

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, M.S.

Master of Science in Criminal Justice

The Master of Science program in criminal justice is a practitioner-oriented and theoretically grounded course of advanced study that prepares students for professional advancement and/or advanced graduate work. It is intended for personnel working in the criminal justice system and related fields, as well as for students preparing for such careers. To accommodate students with varying work schedules, all graduate coursework is offered on the main campus on a dual-track basis, whereby students have the option to attend each class at either 8:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. on the same day. Our courses are also available during our Summer sessions.

Distinguished faculty and students are deeply involved in all aspects of criminal justice, and work and conduct research in the areas of policing, corrections, the courts, law, international criminal justice, white collar crime, community justice, restorative justice, victimology, and constitutional and human rights. We are all fully committed to deepening our understanding of crime, criminal justice policy, and social justice and are actively involved in a full range of community outreach activities as well. Our program emphasizes inter-disciplinary and multi-method inquiries that make a very real difference to day-to-day and long-term policy and practice. Our faculty and students pursue research and engage in practices that explore a wide variety of critical issues in the New Jersey, the NJ-NY metropolitan area, and across the United States in the context of global criminal justice developments and issues.

Admission

It is the policy of the Graduate Program in Criminal Justice to admit those students who demonstrate promise of succeeding in our curriculum. Primary consideration is given to the applicant's academic record. Admissions requirements include: Cumulative minimum GPA of 2.75; a 250-500 word essay discussing your goals and objectives for pursuing admission to the degree program to which you are applying; official transcripts from all previous U.S. colleges attended or official NACES course-by-course evaluation of any foreign transcripts*; two (2) letters of recommendation; official copy of GRE/MAT scores or waiver; official documentation of English Language Proficiency (TOEFL/IELTS) or waiver if applicable; non-refundable application fee. Please refer to the Criminal Justice (M.S.) admission site (<https://www.njcu.edu/admissions-aid/graduate-admissions/graduate-degrees/criminal-justice-ms/>).

NOTE: Those students admitted to the master's program that have had neither undergraduate course work in criminal justice, nor relevant work experience in criminal justice, may be required to take preparatory academic work. This may include a sequence of readings or the undergraduate course, Introduction to Criminal Justice.

Program Requirements

The program requires 33 graduate credits distributed among a core of criminal justice courses, elective work and the completion of a Master's Project. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in the graduate program, or be subject to academic probation or dismissal.

Master's Project Requirement

Upon completion of 24 credits (including CJ 605), all students are required to enroll in CJ 671. Students will choose an area of specialized study for their project with the approval of the Graduate Coordinator.

When the project is approved, and all requirements met, the student may qualify for graduation.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Courses		15
CJ 605	Criminal Justice Research	
CJ 615	Theory and Practice Police Administration	
CJ 625	Contemporary Corrections	
CJ 630	The Judicial System	
CJ 645	The Nature Of Crime	
Elective Courses: Select 5 courses		15
CJ 600	The Crim.Just.Sys&Urb. Commun.	
CJ 601	Grant Proposal Writing	
CJ 602	Crime in the Global Context	
CJ 603	Restorative Justice	
CJ 610	The Criminal Justice Professional	
CJ 611	Graduate Seminar in Criminal Justice	
CJ 616	Elite Deviance	
CJ 620	Oper.Strat.In Police Admin.	
CJ 635	Seminar on Community Corrections	
CJ 640	The Juvenile Justice System	
CJ 650	Legal Issues In Criminal Justice	
CJ 655	Community Crime Prevention	
CJ 657	Qualitative Research Methods for Program and Policy Analysis	
CJ 660	Critical Issues in Policing	
CJ 680	Criminal Justice Management	
CJ 685	Planning in Crim Just Syst	
CJ 690	Workshop in Criminal Justice Administration and Decision-Making	
Independent Study		
Master's Project		3
CJ 671	Master's Project	
Total Credits		33

Criminal Justice graduate students are required take five core courses (15 credits) and five courses in the electives area (15 credits), in addition to the Master's Project (3 credit) for a total of 33 credits.

First Year		Credits
Semester 1		
CJ 605	Criminal Justice Research	3
CJ 615	Theory and Practice Police Administration	3
CJ Elective Course		3
Credits		9
Semester 2		
CJ 625	Contemporary Corrections	3
CJ 630	The Judicial System	3
CJ Elective Course		3
Credits		9
Second Year		
Semester 1		
CJ 645	The Nature Of Crime	3
CJ Elective Course		3

CJ Elective Course	3
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Credits	9
Semester 2	
CJ 671 Master's Project	3
CJ Elective Course	3
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Credits	6
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Total Credits	33