line. The hybrid courses meet 2/3 on-site and 1/3 on-line.

Graduates are expected to demonstrate the following competencies:

1. Proficiency in writing and oral communication skills
2. Knowledge of the causes of crime and effective measures to reduce crime
3. The ability to critically analyze scholarly articles in the field of Criminal Justice
4. Competence in the application of criminology theory and the framing of the scientific method
5. An integrated knowledge of the various components of the Criminal Justice System
6. Knowledge of the transnational nature of crime in the age of globalization
7. Application of an integrative approach to evaluating global man-made and natural threats

In addition to the General Track, the MSCJ program offers three (3) concentrations:

- Community Justice
- Global Terrorism
- Human Services

General Track Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Courses		
CJ-615	Criminological Theory	3
CJ-620	Research Methods and Data Analysis	3
CJ-630	The Supreme Court, U.S. Constitution, And Criminal Law	3
CJ-640	Perspective on Drugs, Alcohol, and the Criminal Justice System	3
CJ-730	Comparative Criminal Justice Systems	3
CJ-755	Terrorism & Counter Terrorism	3
CJ-780	Public Policy in Criminal Justice Issues	3
KG-604	Graduate Research & Critical Analysis	3
Required Core Courses Subtotal		24
Concentration Courses		
Must choose any 4 classes, or any 2 classes and Master's Thesis		
Select one of the following options:		12
<i>Option One</i>		
Four Concentration Courses		

<i>Option Two</i>		
Two Concentration Courses		
CJ-791	Master's Thesis I	
CJ-792	Master's Thesis II	
Concentration Courses Subtotal		12
Total Credits		36

Concentration in Global Terrorism

Code	Title	Credits
Must choose any four concentration classes, or any two classes and Master's Thesis		
Select one of the following:		12
<i>Option One</i>		
CJ-750	Crisis Management & Disaster Preparedness	
CJ-751	Critical Infrastructure Protection	
CJ-752	Homeland Security: Programs, Policies & The Legal System	
CJ-777	Cybercrime, Intelligence Systems, and National Security	
<i>Option Two</i>		
Select Two Concentration Courses		
CJ-791	Master's Thesis I	
CJ-792	Master's Thesis II	
Concentration Courses Subtotal		12
Required Core Courses Subtotal		24
Total Credits		36

Concentration in Human Services

Code	Title	Credits
Must choose any 4 concentration classes, or any 2 classes and the Master's Thesis		
Select one of the following options:		12
<i>Option One</i>		
Select four of the following:		
CJ-618	Crime Scene Investigation	
CJ-650	The Sociology of Juvenile Delinquency	
CJ-718	Psychology of Criminal Behavior	
CJ-750	Crisis Management & Disaster Preparedness	
CJ-760	Community Violence: Causes, Effects, And Solutions	
CJ-765	Child Development, Trauma, and the Criminal Justice System	
CJ-770	Urban Poverty and the Family	
<i>Option Two</i>		
Select Two Concentration Courses		
CJ-791	Master's Thesis I	
CJ-792	Master's Thesis II	
Concentration Courses Subtotal		12
Required Core Courses		24
Total Credits		36

Concentration in Community Justice

Code	Title	Credits
Must choose any 4 concentration classes, or any 2 classes and the Master's Thesis		
Select one of the following options:		12
<i>Option One</i>		
Select four of the following:		
CJ-618	Crime Scene Investigation	
CJ-655	Race, Class, Gender & Crime in America	
CJ-725	Organized Crime& Transnational Crime	
CJ-735	Perspectives on Mass Incarceration and The Death Penalty	
CJ-745	The Use of Deadly Force in Contemporary America	
CJ-777	Cybercrime, Intelligence Systems, and National Security	
<i>Option Two</i>		
Select Two Concentration Courses		
CJ-791	Master's Thesis I	
CJ-792	Master's Thesis II	
Concentration Courses Subtotal		12
Required Core Courses Subtotal		24
Total Credits		36

Recommended Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
Semester 1		
CJ-615	Criminological Theory	3
CJ-630	The Supreme Court, U.S. Constitution, And Criminal Law	3
KG-604	Graduate Research & Critical Analysis	3
Credits		9
Semester 2		
CJ-620	Research Methods and Data Analysis	3
CJ-640	Perspective on Drugs, Alcohol, and the Criminal Justice System	3
CJ-730	Comparative Criminal Justice Systems	3
Credits		9
Semester 3		
CJ-755	Terrorism & Counter Terrorism	3
CJ-ELE	Criminal Justice Elective	3
Select one of the following:		3
CJ-791	Master's Thesis I	
CJ-ELE	Criminal Justice Elective	
Credits		9
Semester 4		
CJ-780	Public Policy in Criminal Justice Issues	3
Select one of the following:		3
CJ-792	Master's Thesis II ¹	
CJ-ELE	Criminal Justice Elective	
CJ-ELE	Criminal Justice Elective	
Credits		6
Total Credits		33

¹ Continue if CJ-791 Master's Thesis I is taken