

Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice focuses on developing the professional skills necessary to assume leadership positions within the criminal justice field. This online master’s program addresses national and local security issues as well as effective countermeasures and subsequent changes in the U.S. criminal justice system. You will explore criminal law, juvenile and delinquent behavior, security, and terrorism in a post-9/11 world. Our criminal justice programs are among the most popular at the university, bringing you peer interactions and an expanded network of criminal justice professionals who are dedicated to safeguarding their communities and nation. This program is taught by highly credentialed and experienced instructors, many who hold key positions in government agencies or criminal justice organizations.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Distinguish between the major systems of Criminal Justice and how the functions of police, prosecution, courts, and corrections interface.
- Analyze biological and psychological theories and philosophies of criminal behavior as they influence modern developments in punishment, sentencing, and corrections.
- Evaluate definitions, objectives, and issues of new or emergent criminal threats such as terrorism and how they compare and contrast with traditional criminal behavior theories.
- Assess the rule of law and changes to it as it pertains to direct and indirect influence and impact on social reactions to crime, corrections, and victims of crime.
- Critically examine landmark criminal justice cases from the Supreme Court down to local levels, and determine their cultural, social, and economic impact.
- Apply the concepts of professional and ethical behavior within the criminal justice system.

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Core Requirements		18
Select one of the following concentrations:		15
General Concentration (p. 1)		
Business Administration (p. 2)		
Emergency Management and Disaster Management (p. 2)		
Elective Requirements		0-3

Final Program Requirements	0-3
Total Semester Hours	36

Degree Program Requirements

Core Requirements (18 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
CMRJ501	Criminology ¹	3
CMRJ500	Criminal Justice Ethics	3
CMRJ512	Police Administration	3
LSTD502	Criminal Law	3
LSTD503	Criminal Justice Process	3
SSGS500	Research Design and Methods	3
Total Semester Hours		18

¹ Required as the first course in this program.

Students must choose a concentration for this degree program and may select from the General Concentration, Concentration in Business Administration, or Concentration in Emergency Management and Disaster Management.

General Concentration (15 semester hours)

This general concentration allows you to select from more than two dozen different concentration courses offered within this program, enabling you to create your own focused area of study.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 5 courses from the following:		15
ACCT620	Forensic Accounting	
BUSN602	Managerial Analysis	
BUSN603	Quantitative Analysis	
BUSN620	Strategic Management	
BUSN625	Applied Decision Making	
CMRJ504	Drugs, Justice, and Society	
CMRJ515	Sexual Exploitation/Children	
CMRJ518	Deviant Behavior	
CMRJ522	Forensics	
CMRJ523	Gangs and Gang Prevention	
CMRJ524	Organized Crime	
CMRJ525	Negotiations: Crisis and Hostage	
CMRJ526	Drug Cartels and the Narcotics Threat	
CMRJ527	Crime and Mental Disorders	

CMRJ531	Criminal Profiling
CMRJ535	Victimology
CMRJ591	Seminar on Juvenile Justice and Behavior
CMRJ601	Cases in Executive Decision Making
CMRJ620	Policing and Corrections in Homeland Security
EDMG501	Emergency Management and Public Law
EDMG502	Emergency and Disaster Theory
EDMG503	Emergency and Disaster Planning and Management
EDMG509	Interagency Disaster Management
EDMG541	Mass Casualty Incident Management
EDMG560	Crisis Action Planning
INTL623	Human Intelligence (HUMINT)
INTL631	Criminal Intelligence Analysis
INTL646	Transnational Crime and Narcotics
INTL650	Counterterrorism
LSTD510	Constitutional Law
MATH530	Applied Statistics
MGMT600	Organizational Management
MGMT605	Leadership
PADM530	Public Policy
PADM612	Public Finance
SCMT529	International Terrorism
SCMT537	Computer Crime
SSGS690	Independent Study
SSGS692	Special Topics
Total Semester Hours	
	15

Concentration in Business Administration (15 semester hours)

Layers on business skills required for effective leadership and management in criminal justice organizations. Covers concepts of accounting principles, financial tools, and economic analysis for effective managerial decision making, while exploring the role of decision-making models and tools for resolving business problems.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of accounting principles, financial tools and economic analysis in order to develop effective decision-making skills necessary for an effective manager.
- Compare and contrast the skills to effectively utilize decision-making models and tools in order to resolve complex business problems.

- Devise an understanding of the most successful methods of operating management, statistics, research, and management science.
- Synthesize the skills necessary to formulate effective leadership skills and competencies in criminal justice management.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
BUSN602	Managerial Analysis	3
BUSN603	Quantitative Analysis	3
BUSN620	Strategic Management	3
BUSN625	Applied Decision Making	3
MGMT605	Leadership	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Emergency Management and Disaster Management (15 semester hours)

Probes emergency management principles and theory, including hazard analysis, mitigation, planning, communication, response, recovery, terrorism, and the capabilities and limitations of the emergency management system. Covers effective interagency cooperation at the federal, state, and local levels.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of emergency management principles and theory.
- Synthesize the public law, regulation, and policies that either facilitate and/or restrict emergency management.
- Devise an understanding of hazard analysis, mitigation, planning, communication, response, recovery and terrorism.
- Summarize the knowledge needed to develop interagency cooperation, what the shortfalls are within interagency efforts and what the principles are for effective inter-organizational behavior and action.
- Compare and contrast the capabilities and limitations of the emergency management system.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
EDMG501	Emergency Management and Public Law	3
EDMG502	Emergency and Disaster Theory	3

EDMG503	Emergency and Disaster Planning and Management	3
EDMG509	Interagency Disaster Management	3
EDMG560	Crisis Action Planning	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Elective Requirements (0-3 semester hours)

Select from other graduate courses not taken to meet core or concentration requirements.

Final Program Requirements (0-3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 1 course from the following:		0-3
CMRJ696	Capstone – Theory to Practice ¹	
CMRJ698	Comprehensive Examination in Criminal Justice ¹	
CMRJ699	Master's Capstone Seminar in Criminal Justice ¹	
SSGS696	Master's Project Capstone Seminar ¹	
Total Semester Hours		0-3

¹ Taken once all other requirements have been met.