

Department of Criminal Justice Administration

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The Department of Criminal Justice Administration offers a Master of Criminal Justice (M.C.J.) degree in cooperation with Tennessee State University. A minor in Criminal Justice at the graduate level is also offered at MTSU. Normally, the required test score for admission to the Master of Criminal Justice program is 25 on the Miller Analogies Test or a satisfactory score on the Graduate Record Examination. To be considered for Fall admission, an applicant's materials must be received by June 15; for Spring admission, November 1; and for Summer admission, April 15.

A graduate student may not enroll in more than 12 total hours in any given semester. This limitation applies to Criminal Justice graduate students who may be simultaneously enrolled at both TSU and MTSU. Any student exceeding the hours-per-semester limit will be dropped from a course or courses to the twelve-hour level. A student may, on rare occasions, be given permission for an overload, but the proper overload form must be executed before courses begin and under no circumstances will the overload exceed three hours or a total of 15 hours.

General Requirements for the Master of Criminal Justice

Candidate must

1. have completed a minimum of 18 hours of work at the undergraduate level in criminal justice or an approved equivalent.
2. complete a total of 36 hours (18 hours at MTSU and 18 hours at TSU) with no more than 30 percent of the total degree hours dually listed as undergraduate/graduate hours including the following core courses:
Middle Tennessee State University - Fall Semester Only
 CJA 6000 Criminal Justice Administration, 3 hours
 CJA 6010 Seminar in Law Enforcement, 3 hours
Tennessee State University - Spring Semester Only
 CJA 6020 Judicial Seminar, 3 hours
 CJA 6030 Contemporary Corrections, 3 hours
3. file a Candidacy Form after having completed 10 semester hours credit and before having completed 16 semester hours credit. Candidate must have maintained an average grade of 3.00 or above on all work attempted. No fewer than 10 and no more than 16 semester hours may be counted toward the degree before the individual is advanced to candidacy. Indicate research/thesis institution at this time.

4. complete the following 6 hours at one institution (MTSU or TSU):
 CJA 6900 Research in the Criminal Justice Process, 3 hours
 CJA 6640 Thesis Research, 3 hours
5. complete the remaining 18 hours of approved electives as follows:
 12 hours at the non-thesis/research institution
 6 hours at the thesis/research institution
6. successfully complete an oral comprehensive examination in conjunction with the thesis defense.

Courses in Criminal Justice Administration [CJA]

- 5220 Community Relations and Minority Problems.** Three credits. Analysis of public hostility toward police and current community relations projects; training and education of law enforcement officers; responsibilities of police administrators; causes of tension and conflict, positive and negative factors in the control of minority group hostilities; minority recruitment in law enforcement.
- 5260 Special Issues in Law Enforcement.** Three credits. Variety of subtopics related to law enforcement. Problems in private and public morality with regard to drug use, alcoholism, and sex offenses; analysis of current police training programs; relationship between legislation and political process which affects law enforcement.
- 5330 Criminal Investigation.** Three credits. (For CJA majors or with permission of instructor.) General investigative responsibilities and techniques, including administration preparation, investigative jurisdiction and responsibility, and the importance of substantive report writing. Includes special techniques required for specific investigative categories.
- 5500 The Juvenile Justice System.** Three credits. Juvenile delinquency and youth crime with emphasis on the history of the juvenile justice system, the court and police role within the system, rehabilitation and correction of the delinquent, and juvenile probation services. Alternatives to traditional procedures: community-based programs versus correctional institutions, non-judicial adjustment, etc., examined.
- 5530 Criminal Evidence and Procedures.** Three credits. Types of individuals and problems of admissibility in court proceedings, proper treatment and disposition of evidence, legal procedure to be followed, and actual trial procedure.
- 5750 Seminar in Corrections.** Three credits. Each student selects a problem area of interest for an intensive research effort. The group will be presented with a contemporary corrections issue or problem and will be required to create practical and workable strategies for coping with the issue. Where feasible, arrangements will be made to implement the program in an actual correctional setting.
- 5800 Crime in America: An Assessment.** Three credits. An in-depth survey of the impact of crime on American society: amount and trends of crime, economic impact of crime, professional and white collar crime, characteristics of offenders and victims of crime.
- 5900 Readings in Criminal Justice.** Three credits. Advanced students capable of independent study will be allowed to do in-depth readings in a particular area of criminal justice relevant to individual interests. Annotated bibliography and report required. Arrangements for this course should be made with the instructor prior to registration.

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- 6000 Criminal Justice Administration.** Three credits. Criminal justice, juvenile justice, correctional and mental health processes, and other issues including those arising out of other processes of social control and community-based treatment of offenders. Development of a critical analysis of current literature, compilation of a bibliography, and completion of an intensive research paper required.
- 6010 Seminar in Law Enforcement.** Three credits. The function of police within the community and its relationship to the criminal justice system, the effects of police actions on the community and other segments of the system, social expectations and limitations, assessment and special problems. Analysis of relevant studies, formation of annotated bibliography, and organization of research into a formal composition.
- 6020 Judicial Seminar.** Three credits. Examination of the judicial system, including flow of the criminal case, personnel, court community relations, computers and the courts, and special problem areas. A research project consisting of a literature review, bibliography, and a thorough analysis required.
- 6030 Contemporary Corrections.** Three credits. Corrections programs in contemporary custodial and juvenile institutions and community-based corrections programs; problems and prospects associated with them. Each student required to make class presentations on assigned topics, participate in class discussions and analysis of reports, develop a bibliography, and submit a research paper in a specific area of corrections.
- 6040 The Concept of Justice.** Three credits. Historical development and philosophy of law. The notion of justice in a criminal context, with emphasis on equity and ethics in law and justice. Examines the sociology of law and societal constraints on proscribed behavior.
- 6230 Police Management Systems.** Three credits. The need for awareness of police management problems, reaction of criminal justice system within P.M.S., administrative behavior toward the organizational environment, and the nature of change within P.M.S. Preparation of a research paper which consists of complete analysis of a topic within P.M.S., a review of recent literature, and an annotated bibliography required.
- 6250 Criminal Justice Internship.** Three credits. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Student placed for an intensive field experience in a functional criminal justice agency. The selection of the placement agency determined by student's background, academic status, and interest.
- 6300 Innovations in Law Enforcement.** Three credits. The changing role of the police function and its relationship to the criminal justice system, including evaluation of the operational line function of the 80s, technological changes in society and their effects on law enforcement, and the etiology of innovation. Evaluation of recent literature, compilation of a list of selected readings, and unification of research into a methodological exposition.
- 6410 Advanced Constitutional Law.** Three credits. Examination of constitutional rights of the accused including pretrial, trial, and prisoner rights. Reading and critique of current literature and Supreme Court decisions, learning to function in a law library, and composing a research paper with a bibliography on a chosen constitutional topic.
- 6430 Criminal Law: The Defense Side.** Three credits. Procedure of the criminal courts from the defense viewpoint. ABA standards for defense attorneys, the handling of a case by the defense from arrest to appeal, and ethical problems posed for defense attorneys. Attention given to defense by appointment and plea bargaining.
- 6500 Interviewing and Counseling Juveniles.** Three credits. Causal theories of delinquency, application of theory to treatment, case-worker attitudes, and counseling styles. Discussion of individualized models for classification and treatment as well as group and process models.
- 6640 Thesis Research.** One to six credits. Selection of a research problem, review of pertinent literature, collection and analysis of data, and composition of thesis. Once enrolled, student should register for at least one credit hour of master's research each semester until completion. S/U grading.
- 6700 Community-Based Corrections.** Three credits. Intensive survey of probation and parole at both the adult and juvenile levels. Halfway houses, work-release programs, and other community correctional settings. Impact of the "justice model" upon community corrections featured.
- 6830 Violence and Victimology.** Three credits. Impact of violence on victims at both the adult and juvenile levels examined. Other major topics include the right to treatment, victims as witnesses, victims in the correctional system, and societal reaction to violence.
- 6900 Research in the Criminal Justice Process.** Three credits. Introduces research methods, including the experiment and experimental methods and models, survey research, participant observation, case studies, unobtrusive measures, the use of official and unofficial statistics, validity, reliability, and data analysis. Special emphasis on ethics in criminal justice research and on proposal writing and evaluation research.
- 6920 Seminar in Criminal Justice Planning and Management.** Three credits. Intensive introduction to principles of planning and management in the system. Students required to actively participate in planning exercises and to utilize data from actual situations for the development of appropriate management strategies.
- 6930 Comparative Systems of Criminal Justice.** Three credits. Systems in the U.S. and Great Britain, New York, and London. Crime and justice in northern and southern Europe, Russia, and Canada. Discussion of progressive criminal policy and the U.N. and the uses of comparative analysis of current literature and formal exposition on a related topic.
- 6940 Crimes, Criminals, and Their Treatment.** Three credits. Intensive exploration of the various systems of criminal typology, including a survey of the various theories of criminal behavior and a survey of institutional treatment methods currently in use. Extra-institutional treatment methods also examined.
- 6950 Business and Industrial Security.** Three credits. Examination of the scope of the problem, the economic impact, major problems (security, employee theft, shoplifting, industrial espionage). Discussion of the responsibility and effectiveness of the criminal justice system, programs for prevention and training of employees, managers, and security personnel. Preparation of an extensive research paper which analyzes an assigned topic and summarizes current trends in the literature required.
- 6999 Comprehensive Examination and Preparation.** One credit. Open only to students who are not enrolled in any other graduate course and who will take the master's comprehensive examination during the term. The student must contact the graduate advisor during the first two weeks of the term for specifics regarding the details of this comprehensive examination preparatory course. Credit may not be applied to degree requirements.