

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Cheryl Banachowski-Fuller, Program Director

Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Address: University of Wisconsin-Platteville

1 University Plaza

Platteville, WI 53818-3099

Phone: 608.342.1652

Fax: 608.342.1986

Email: criminaljstc@uwplatt.edu

Website: <http://mscj.uwplatt.edu/master-of-science-in-criminal-justice>

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice is a comprehensive and highly interactive online degree. It is designed for criminal justice and social service professionals who wish to continue their graduate education or who need additional knowledge and skills to advance to higher-level positions in their field. The program is also designed for those seeking an advanced degree as a prerequisite for entry into more specialized criminal justice positions.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates will:

1. Demonstrate advanced, in-depth knowledge of criminology and the criminal justice system;
2. Apply research and statistical methodology to policy issues in the criminal justice agency setting;
3. Exhibit effective communication skills in both formal and informal written communication;
4. Demonstrate organizational, managerial, and supervisory skills appropriate to criminal justice agencies;
5. Identify, analyze, and solve problems at the organizational, inter-organizational, or community levels;
6. Show advanced knowledge and skills in one of the three areas of emphasis.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Those seeking admission to the Master of Science in Criminal Justice program must have earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, criminology, or a related field from a nationally or regionally accredited institution recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). If the degree is in an unrelated field, a minimum of three years of occupational experience in the field of criminal justice is required.

Program entrance requirements and degree completion requirements are consistent with those of the graduate programs of the institution. Students seeking admission should follow the instructions found in the online Admission Policies and Procedures section of this catalog. To be eligible for admission in full standing, a student must have an overall undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 or above, or 2.90 on the last 60 credits from the degree-granting institution.

Applicants must submit

1. a detailed résumé, and
2. a personal statement of purpose and goals

All application material will be reviewed by the Criminal Justice Department Admission Committee. Recommendation for admission will be based on demonstrated ability to perform graduate work, including theoretical and statistical coursework, based upon the professional judgment of the Admission Committee.

Students who do not qualify for admission in full standing may be admitted on trial enrollment, which must be justified by the admitting department and approved by the Director of the School of Graduate Studies. Students are allowed seven years from the date of admission into the program to complete degree requirements. Extensions may be granted for extenuating circumstances.

SPECIAL STUDENTS

Students with a bachelor's degree who want to enroll in selected courses without being admitted to the program may enroll as special students. A maximum of 12 credits may be taken as a special student.

CURRICULUM

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice is awarded upon successful completion of 30 credits: 15 credits of required courses and 15 credits of electives.

With the help of an academic advisor, a student will develop an academic program plan consistent with specific goals from one of the three emphasis areas:

- Criminal Justice Theory - This emphasis is appropriate for those who want to continue graduate education in a Ph.D. program, teach at a two-year college, or embark on a career in governmental research.
- Criminal Justice Management - This emphasis is appropriate for those seeking promotion to supervisory or administrative positions.
- Victim and Offender Services - This emphasis is designed for those interested in working with crime victims, juveniles, probation and parole clients, or providing services in institutional or community-based settings

All courses are three credits unless otherwise noted.

Required Courses		15
CRIMLJUS 7030	CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS	3
CRIMLJUS 7130	Criminal Justice Research and Statistical Methods	3
or CRIMLJUS 7730	Evaluation and Program Analysis in the Criminal Justice System	
CRIMLJUS 7230	Criminological Theory	3
CRIMLJUS 7330	Law as Social Control	3
CRIMLJUS 7920	Seminar Paper Research	3
or CRIMLJUS 7990	Thesis Research	
Elective Courses		
Select 15 credits of the following: ¹		15
CRIMLJUS 6030	Criminal Law	
CRIMLJUS 6330	Criminal Procedure and Evidence	
CRIMLJUS 7120	Policing in a Democratic Society	
CRIMLJUS 7310	Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Child Advocacy	
CRIMLJUS 7320	JUVENILE DELINQUENCY & JUSTICE: RACE, CLASS, GENDER AND YOUTH	
CRIMLJUS 7340	Cyber-Crime	
CRIMLJUS 7430	Victimology	
CRIMLJUS 7520	Civil Liabilities in Criminal Justice Agencies	
CRIMLJUS 7530	Criminal Justice Administration	
CRIMLJUS 7630	Contemporary Correctional Systems: Institutional and Community-Based Corrections	
CRIMLJUS 7880	Criminal Justice Internship	
CRIMLJUS 7980	Independent Study in Criminal Justice	
POLISCI 5830	Civil Liberties	
PSYCHLGY 7030	Psychology in the Criminal Justice System	
PSYCHLGY 7230	Crisis Intervention Theory	
PSYCHLGY 7330	Theories of Personality in the Criminal Justice System	
PSYCHLGY 7430	Abnormal Psychology in a Dangerous World	
PSYCHLGY 7980	Independent Study in Psychology	
BUSADMIN 5030	Human Resource Management	
BUSADMIN 5340	Management, Gender and Race	
BUSADMIN 5530	Organizational Behavior	
COUNSED 7130	At Risk Youth	
Total Credits		45

¹ With the help of an academic advisor, students develop an academic program plan consistent with specific goals from one of the three emphasis areas. Additional electives may be available through transfer and/or other arrangements. Contact the program coordinator for more information.

Courses are continuously being developed to provide knowledge and expertise in high demand.

CERTIFICATE IN CHILD ADVOCACY STUDIES

The Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) certificate is designed to prepare students for the realities of child protection and serve the needs of learners specifically interested in professions that work directly with or among maltreated children. It's specifically tailored for students who intend to pursue careers in law enforcement and as child protection professionals, victim witness workers, lawyers, school social workers and treatment providers.

The Cast certificate meets the mission of the National Child Protection Training Center (NCPTC), funded by the U.S. Department of Justice to end child abuse in the United States. In recognition of UW-Platteville students' contribution to its mission, the NCPTC will recognize the UW-Platteville CAST certificate by including its logo on each awarded UW-Platteville CAST certificate.

To obtain a certificate, students must:

- Achieve a minimum grade of "C" in each course from the certificate program
- Complete the certificate with a minimum GPA of 3.00
- Request a certificate from the Distance Learning Center within one year upon completion of the final course of the certificate

To earn the certificate, students must complete the following three graduate courses:

CRIMLJUS 7310	Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Child Advocacy	3
CRIMLJUS 7430	Victimology	3
Select one of the following:		3
CRIMLJUS 7880	Criminal Justice Internship (CAST Internship)	
CRIMLJUS 7980	Independent Study in Criminal Justice (CAST Project)	
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Total Credits		9