

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.

Intended to advance learning beyond the more general undergraduate educational curriculum, the MACJ expands the knowledge base of both graduating students and the administrative capacity of working professionals to optimally perform in their chosen careers in criminal justice. One of the nation's oldest criminal justice graduate degree programs, it prepares in-service students for advancement in their career fields; pre-service students for entry-level federal, state and local positions in law enforcement, courts, corrections and juvenile justice; and for further education in law-related and crime-related fields.

Admission Requirements

Applications are accepted for fall and spring admissions. 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. All core courses should 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 (12/18 hours)

CJ 802, Quantitative Methods	3
CJ 893, Seminar in Applied Criminal Theory	3
CJ 894, Proseminar in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 897, Advanced Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
<i>(if choosing the thesis option:)</i>	
CJ 899, Thesis	6

Electives (18/24 hours)

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 541, Medical and Legal Aspects of Death Investigations	3
CJ 551, Workshop in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 593, Crime Causation and Criminal Justice Policy	3
CJ 600, Forensic Anthropology	3
CJ 610, Correctional Counseling	3
CJ 641, Forensic Psychiatry	3
CJ 643, Forensic Science	3
CJ 651, Dispute Resolution	3
(continued)	

Electives (cont.)

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, Public Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation	3
CJ 816, Correctional Administration	3
CJ 817, Crime in Popular Culture	3
CJ 820, Terrorism and Modern Society	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
CJ 898, Applied Research Paper	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

Ryan Alexander, MA, Washburn University, 2003. Criminological theory, corrections, sex offenders

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

Jodie Beeson, PhD, Wichita State University, 2009. Research methods, statistics

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

Delores Craig-Moreland, PhD, University of Washington, 1988. Criminal justice policy, juvenile justice, forensic psychology

Ronald Iacovetta, PhD, University of Connecticut, 1972. Corrections, gambling

Alison McKenny-Brown, JD, University of Kansas, 1993. Criminal law, criminal evidence, judicial process

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

For More Information

Graduate Coordinator
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<http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=apply&p=/OnlineApplicationGateway>