

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, M.A.

The Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice program is a professional degree designed to provide criminal justice professionals with coursework in criminal justice system operation, criminology, research methods, and statistics. The degree program provides students with advanced instruction that prepares them to use evidence-based practices in the criminal justice system. Beyond career advancement for practitioners, the Master's degree also provides rigorous social science training that prepares students for continued doctoral study.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to correctly frame research questions and/or hypotheses.
2. Students will be able to synthesize and critically evaluate existing research studies in a given area, including the identification of any gaps in the literature.
3. Students will be able to select the appropriate research design for their proposed research study.
4. Students will be able to specify the appropriate analytic strategy for their proposed research study.
5. Students will be able to identify and define major criminological theories from the field.
6. Students will be able to synthesize and critically evaluate research studies from a particular theoretical perspective, including the identification of any gaps in the literature.
7. Students will be able to identify the major constitutional limitations governing the conduct of criminal justice actors in the United States.
8. Students will be able to identify principles of distributive and corrective justice and their application to criminal justice settings.
9. Students will be able to identify and discuss important policy changes in America's response to crime.
10. Students will be able to synthesize and critically evaluate research studies from a particular criminal justice policy area, including the identification of any gaps in the literature.