

CERTIFICATE

Correctional/Juvenile Justice Leadership

Persons with a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution may earn a 12-hour non-degree graduate certificate in Correctional/Juvenile Justice Leadership granted by the Department of Correctional and Juvenile Justice Studies and the College of Justice and Safety. The certificate may be completed online. While the GRE is not required to pursue the certificate, students who earn an overall GPA of less than 3.0 in certificate courses will not be accepted into the M.S. program. Students who complete certificate courses with a GPA above 3.0 may apply to the M.S. degree program and apply credit from the certificate toward the degree. The certificate will consist of four courses and offer either a juvenile justice or adult corrections option.

- Adult Corrections Option.....12 hours**
COR 835, 840, 850, and 856.
- Juvenile Justice Option.....12 hours**
COR 820, 835, 850, and 856.

DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND POLICE STUDIES

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MASTER OF SCIENCE
Criminal Justice
CIP Code: 43.0103

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Criminal justice is viewed as an academic discipline. Objectives of the graduate program are based upon the assumption that social policy, decision-making, and reform in modern society require a broad academic experience and innovative thinking, including theoretical foundations of the discipline, appropriate research methods, and principles applicable to the administration of justice.

A major focus is to demonstrate that problems of both a public and private nature associated with crime and delinquency must be viewed as social problems rather than isolated problems. It is therefore expected that graduates will be:

1. conversant with the theoretical and legal principles implicit in criminal justice;
2. knowledgeable of the essential research contributions in the discipline;
3. capable of research and data analysis appropriate to the discipline; and
4. competent to assume policy-making, research and instructional responsibilities in criminal justice.

II. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking clear admission should hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher learning with a 3.0 grade point average overall or in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work and a combined score of 1250 on the general section of the Graduate Record Examination under the GRE scoring system in use until October 1, 2002 or a combined verbal and quantitative score of at least 800 and an analytical writing score of at least 3.0 under the scoring system in use after October 1, 2002. Probationary admission may be granted to applicants not meeting these conditions but who present additional evidence for successful graduate study. All applicants must submit three letters of recommendation directly to the Criminal Justice Graduate Program Coordinator in the College of Justice and Safety. Students may be required to complete prerequisite course work. Introductory statistics and research methods are prerequisites for CRJ 808 and CRJ 888.

Student must also meet the general requirements of the Graduate School.

III. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 36 semester hours of graduate credit is required. The following courses are required of all students: Advanced Criminal Justice Studies (CRJ 800), Analysis of Criminal Justice Data (CRJ 808) or Crime and Public Policy (CRJ 875), Theories of Criminology and Delinquency and Research Methods in Criminal Justice (CRJ 888).

Graduate Course Credit — All 700 level courses have undergraduate counterparts bearing the same last two digits. The 700 level courses are offered only for graduate level credit and require additional appropriate experiences for all students enrolled. Students who have previously taken the undergraduate counterpart of these courses at the 500 level will not be permitted to enroll for graduate level credit in the 700 level counterpart. Credit will not be awarded for both the 700 and 500 level of the same course.

Cross Listed Courses — Some courses are offered under different prefixes with the same course content. Students will not be awarded credit for any course for which they have previously received credit under a cross listed prefix.

Curriculum for the General Program**

- Core Courses12 hours**
CRJ 800, 870, 888 and 808 or 875.
- Eight Electives or Six Electives plus Thesis.....24 hours**
- Total Requirements36 hours**

**Course work for CRJ 987 should be arranged and no more than 9 hours will be applied toward the degree.

IV. EXIT REQUIREMENTS

Thesis — A thesis is optional in this program.

Comprehensive Examination — Students in the non-thesis option are required to pass a written comprehensive examination. Students in the thesis option are required to pass an oral comprehensive examination in defense of the thesis.

Justice and Safety