



Program of Study: Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Program Description:

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice is designed for students seeking to expand their understanding of the law, social order, and justice. This program is particularly suited to law enforcement personnel who wish to advance in their field, as well as corrections, probation, and parole officers; law clerks; and other decision makers who address questions of public policy, social research, and administration of justice in the public sphere. This program also prepares students for work in legal foundations where in-depth issues are contended.

Criminal Justice Core:

Course Number	Course Title	Course Description	Credit Hours
JUS 515	Organizational Behavior and Leadership in Criminal Justice	This course explores contemporary law enforcement management by examining personality, values, groups, power dimensions, decision making, conflict management, change, and organization development.	4
JUS 510	Research Methods	This course provides a fundamental analysis of research as well as methodological evaluation of criminal justice topics. This course will familiarize the students with aspects of statistical analysis and research design relevant to today's justice environment using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Additionally, coverage is provided for use of research design in community action.	4
JUS 520	Restorative Justice	This course compares and contrasts traditional goals of punishment (rehabilitation, incapacitation, retribution, and deterrence) with the concepts of restorative justice. Topics include community service, victim assistance, victim-offender mediation, and restitution. Restorative justice seeks a balance between the need to rehabilitate offenders while executing a duty to protect the public.	4
JUS 610	Forensic Psychology	An objective study of the many roles psychology plays in the legal system, including expert witnesses, criminal profilers, and trial consultants for jury selection and child custody hearings.	4
JUS 615	Critical Issues in Criminal Justice	This course expands the student's understanding of the scope of criminological theories focused through contemporary peer-reviewed resources.	4
JUS 620	Exploration of Law and Public Policy	This course explores the interrelatedness of law and socioeconomic concerns. The course also attempts to generate a holistic perspective of society and social control for those charged with the administration of justice.	4

JUS 651	Capstone	<p>This course is taken in the final term of the graduate program. It focuses on professional portfolio development and a final written proposal by the graduate. The portfolio will contain the graduate's curriculum vitae, exemplars of writing from their graduate courses, a statement of criminal justice philosophy, a five-year plan for professional goals, and a research topic paper/written proposal.</p> <p>A final written proposal must focus on how the graduate will use the totality of the learning experience to examine and improve the Criminal Justice system at either the federal, state, county, or city level. The proposal must exhibit adequate research, coordination within the extant layers of justice policy, realistic consideration of available resources, and a reasonable timeline of benchmarks.</p>	4
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Total Criminal Justice Core Credits: 28

Law Enforcement Emphasis:

JUS 521	Criminal Investigations	This course enhances students' understanding of criminal investigative procedure, collection and preservation of evidence, chain of custody concerns, computer forensics, investigative jurisdiction, administration, and use of information-gathering techniques.	4
JUS 524	Terrorism and Homeland Security	This course provides insight into the historical causes, strategies, and tactics of terrorism, as well as counter-terrorism planning and utilization of law enforcement assets to prevent, detect, and deter acts of terrorism. Also covered are constitutional issues regarding terrorism suspects, long-term detention, financial embargoes of private funds, and other issues pertinent to the modern political climate.	4
JUS 618	Ethics and Liability for Policing and Corrections	This course explores the subcultures created by police and correctional officers. Topics include the need for building a subculture of mutual support and survival in a dangerous profession, dilemmas of new officers entering corrupt departments, and ways administrators can help police and correctional officers to rediscover their community.	4

Legal Studies Emphasis:

JUS 531	Constitutional Issues in Criminal Justice	This course conducts an in-depth analysis of both historic and contemporary questions of constitutional rights. Provided is an understanding of the powers of the federal courts, Congress, and the President; an examination of the doctrines of separation of power and federalism; and discussion regarding some of the limitations that the Constitution imposes on state powers. Topical coverage also includes the Takings and Contracts clauses, Due Process, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion, and Equal Protection.	4
JUS 630	International Law	This course addresses the issue of international law in a world increasingly interconnected. The course explores the procedural workings of various international and regional organizations regarding public international law.	4
JUS 635	Legal Research	This course teaches students how to do legal research using both hard copy and electronic resources. Presented from the perspective of a law specialist working for a client, students consider a client's legal issues and how to locate resources to address the problem, including statutes, regulations, court orders, court decisions, and secondary sources.	4

Total Emphasis Credits: 12

Total Criminal Justice Core Credits: 28

Total Master of Science in Criminal Justice Credits: 40