

Master of Criminal Justice

Curriculum

Coursework Option – 36 Total Credits

Core: 15 Credits

Analysis: Methods & Policy Sequence (6 credits) *Take one of the following:*

CJ 501 – Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3 credits	or
CJ 502 – Criminal Justice Statistics,	3 credits	or
CJ 503 – Seminar in Criminal Justice Research Methods,	3 credits	

Take one of the following:

CJ 510 – Advanced CJ Administrative Systems,	3 credits	or
CJ 541 – Seminar in CJ Policy Analysis and Planning,	3 credits	or
CJ 542 – Seminar in Applied Criminal Justice Analysis,	3 credits	

Theory: Criminology, Diversity & Ethics (9 credits) *Take the following course:*

CJ 511 – Nature of Crime	3 credits
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Take one of the following:

CJ 514 – Race, Crime and Justice	3 credits	or
CJ 521 – Law & Social Control	3 credits	

Complete the following course:

CJ 525 – Issues in Ethics, Law and CJ	3 credits
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CJ Electives: 12 Credits

Directed Readings (CJ 591), Internship (CJ 593), or Independent Research (CJ 592) may be used as CJ electives.

General Electives: 9 Credits

These may be Criminal Justice courses or from the graduate curriculum of any other department.

Directed Readings (CJ 591), Internship (CJ 593), or Independent Research (CJ 592) may be used as General electives.

**A minor is optional and is earned by completing nine credit hours in any one department outside of Criminal Justice that offers a minor at the graduate level. Information about the availability and*

requirements of a specific minor can be obtained by inquiring with the academic department where you are interested in pursuing a minor.

Comprehensive Examination

Students choosing the **Coursework** option are required to pass a formal written comprehensive examination. Only those students who have completed all five of the required core courses are eligible to take the comprehensive examination (a.k.a. “Comps”).

The comprehensive examination is given electronically once each semester. It is typically scheduled during October (Fall) and March (Spring).

The examination has two components reflecting the primary areas of the core curriculum; **Research Methods** and **Theory**. Each student must write a passing answer to the provided test question to pass the exam.

Each semester the date and time of the comprehensive examination is sent to the graduate student listserv, posted on the Graduate Program Canvas page, and announced in graduate classes. All students taking the examination at a scheduled date will answer the same component questions. Student answers to the questions are blind-graded by three professors assigned to each exam component. Exams are graded as either pass or not pass by 2/3 majority “vote”.

The Comprehensive Exam Canvas page contains study materials with general guidelines, grading rubrics, etc. Notify the graduate student coordinator of your intention to take the exam when the call goes out over the listserv to be added to the Canvas page. See the grad student handbook for more details.

A student receiving a grade of **not pass** on any component of the examination is required to retake it the next semester it is offered. A student receiving a grade of **not pass** two times on the same component will not receive the MCJ Degree.

As a point of reference, a **passing** grade requires the normal equivalent of a “**B**” or better effort. An effort of “**C**” or lower is considered **not passing**.