



Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

The Master of Arts degree in criminal justice (MACJ) at Wichita State University is housed in WSU's School of Community Affairs. It is one of the nation's oldest criminal justice graduate degree programs. Intended to advance learning beyond the more general undergraduate educational curriculum, the MACJ expands the knowledge base of both graduating seniors and the administrative capacity of working professionals to optimally perform in their chosen careers in criminal justice.

This program is offered both on-ground and online.

Admission Requirements

Applications are accepted for fall and spring admission. In addition to the Graduate School requirements, applicants must submit:

- (1) three letters of reference from people acquainted with the applicant's background and potential;
- (2) a brief autobiographical statement describing particular interests, experiences, and goals related to academic and professional work in criminal justice.

- Applicants are evaluated with respect to
- (1) undergraduate grade point average (a minimum GPA of 3.000 based on the last 60 hours required for consideration of admission to degree status);
 - (2) amount, type, and scope of undergraduate preparation; and
 - (3) reference letters.

Final recommendation on a candidate's admission to the program is made to the Graduate School by the graduate coordinator of the criminal justice program.

Degree Requirements

Students may follow either a thesis or non-thesis option. Both program options require a minimum of 36 hours, including 24 hours taken in courses numbered 700 or above.

Core Curriculum. All degree candidates are required to complete CJ 802, 893, 894, and 897 with a grade of B or better in each course. It is recommended that all core courses be completed in the first two semesters of study. Students selecting the thesis option may count up to 6 hours of thesis credit toward the required 36-hour total.

Examinations

Students selecting the thesis option must pass an oral defense of the thesis.

Core Courses (12hrs)

CJ 802, Quantitative Methods for Public Sector Professionals	3
CJ 893, Seminar on the Application of Criminological Theory	3
CJ 894, Proseminar in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 897, Advanced Research Methods	3

Nonthesis/Thesis Option (24 hrs)

Select one of the following options:

Nonthesis Option:

Select 24 credit hours of electives, including 12 credit hours taken in courses numbered 700 or above

Thesis Option:

Select 18 credit hours of electives, including 6 credit hours taken in courses numbered 700 or above and 6 credit hours of Thesis. CJ 874 Qualitative Methods (recommended) CJ 900 Thesis

Electives

CJ 501, Integrity in Public Service	3
CJ 513, Violent Crime	3
CJ 515, Sex Crimes	3
CJ 516, Profiling	3
CJ 517, Homicide Investigation	3
CJ 518, Criminal Justice & Crime in Film	3
CJ 551, Workshop in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 610, Correctional Counseling	3
CJ 641, Forensic Psychiatry	3
CJ 643, Forensic Science	3
CJ 651, Dispute Resolution	3
CJ 652, Juvenile Justice and Social Policy	3
CJ 692, Community Policing	3
CJ 781, Cooperative Education	3
CJ 783, Advanced Special Topics in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 796, Criminal Typologies	3
CJ 797, Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation	3
CJ 820, Terrorism and Modern Societies	3
CJ 850, Workshop	3
CJ 853, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design	3
CJ 861, Police Administration	3
CJ 873, Advanced Criminal Law	3
CJ 874, Seminar in Qualitative Methods	3
CJ 882, Individual Directed Study in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 891, Seminar in Judicial Process	3
CJ 895, Seminar in Policing	3
CJ 896, Seminar in Corrections	3

Financial Opportunities

The program awards approximately five graduate assistantships per year. Students awarded graduate teaching assistantships lecture, coordinate instructional activities and grade assignments. The appointments range from ten to twenty hours per week. Students awarded graduate research assistantships conduct research activities for professors.

Assistantships provide a stipend and, for non-Kansas residents, a waiver of non-resident tuition rates. Students awarded a graduate assistantship may also qualify for up to 100 percent waiver of their tuition.

Faculty

Andra Bannister, PhD, Michigan State University, 1995. Technology and crime, computer fraud, community policing

Michael Birzer, EdD, Oklahoma State University, 2000. Police behavior, policy, research methods, discrimination and racial disparities

Michael Palmiotto, PhD, University of Pittsburg, 1980. Investigation, detection, community policing, policy

Martha Smith, PhD Rutgers University, 1996. Crime and transportation, vandalism and decision making

Yumi Suzuki, PhD, University at Albany, SUNY, 2011. Crime victims, rape/sexual assault, mental illness and crime, and comparative criminology

Szde Yu, PhD, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2010. Cybercrime, computer forensics, criminal mind modeling, cyber-psychology

For More Information

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