

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY

The department of Criminal Justice and Criminology offers a master's degree that prepares students to excel in today's evidence-based criminal justice system. A supportive environment accommodates the diversity of our students' lives with evening classes, option of part-time or full-time status, and flexible tailoring of electives. The department is well-connected to local and federal agencies. Graduates have been placed in all areas of the criminal justice system including state and county agencies, and federal agencies such as the FBI, Secret Service, Federal Probation, Homeland Security, Federal Pretrial Services and DEA. Graduates also have been admitted into PhD programs or law schools.

Graduate program

Criminal Justice and Criminology (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/graduate-school/arts-sciences/criminal-justice-criminology/criminal-justice-criminology-ma/>)

Criminal Justice & Criminology (CJC)

CJC 401 Politics and Policies in the Criminal Justice System (3 Credit Hours)

This course examines the interactional processes within and among the criminal justice system's components and their relationships to other public and private institutions. The role of politics in policy formulation, the policy making process, and the consequences of current policies on the operation of the criminal justice system are discussed.

CJC 402 Theories of Criminal Behavior (3 Credit Hours)

This is a comparative review of dominant contemporary theories and research on the causes of crime and delinquency. Competing theories on the causes of crime are analyzed, and their empirical support and implications for prevention programs and interventions are discussed.

Outcomes:

To analyze and discuss contemporary theories of criminal behavior

CJC 403 Program Evaluation and Research (3 Credit Hours)

This course provides students with the substantive knowledge to be critical consumers of research studies and program evaluations. Students learn how to critique the internal, construct, and external validity of program evaluations and data collection efforts that seek to understand criminal behavior or the operation of the criminal justice system.

Outcomes:

To analyze and critique program evaluations and research designs

CJC 404 Applied Data Analysis and Interpretation (4 Credit Hours)

Students learn the skills and knowledge necessary to be critical consumers of statistical information, which is often present in everyday criminal justice practice. Students learn how to generate and interpret statistical output using SPSS-PC, and learn which statistical tools are appropriate for specific measures and research questions.

Outcomes:

To select the correct statistical tools and interpret output To write statistical information To conduct SPSS-PC

CJC 405 Professional Ethics (3 Credit Hours)

The course defines the ethical responsibilities and explores the ethical dilemmas faced by police, court, and corrections officials. Moral theories are discussed. Students critically analyze their own and others' beliefs. They learn how to think constructively about ethical dilemmas, and how to articulate the inherent ethical issues in the field of criminal justice.

Outcomes:

To analyze moral dilemmas and ethical situations that professionals may face

CJC 408 Applied Research in Criminal Justice and Criminology (2 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: CJC 401, CJC 402, CJC 403, and CJC 404

This is a student-initiated research course, supervised by the instructor. Students will conduct applied research that informs the policies or practices of a stakeholder group or criminal justice agency. This course encourages advanced students to approach the multifaceted problem of research as a set of interrelated issues ranging from tasks of concept formation and theory construction through research design and data collection to the assessment and analysis of the generated data.

Outcomes:

Students should be able to synthesize criminological theory, criminal justice policy, research methods, and data analysis into a final applied research project

CJC 410 Advanced Topics in Criminology (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Graduate students only

Variable topics on theories or contemporary issues concerning criminal and victim behavior. Examples of topics include: Drugs and Violence; Gender and Crime; Intimate Partner Violence; Sexual Violence; Human Trafficking; Environmental Crime; Victimology; International Criminology; Advanced Criminology; Race, Ethnicity, and Crime.

CJC 411 Advanced Topics in Policing (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Graduate students only

An advanced topics umbrella course for special and contemporary topics in the field of policing, including community- and problem-oriented policing, situational crime prevention, crime analysis, and Comp-Stat approaches to policing practice and management.

CJC 412 Advanced Topics in Courts (3-6 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: CJC 401; Graduate Students Only

Variable topics on contemporary issues in courts. Examples of topics include: International Criminal Law and Anti-Terrorism Enforcement, The American Jury; Death Penalty; International Criminal Law; Public Views of Justice; Media, Culture, and Criminal Law; Legal Rights of Children.

Outcomes:

Varies by topic

CJC 413 Advanced Topics in Corrections (3-6 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Graduate students only

An advanced topics umbrella course for special and contemporary topics in the field of corrections. Examples of graduate courses that will be offered as special topics courses under CJC 413 include: Principles of Punishment, Sentencing Policy, Restorative Justice, Risk Assessment, Re-Entry, What Works in Corrections, Mass Incarceration, and Juvenile Corrections.

CJC 414 General Special Topics (3 Credit Hours)

Special topic course titles will vary, and will cover issues that do not fit within the four advanced topics areas of criminology, policing, courts, and corrections. Topics may include: Crime Mapping; Social Psychology and the Criminal Justice System; Prejudice, Hate, and the Justice System.

Outcomes:

To analyze and discuss topics in criminal justice

CJC 415 Mental Illness and Crime (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Graduate students only

This course explores the relationship of mental illness to crime and violence, the policies and programs concerning the treatment of individuals with mental illness in the criminal justice system, including the nature, prevalence and consequences of mental disorder among criminal offenders.

CJC 416 International Criminal Justice (3 Credit Hours)

This course is an introduction to the nature and scope of international and transnational crime, to the emerging legal framework for its prevention and control, and to its impact on the U.S. criminal justice system. Emphasis will be placed on international aspects of the work of different criminal justice agencies, such as formal and informal police cooperation and the use of mutual assistance and extradition agreements, and on the bilateral, regional, and international structures created for crime prevention, punishment, and control.

CJC 417 Forensic Science and the Criminal Justice System (3 Credit Hours)

Graduate Students Only. This course introduces the basic principles and applications of the biological, chemical, physical, medical and behavioral sciences currently practiced and the limitations of the modern crime laboratory. The course then explores uses of forensic science and the applicability to the criminal justice system. Current issues, examples, and presentations are integrated into course material.

Outcomes:

Understand the basic concepts, strengths, limitations and challenges of the forensic sciences discipline, the application of the forensic sciences to the management, operations, and policies of criminal justice system, from crime scene processing through adjudication

CJC 499 Independent Study (1-6 Credit Hours)

Working with a member of the graduate faculty, this course provides students with the opportunity to examine a specific topic in the field of criminal justice through directed readings, interviews, and the completion of a major research paper related to the topic. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of a specific criminal justice topic through directed readings and independent study.

CJC 500 Directed Research (1-6 Credit Hours)

No course description is available

CJC 501 Thesis Research (2 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Approval of Graduate Program Director and Grade of A in CJC 409 and CJC 407

Supervision and guidance are given as students conduct their independent Masters' thesis research.

Outcomes:

Master's Thesis

CJC 502 Practicum in Criminal Justice (3-6 Credit Hours)

This course enables the student to apply their knowledge (conceptual, theoretical, and methodological) in a practical agency setting. Students will be able to contribute in a meaningful way to the operation of a specific criminal justice agency, and identify/describe the link between their field experience and prior courses through a research paper.

This course satisfies the Engaged Learning requirement.

CJC 595 Thesis Supervision (0 Credit Hours)

This is a non-credit course. Students who are working on approved master's thesis research and are not registered for any course are required to register for thesis supervision.

CJC 605 Master's Study (0 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Completion of the graduate core courses

This course is a non-credit means of permitting students to be formally enrolled at Loyola while preparing for the written comprehensive examination.