CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY (MA)

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice and Criminology provides students with a cutting edge education that will prepare them to assume leadership roles in criminal justice and related agencies as well as to pursue more advanced educational opportunities.

Curriculum

The Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice requires 30 credit hours of coursework, consisting of four required courses, five elective courses, and a culminating experience. In order to demonstrate cumulative proficiency, students are required to either pass Applied Research in Criminal Justice & Criminology or complete a thesis. By default, all students are placed in the non-thesis option unless they select and are approved for the thesis option. Students who began the program prior to Fall 2022 have the option of taking the Comprehensive Exam, and may speak with the Graduate Program Director for more information.

Coursework Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CJC 401</td>
<td>Politics and Policies in the Criminal Justice System</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJC 402</td>
<td>Theories of Criminal Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJC 403</td>
<td>Program Evaluation and Research</td>
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<td>CJC 404</td>
<td>Applied Data Analysis and Interpretation</td>
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Select Five Electives 1

- CJC 405 Professional Ethics
- CJC 415 Mental Illness and Crime
- CJC 416 International Criminal Justice
- CJC 417 Forensic Science and the Criminal Justice System
- CJC 499 Independent Study
- CJC 500 Directed Research
- CJC 502 Practicum in Criminal Justice

Variable Topics Electives- Maximum of 2 in each area

- CJC 410 Advanced Topics in Criminology
- CJC 411 Advanced Topics in Policing
- CJC 412 Advanced Topics in Courts
- CJC 413 Advanced Topics in Corrections
- CJC 414 General Special Topics

Culminating Experience Course

- CJC 408 Applied Research in Criminal Justice and Criminology
- or CJC 501 Thesis Research

Total Hours 43

1  Students choosing the thesis track will complete a research thesis and take CJC 501 Thesis Research, while students who choose a non-thesis option will complete a major research/policy paper and take CJC 408 Applied Research in Criminal Justice and Criminology.

2  Students must earn a grade of B or better in order to graduate (a B- or below will not fulfill this requirement), and class must be repeated if grade below a B is earned.

3  In consultation with the Graduate Program Director, students may select graduate level electives among those offered within the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology as well as from other programs such as Social Work, Psychology, Women's Studies and Gender Studies, Public Policy, or Sociology.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional-academic-standards-regulations/) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.