

THE MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEGREE PROGRAM

The Master of Criminal Justice degree program at the University of Mississippi is designed to provide people with skills and knowledge to either start a criminal justice career or enhance a current criminal justice career.

The field of criminal justice is continually changing and becoming more complex, and these changes are creating a greater demand for educated professionals who understand complex issues and problems and who can adapt to an ever-changing world.

The Master of Criminal Justice (MCJ) program is based on the principle that students need skills and experiences in the areas of critical thinking, scholarly research, analysis, communication, and ethical thinking. It is a challenging and rewarding program that can lead to a wide range of employment opportunities with local, county, state, and federal criminal justice and related agencies, as well as within the private sector. It also provides an excellent way for current criminal justice professionals to obtain the knowledge, skills, and experiences to assist in promotional opportunities. Additionally, the program provides individuals with a rigorous education to pursue a doctoral degree. Simply, the MCJ degree allows individuals to gain a deeper and greater understanding of the criminal justice discipline.



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EARN YOUR
Ole Miss
MASTER'S DEGREE IN
CRIMINAL JUSTICE



COURSEWORK

The MCJ is a 36 graduate-hour program. All students complete twelve credit hours of core (required) classes:

- CJ 600 (*Criminal Justice Administration*)
- CJ 635 (*Criminal Justice Research Methods*)
- CJ 645 (*Criminal and Intelligence Analysis*)
*CJ 645 will be replaced with CJ 625 (*Criminal Justice Theory*) in 2018
- CJ 655 (*Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis*)

Students select three courses (9 credit hours) from either the criminal justice emphasis or the homeland security emphasis.

Finally, students select one of three capstone options:

1. Thesis (6 credit hours);
2. Practicum (6 credit hours); or
3. Non-thesis two additional courses (6 credit hours) and passing of a written comprehensive examination.

This program is designed to accommodate both the working professional and the traditional student. Full-time students may complete the program in less than two years. Part-time students may complete the program in two to three years.



FACULTY

The criminal justice graduate faculty have both scholarly and practical experience in the field of criminal justice. The faculty are focused on helping students learn and master new skills.

APPLICATION

The MCJ program welcomes applications from all persons who can demonstrate the potential for success in graduate studies. For more on admission criteria and how to apply, please see catalog.olemiss.edu/graduate-school/admission.

Individuals who satisfy all the admissions criteria may be fully admitted for either the fall or spring semester. An applicant who does not satisfy all the criteria but who shows promise may be granted conditional or qualified admission. Non-degree seeking status is also available to individuals who are interested in coursework but not in earning the degree.

Applicants must submit a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score as part of their application packet.

PROFESSIONAL TRACK

Applicants who have served a minimum of four years in the following fields may qualify for the “professional track” and will not be required to submit GRE scores for admittance:

- Criminal Justice
- Homeland Security
- Public Safety
- U.S. Military

In lieu of the GRE, the applicant must submit a portfolio that contains a letter from the applicant’s supervisor, agency head or equivalent, acknowledging that the candidate is employed in good standing. It is requested that the applicant’s supervisor comment on the applicant’s aptitude/ability to successfully complete the Graduate Program. The supervisor must indicate whether the applicant possesses the potential for professional development/promotion within the agency.

Those seeking a waiver of the GRE must also provide a writing sample explaining why his or her professional experience will help enhance success in Graduate School and a vitae/ resume, along with any/all documentation of professional achievement to include:

- a. professional development training
- b. in-service training
- c. supervisory training
- d. awards/citations

CONTACT

If you have questions, please contact Linda Keena at 662-915-1998 or ldkeena@olemiss.edu