

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MS

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The Master of Science in Criminal Justice is designed to meet the graduate education needs of practitioners and students pursuing careers in criminal justice in both the public and private sectors. While the 30-credit curriculum requires degree candidates to take four core courses, the student selects the remainder, dependent upon selected concentration. This arrangement allows individuals to create unique plans of graduate study that are compatible with their interests and career objectives in the field of criminal justice. The program is flexible enough to allow students to concentrate on the theoretical, methodological, and practical knowledge needed to become practitioners in criminal justice, pursue a degree beyond the Master's, or enhance the management skills necessary to succeed as upper-level decision-makers.

Course offerings and schedules are conveniently arranged to accommodate the needs of both full-time and part-time students. Courses are offered online.

Learning Goals and Outcomes

Goal 1: Students can demonstrate comprehension of the theoretical foundations of the criminal justice system

Outcome 1.1: Students can apply theoretical concepts to social policy in criminal justice and related fields

Goal 2: Students can understand how to integrate ethical principles into the criminal justice system

Outcome 2.1: Students can explain and apply ethical principles to the workplace

Goal 3: Students will illustrate graduate-level written and oral communication

Outcome 3.1: Students can effectively communicate and apply criminal justice concepts and methodologies through written and oral communication

Goal 4: Students will employ empirical methods in conducting and analyzing criminal justice research

Outcome 4.1: Students can identify empirical-based criminal justice research and reports

Outcome 4.2: Students can evaluate and describe findings from empirical research and reports

Outcome 4.3: Students can apply research techniques to original research

Outcome 4.4: Students can effectively present empirical research findings

Goal 5: Students will analyze, critique, and propose criminal justice policies/programs

Outcome 5.1: Students can effectively describe and assess the effectiveness of criminal justice policies or programs

Outcome 5.2: Students can develop empirically-based policies or programs to address criminal justice-related issues

Requirements

Core Requirements

A total of 30 credits for all concentrations is the minimum requirement for the degree. The graduate director serves as the students' advisor in the program. All students must satisfactorily complete the following core courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses:		
CRJ 550	Research Methods and Analysis	3
or CRJ 575	Adv Resrch Methds & Analysis	
CRJ 560	Criminological Theory	3
CRJ 565	Ethics and Criminal Justice	3
CRJ 570	Prof Writ for Criminal Justice	3

The remaining coursework should be chosen to facilitate the student's individual professional growth and/or is dependent upon concentration.

General Concentration

This concentration provides students the opportunity to enhance their theoretical foundation of criminal justice; develop cognitive skills including application of ethics, written and oral communications, critical thinking, reasoning, understanding, and conducting research; and prepare for their professional future.

Code	Title	Hours
Electives		
Select six electives chosen from any available Criminal Justice Graduate courses.		18
Total Hours		18

Concentration in Homeland Security

This concentration offers students the opportunity to examine strategies, develop communication skills, execute plans, and learn about contemporary issues of terrorism which affect the public and private sectors as well as law enforcement in society today. The curriculum can assist students in building partnerships and strategies to disrupt or prevent homeland security incidents. Identifying emerging threats and critical infrastructure protection needs is vital to securing the Homeland today.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Concentration Courses - choose 4		
CRJ 640	Terrorism: Threats and Strateg	3
CRJ 641	Homeland Security	3
CRJ 645	Sociology of Disasters	3
CRJ 646	Risk Assessment	3
CRJ 660	Foundations of Cybersecurity	3
Electives		
Select two Criminal Justice courses.		6
Total Hours		21

Concentration in Intelligence and Crime Analysis

This concentration provides insights into the contemporary functions of law enforcement intelligence and crime analysis. The specialized courses develop the deliberative and cognitive activities and methodologies including crime mapping that produce intelligence information in support of decision-making at the strategic, tactical, and operational levels of law enforcement. Students will be prepared for the growing number of intelligence and criminal analyst positions at the federal, state, and local levels.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Concentration Courses		
CRJ 642	Law Enforc Intel Analysis	3
CRJ 643	L.E. Intelligence:Policy & Pro	3
Specialized Area Courses		
Select two courses from the following:		6
CRJ 635	White Collar Crime	3
CRJ 640	Terrorism: Threats and Strateg	3
CRJ 641	Homeland Security	3
CRJ 660	Foundations of Cybersecurity	3
Electives		
Select two Criminal Justice courses.		6
Total Hours		30

Concentration in Forensic Behavioral Health

This is an excellent concentration for students and clinicians who want to learn about evidence-based and promising practices in the treatment of children, adolescents, and adults who become involved in the criminal justice system. This program focuses on the prevention, intervention, and treatment of offenders with behavioral health issues and the interface of the socio-legal and political climate that impacts these individuals. Social justice, rehabilitation, and the use of treatment modalities and interventions in correctional settings and in the community found to reduce recidivism, restore wellness and provide a holistic approach to restorative justice, will be explored in this program. Those admitted into the concentration prior to the Fall 2021 semester will continue to have their concentration called Behavior Management and Justice. Students admitted for the Fall 2021 semester will have the concentration named Forensic Behavioral Health. Currently, only the name of the concentration has changed.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Concentration Courses		
Select four from the following:		12
CRJ 615	Youth Cultures and Deviance	3
CRJ 616	Juvenile Justice & Delinquency	3
CRJ 617	Mental Health & The Law	3
CRJ 618	Therapeutic Strat Crim Justice	3
CRJ 619	Fnds of Addiction:CRJ Profess	3
CRJ 620	Evid Bas Prac Subt Ab/Beh Hlth	3
CRJ 660	Foundations of Cybersecurity	3
Electives		

Select two Criminal Justice courses.	6
Total Hours	39

Concentration in Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DIB)

The Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DIB) Concentration focuses on cultivating an inclusive workplace culture where people feel valued and know that they belong. Having inclusive workplace cultures that embrace diversity and create a sense of belonging can also contribute to the development of inclusive policies and procedures for how to engage with those who criminal justice officials and related agencies serve. Doing so can improve citizens' perceptions of officials' legitimacy and relations between them. Students will learn to apply scholarly theories and practical tools to help foster and promote inclusion and belonging on teams and in organizational systems and align personal values and career aspirations. This concentration is particularly apt for, but not limited to, those in managerial positions in law enforcement who wish to become fluent in the languages of social identity, the impact of social context and group dynamics, and psychological and neuropsychological constructs that result in implicit bias, discrimination, marginalization, and scapegoating. Students will build on their ability to be ethical leaders and to collaborate in increasingly diverse work settings.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Concentration Courses - choose 4		
MGT 555	Equity in Organizations	3
MGT 585	Support Neurodiv Workplace	3
MGT 610	Social Identity Theories	3
MGT 648	Conflict & Negotiation	3
MGT 655	Org Culture Beyond Diversity	3
MGT 675	Implementing Change	3
MGT 690	Creative Problem Solving	3
MGT 760	Inclusive Convers: DEI	3
Electives		
Select two Criminal Justice courses.		6
Total Hours		30

Concentration in Federal Law Enforcement

This concentration provides students with an in-depth look at the three components of the federal criminal justice system – law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. The specialized courses develop the critical thinking and analytical reasoning necessary for a career in federal law enforcement. Students will examine seminal cases in federal criminal law and what effect they have had on federal law enforcement. Students who complete this program will be better prepared for a variety of jobs throughout the federal criminal justice system including positions as a criminal analyst, law enforcement officer, prosecution assistant, and probation officer.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Concentration Courses		
CRJ 634	Fed Criminal Law & Prosecution	3
CRJ 636	Federal Search and Seizure	3
Choose two Specialization Courses		
CRJ 635	White Collar Crime	3

CRJ 600	Drugs and Society	3
CRJ 640	Terrorism: Threats and Strateg	3
CRJ 641	Homeland Security	3
CRJ 649	Interrogation	3
CRJ 660	Foundations of Cybersecurity	3
Electives		
Select two Criminal Justice courses.		6
Total Hours		36

4+1 Program

Saint Joseph University's combined Bachelors (BS or BA)/MS program in Criminal Justice offers students the opportunity to obtain their Bachelor's and Master's degrees in five years, which provides a competitive edge to students entering the job market. The program allows students the opportunity to engage with critical issues regarding theory and policy in criminal justice through courses taught by professionals who are highly respected in their fields and networking opportunities with current students and alumni. This program also provides opportunities for internships and a Master's Thesis. Students may choose from any concentration or no concentration (general concentration). However, they are required to start with core courses in their fourth year (senior year). They will take one course in the fall semester (three credits) and one course in the spring semester (three credits).

Students who apply for the 4+1 program will be evaluated for acceptance into the program following the completion of the first semester of the junior year. These undergraduate applicants will be asked to submit a current undergraduate transcript, two letters of recommendation from a supervisor or professor, and an essay describing their interests and goals for pursuing graduate education in criminal justice. The essay also serves as a writing sample. The minimum GPA requirement is 3.00.

Code	Title	Hours
Select one core course from the list for the 1st semester of Senior Year and one for the 2nd semester of Senior Year.		6
CRJ 550	Research Methods and Analysis	3
or CRJ 575	Adv Resrch Methds & Analysis	
CRJ 560	Criminological Theory	3
CRJ 565	Ethics and Criminal Justice	3
CRJ 570	Prof Writ for Criminal Justice	3
Summer Post-Undergraduate Graduation:		
Two CRJ Courses		6
Fall Semester of +1 Year		
Three CRJ Courses *No more than two in one 8-week module of the semester		9
Spring Semester of the +1 Year		
Three CRJ Courses *No more than two in one 8-week module of the semester		9
Total Hours		42