

Criminal Justice

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Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Admissions Requirements

1. Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
2. GPA of 3.2 or higher in upper division coursework.
3. Grade of "B" or better in both an undergraduate research methods and a statistics course.
4. Letter of application describing your reasons for pursuing an advanced degree and career plans.
5. Example of your written work.
6. Two letters of recommendation from professors or employers familiar with your academic and professional qualifications.

Students seeking funding and those not meeting the minimum admission requirements should submit Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores taken within the last five years. Students admitted conditionally must complete 12 graduate credits (including CCJ 6705 and CCJ 6706) within two semesters and achieve a 3.2 GPA.

Degree Credit Requirements

The Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice requires 36 credit hours (12 courses). All students entering the program are required to complete five courses (15 credits) of core requirements, four electives (12 credits) in criminal justice, and three courses (9 credits) in general electives.

Core Requirements

All candidates must take five core courses (15 credits)

CCJ 6025	Criminological Theory	3
CCJ 6676	Transnational Crime and National Security	3
CCJ 6705	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6706	Data Analysis in Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6485	Criminal Justice Policy Analysis	3

Criminal Justice Electives

Four courses (12 credits). All elective credits must be earned at the graduate level in criminal justice (i.e., course numbers of 5000 and higher with the prefixes CCJ, CJC, CJE, CJJ, CJL, DSC).

College teaching preparation: Students interested in college teaching should complete the Graduate Teaching Certificate Program offered by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and CCJ 6926 Supervised Teaching.

Doctoral studies preparation: Advanced students intending to enroll in a doctoral degree program should complete the college teaching preparation and CCJ 6915 Supervised Research.

General Electives

Students must select three additional elective courses (9 credits). These courses may be taken outside of criminal justice, if no credits have been transferred in from another degree program or included in a joint degree program. All courses taken from outside fields must be relevant to criminal justice and approved by the Graduate Advisor. All elective credits must be earned at the graduate level (i.e., course numbers of 5000 and higher).

Graduation Requirements

To receive the Master's degree in Criminal Justice, a student must satisfy all University regulations governing graduate study. All students must complete the five core courses, four electives in criminal justice, and three courses in general electives. A minimum graduate GPA of 3.0 is required.

Combined BS/MS in Criminal Justice

The combined BS/MS degree program allows qualified students to earn both degrees in a shorter amount of time than typically required for earning degrees sequentially. To be considered for admission to the combined bachelor's/master's degree program, students must have completed at least 75-90 credits in the bachelor's degree program and meet the admissions criteria for the graduate degree program. Students need only apply once to the combined degree program, but the application must be submitted to Graduate Admissions before the student starts the last 30 credits of the bachelor's degree program. A student admitted to the combined degree program will be considered to have undergraduate status until the student applies for graduation from their bachelor's degree program. Upon conferral of the bachelor's degree, the student will be granted graduate status and be eligible for graduate assistantships. Only 5000-level or higher courses, and no more than 12 credits may be applied toward both degrees.

Admission Requirements

1. Current enrollment in the Bachelor of Science program in criminal justice at FIU.
2. Current GPA of 3.2 or higher.
3. Grade of "B" or better in both an undergraduate research methods and a statistics course.
4. Letter of application describing your reasons for pursuing an advanced degree and career plans.
5. Example of your written work.
6. Current resume.

Completion Requirements

Completed Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice at FIU including up to 12 credits (4 courses) of graduate criminal justice courses completed with a "B" or higher grade.

Juris Doctor/Master of Science in Criminal Justice Joint Degree Program

The faculties of the College of Law and the Department of Criminal Justice at Florida International University have approved a joint degree program culminating in both a Juris Doctor degree (JD), awarded by the College of Law, and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice degree (MSCJ), awarded by the Department of Criminal Justice. Under the joint degree program, a student can obtain the degrees in significantly less time than it would take to obtain both degrees if pursued consecutively. Essential criteria relating to the joint degree program are as follows:

1. Candidates for the program must meet the entrance requirements for and be accepted by both programs. Both programs must be informed by the student at the time of application to the second program that the student intends to pursue the joint degree.
2. The joint degree program is not open to students who have already earned a JD or a MSCJ.
3. For law students, enrollment in the MSCJ program is required no later than the completion of 63 credit hours in the JD program. For MSCJ students, enrollment in the JD program is required no later than the completion of 24 credit hours in the MSCJ program.
4. A student must satisfy the curriculum requirements for each degree before either degree is awarded. The Department of Criminal Justice will allow 12 credit hours of College of Law criminal law and jurisprudence courses to be credited toward both the MSCJ and JD degrees. These 12 credit hours of law classes will be in lieu of four elective courses. Reciprocally, law students may receive 9 hours of credit toward the satisfaction of the JD degree for courses taken in the MSCJ curriculum upon completion of the MSCJ degree with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Subject to prior approval, law school students are normally allowed 6 credit hours from graduate level courses offered by other units of the University as counting toward the JD degree.
5. A full-time law student enrolled in the joint degree program may spend the first year in either the College of Law or the Department of Criminal Justice. A part-time law student enrolled in the joint degree program may begin the student's studies in either program, but must take the first three semesters of law study consecutively. Students admitted to one program may enter the second program thereafter without once again qualifying for admission so long as they have notified the second program before the end of the first week of the first semester in the second program and are in good academic standing when studies commence in the second program.
6. A student enrolled in the joint degree program will not receive either degree until the student has satisfied all of the requirements for both degrees, or until the student has satisfied the requirements of one of the degrees as if the student had not been a joint degree candidate.
7. Students in the joint degree program will be eligible for the graduate teaching assistantships and research assistantships in the Department of Criminal Justice on the same basis as other MSCJ students, subject to

the guidelines and restrictions set by the Department of Criminal Justice.

Master of Science in Criminal Justice/Master of Public Administration Joint Degree Program

The Department of Criminal Justice and the Department of Public Administration have a joint degree program culminating in both a Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ) and a Master of Public Administration (MPA). The joint degree program prepares graduate students for overlapping careers in criminal justice and public management. It is intended to prepare students for positions in public, private, and nonprofit organizations that require both criminal justice and management knowledge. Under the joint degree program, a student can obtain both degrees in significantly less time than it would take to obtain both degrees if pursued consecutively. Important criteria relating to the joint degree program are as follows:

1. Candidates to the joint degree program must meet the entrance requirements established by each individual program. Candidates must indicate in the application their intention to pursue the joint degree option. Students deciding to pursue the joint degree option after having been admitted to one program will indicate this intention only on their second application.
2. Applicants for a joint degree will not be accepted from candidates who have already completed either degree. MSCJ or MPA students must apply and be admitted by no later than the second to last semester in which they are expected to complete their original degree requirements.
3. Joint degree candidates will not receive either degree until all requirements for both programs have been satisfied. Students deciding against completing a second degree must satisfy all first degree program requirements as if the student had never been a joint degree candidate.
4. The joint degree requires a total of 60 credit hours (20 courses). Candidates are required to complete the 11 core courses (33 credits) included in the MSCJ and MPA programs (completing the graduate level statistics and research method classes as part of the MPA Core or the CJ Core), four criminal justice electives (12 credits), two public administration electives (6 credits) and three general electives (9 credits) which could be MSCJ, MPA, or other graduate level courses approved by the Graduate Advisor.

Core Courses

PAD 6053	Political, Social and Economic Context of Public Administration	3
PAD 6306	Policy Analysis and Program Planning	3
PAD 6417	Human Resource Policy and Management	3
PAD 6227	Public Finance and the Budgetary Process	3
PAD 6434	Leadership and Decision-making	3
PAD 6056	The Practice of Public Management	3
CCJ 6025	Criminological Theory	3
CCJ 6676	Transnational Crime and National Security	3

CCJ 6485	Criminal Justice Policy Analysis	3
CCJ 6705	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
or		
PAD 6726	Applied Research Methods for Accountability in Public and Nonprofit Organizations	3
CCJ 6706	Data Analysis in Criminal Justice	3
PAD 6701	Quantitative Methods in Public Administration	3

Electives

Four criminal justice electives*	12
Two public administration electives	6
Three general electives (which could be MSCJ, MPA, or other graduate level courses approved by the student advisor)	9

*Advanced students intending to enroll in a doctoral degree program are strongly encouraged to complete CCJ 6915 Supervised Research. General electives taken from outside fields must be relevant to criminal justice or public administration and approved by the Graduate Advisor.

Doctor of Philosophy in International Crime and Justice

The Ph.D. in International Crime and Justice at FIU prepares graduates to assume leadership roles in public criminal justice agencies, academia and private sector criminal justice companies in the United States and around the world. Its curriculum is sensitive to the importance of analytical skills, balanced with theoretically informed policy analysis, so that graduates of the program can more effectively address the challenges faced by criminal justice organizations in Florida, nationally, and internationally. Students of the program gain the knowledge to apply advanced research methodologies to undertake studies related to crime, law, public policy, and to the administration of the criminal justice system at home and abroad.

Admission Standards

To be considered for admission to the doctoral program, applicants must fulfill these minimum requirements:

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
2. A GPA of 3.2 or higher in upper division coursework or a 3.2 or higher for all master's degree coursework.
3. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores taken within the last five years.
4. Two letters of recommendation from professors or employers familiar with your academic and professional qualifications.
5. A 300- to 500-word statement that describes the student's interests in pursuing an advanced degree in international crime and justice, including any specific research interests, as well as your ultimate career goals.
6. Completed research paper or thesis that demonstrates writing skills.
7. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Minimum required scores is 550 on the paper-based TOEFL, 80 on the internet-based TOEFL (iBT) or 6.5 overall on the IELTS.

Graduation Requirements

A grade of "B" or higher must be actualized in all courses with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the 81 credits. All the program requirements and a dissertation must be completed and approved by the university.

Residency Requirements: Ph.D. students must also establish residency as defined as the completion of a minimum of 18 graduate credit hours within any consecutive 12-month period.

The Ph.D. in International Crime and Justice requires a minimum of 81 credit hours of graduate course work beyond the bachelor's degree, including a comprehensive exam and dissertation based on the student's original research. A maximum of 36 credits are transferable from a completed master's degree program with the approval of the graduate program director.

Required Courses (36)

CCJ 6025	Criminological Theory	3
CCJ 6705	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6706	Data Analysis in Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6741	Advanced Data Analysis in Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6079	Geospatial Crime Analysis	3
CCJ 6485	Criminal Justice Policy Analysis	3
CCJ 6040	Comparative Crime and Criminal Justice Systems	3
CCJ 6047	International Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6675	Human Rights and Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6676	Transnational Crime and National Security	3
DSC 6020	Terrorism and Homeland Security	3

College teaching preparation: Students must complete CCJ 6926 Supervised Teaching (3) and the Graduate Teaching Certificate Program offered by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

International Crime and Justice Electives (9)

Students must take a minimum of nine credits from courses relevant to international crime justice with the approval of the graduate program director.

CCJ 6620	Immigration and Crime	3
CCJ 6696	Human Trafficking	3
CCJ 6935	Special Topics: Relevant to International Criminal Justice	3
INR 6089	International Relations and Human Rights	3
LAW 6103	International Criminal Law	3
LAW 6253	Comparative Criminal Law	3
LAW 6260	Public International Law	3
LAW 6263	International Human Rights Law	3
LAW 6280	European Union Law	3
LAW 6506	Foreign Relations and National Security Law	3
LAW 6936	Seminars: Relevant to International Crime and Justice	3
PAD 6836	International Public Administration	3

Other course approved by graduate program director.

General Electives (6)

Students may take up to six credits of general electives outside the department with the approval of the graduate program director.

Comprehensive Exam and Dissertation (30)

CCJ 7960	Comprehensive Exam	3
CCJ 7926	Dissertation Prospectus	3
CCJ 7980	Ph.D. Dissertation	24

Course Descriptions**Definition of Prefixes**

CCJ-Criminology and Criminal Justice; CJC-Corrections; CJE-Law Enforcement; CJJ-Juveniles; CJL-Law and Process; DSC-Domestic Security

CCJ 5479 Seminar in Administration of Justice (3).

This course provides students with a critical understanding of the responses to crime. Emphasis is placed on theory and research relating to the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

CCJ 5525 Seminar in Juvenile Delinquency (3). This course focuses on the nature, scope, and causes of delinquency and considers problems of assessment and measurement of delinquency.

CCJ 5669 Minorities in Justice Administration (3). This course focuses on current research and theories of racial, ethnic, and gender discrimination within America's criminal justice system.

CCJ 5946 Internship in Criminal Justice (3-6). This course will provide the opportunity for the graduate student to observe the criminal justice system in operation. Corequisite: Student must be a criminal justice graduate student with an overall minimum GPA of 3.0.

CCJ 6025 Criminological Theory (3). The study of theoretical and research issues related to the nature and causes of crime and the administration of justice.

CCJ 6040 Comparative Crime and Criminal Justice Systems (3). This course provides a cross-national survey of crime and criminal justice. Emphasis will be on crime rates, forms of criminality, police, courts, and corrections.

CCJ 6047 International Criminal Justice (3). A study of international crimes, international criminal tribunals, and the prosecution and punishment of persons alleged to have committed international crimes.

CCJ 6056 History of the American Criminal Justice System (3). Focuses on the history and evolution of the American criminal justice system.

CCJ 6079 Geospatial Crime Analysis (3). Exploration and examination of patterns of crime through a geographical lens using the Geographic Information System (GIS) software.

CCJ 6362 Death Penalty (3). This course examines legal, empirical, and policy issues related to the death penalty in the United States.

CCJ 6485 Criminal Justice Policy Analysis (3). An overview of the formation, implementation, quantitative and qualitative evaluation, and ethical aspects of policy making in the criminal justice system. Prerequisite: Must be taken the final semester in the program.

CCJ 6489 Ethics in Criminal Justice (3). This course is designed to introduce students to ethical decision-making in the criminal justice system.

CCJ 6620 Immigration and Crime (3). This course explores the relationship between immigration and crime and the nature and extent of crime in immigrant communities.

CCJ 6665 Victimology and the Criminal Justice System (3). An examination of the relationship between victims and offenders and the manner in which the criminal justice system responds to victims of crime.

CCJ 6675 Human Rights and Criminal Justice (3). Provides an in-depth understanding of human rights and how groups and individuals can seek justice when mass human rights violations are committed, and the basic fundamental rights of the accused during the criminal justice process.

CCJ 6676 Transnational Crime and National Security (3). Examination of the nature of transnational crime and the manner in which it relates to national security.

CCJ 6696 Human Trafficking (3). An investigation of the origins and current trends in the trafficking of humans for profit.

CCJ 6705 Research Methods in Criminal Justice (3). An intensive introduction to the methods used in criminal justice research.

CCJ 6706 Data Analysis in Criminal Justice (3). An applied introduction to multivariate statistical analysis in criminal justice research.

CCJ 6741 Advanced Data Analysis in Criminal Justice (3). An applied introduction to longitudinal analysis in criminal justice research. Prerequisite: CCJ 6706.

CCJ 6915 Supervised Research (3). Graduate students engage in criminal justice research under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for a total of six credits. Prerequisites: CCJ 6705, CCJ 6706.

CCJ 6926 Supervised Teaching (3). Graduate students engage in undergraduate teaching in criminal justice under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite: 18 graduate credit hours in criminal justice.

CCJ 6935 Special Topics (3). An intensive analysis of a particular topic in criminal justice. May be repeated for different topics.

CCJ 7926 Dissertation Prospectus (3). Doctoral students develop a research proposal under the direction of their major professor (pass/fail grading).

CCJ 7960 Comprehensive Exam (3). Provides students with the opportunity to practice and be assessed on important skills: development of research knowledge base, exercise of critical synthesis and writing skills, execution of an independent research project, and presentation and defense of individual work (pass/fail grading). Prerequisite: Completion of all coursework.

CCJ 7980 Ph.D. Dissertation (3-12). Supervised research on an original research project submitted in partial fulfillment of doctoral degree requirements (pass/fail grading). Prerequisites: Permission of major professor and doctoral candidacy.

CJC 6320 Correctional Administration (3). The course focuses on current critical issues and problems in the administration and management of adjudicated offenders in correctional systems.

CJE 5024 Violent Crime & Criminal Behavior (3). This course deals with violent criminal behavior and the criminal justice system's reaction to violence.

CJE 6025 Police Administration (3). Analysis of the organization and administration of police departments and their effects on police behavior.

CJE 6446 Seminar on Crime Prevention (3). An in depth study of current approaches and practices in crime prevention, historical trends, and the future of crime prevention policy and practice.

CJJ 6040 Juvenile Justice Administration and Policy Analysis (3). This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the juvenile justice system administration and the various cases and legislative initiatives that have affected juvenile justice.

CJL 6418 Law and Social Control (3). This course examines law as an instrument of social control. It explores the effectiveness of law in controlling criminal behavior and its impact on the criminal justice system.

CJL 6421 Legal Issues in Criminal Justice Administration (3). This course examines diverse and frequently debated legal topics from both legal and sociological perspectives.

CJL 6422 Advanced Seminar in Criminal Law and Procedure (3). This course presents an intensive study of case law and procedure as they relate to the administration of criminal justice.

CJL 6558 Legal Issues in Juvenile Justice (3). This course covers landmark cases that define the legal rights of youth within the juvenile justice process and then focuses on the legal rights of youth at school.

DSC 6020 Terrorism and Homeland Security (3). This course focuses on the domestic and international threats of terrorism and the basic security issues that surround terrorism today.