

MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Master of Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Criminal Justice Administration prepares personnel for administrative positions in the police, corrections, juvenile, and judicial systems. The objectives of the program are based upon the assumption that criminal justice decision and policy making in society require broad academic experience, innovative thinking, understanding of the theoretical foundations of the field, knowledge of appropriate research methods, and principles of administration. The major focus is to demonstrate that criminal justice in the United States and the problems associated with crime and delinquency must be viewed within the context of the larger society rather than as an isolated system. The program includes analysis of the major elements within criminal justice as related elements in a system in which decisions regarding crime and justice in one sphere may have consequences in other spheres.

Graduates are expected to be

1. conversant with the theoretical and legal principles implicit in criminal justice administration;
2. knowledgeable about essential research contributions in the field;
3. capable of research analysis appropriate to the field; and
4. competent to assume administrative responsibilities involving decision making in one of the areas of criminal justice administration.

Professional Track Plan

Core Courses:	Hours
C J 500, 501, 510, 521, 540, 598	18
C J 515	6
From C J 504, 508, 520	3
From C J 504, 505, 508, 522, 586 ¹	6
Elective and Comprehensive Exam	3

Research Track Plan

Core Courses:	Hours
C J, 500, 501, 510, 514, 540, 586 ¹ , 24 598	
From C J 504, 508, 520	3
From C J 504, 505, 508, 514, 515, 6 520, 521, 522	
Elective and Comprehensive Exam	3

¹No more than 6 hours credit allowed for C J 586.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

All students must successfully complete comprehensive exams in the areas of criminological theory, research methods, and one specialty area. The student must complete a majority of the course work, to be eligible to take the comprehensive exams. To sit for the comprehensive examinations, students must apply through their advisor and receive approval from the program director at least one month prior to taking the exams. Comprehensive exams are normally scheduled during the Spring and Fall semester.

Students who fail the comprehensive exams must retake only the section or sections failed. Students who fail the exam the second time will not be allowed a third attempt except by appeal to the department head. No student may take the failed portion more than three times.

Additional information about procedures for the comprehensive examinations is available from the academic advisor or program director.