**CRIMINAL JUSTICE, MS**

The School of Social Welfare offers a master's program of study in criminal justice. The program is designed to educate students for leadership positions in the field of criminal justice. The program also provides a strong foundation for students anticipating advanced study at the doctoral level. The curriculum is also designed to prepare Criminal Justice professionals to understand all aspects of criminal justice policy. Legal, organizational, political and behavioral frameworks are used to analyze the operation of the criminal justice system. Students are introduced to advanced knowledge on the nature and causes of crime, the justification and means of social control, the administration of the justice system, and the evaluation of criminal justice programs.

**Requirements**

**Admission Requirements**

**Application Deadlines**

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines).

**Admission**

An applicant must meet Graduate School requirements (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission) plus these program requirements to be considered for admission:

- Undergraduate degree, from an accredited university, in criminal justice, a related social science or other relevant educational experience.
- Undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00. (Applicants are advised that all coursework from all previous institutions will be included in this calculation. If coursework was repeated for credit, each attempt will also be included.)
- In addition, applicants with an undergraduate cumulative GPA between 2.75-2.99 may also be considered for admission but must also submit satisfactory scores on the verbal and quantitative sections of either the Graduate Record Examination (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission/#gre) (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT).
- Two letters of recommendation from persons who are familiar with the applicant's academic record.
- It is recommended that applicants have completed a research methods course and a statistics course at the undergraduate level prior to beginning the program.

**Application**

Application must be made to the Graduate School. Applicants may be admitted to the program for Fall, Spring or Summer (note graduate course offerings may be limited in the summer session.) For further information regarding the application process, please contact the Criminal Justice Department office at (414) 229-2392.

**Credits and Courses**

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice consists of a minimum of 33 graduate credits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>taken within the Criminal Justice program</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must</td>
<td>include 15 credits of:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRM JST 713</td>
<td>Measuring Crime &amp; Analyzing Crime</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRM JST 743</td>
<td>Proseminar: Administration of Criminal Justice Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRM JST 756</td>
<td>Proseminar: Analysis of Criminal Justice Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRM JST 773</td>
<td>Perspectives on Crime and the Criminal Justice System</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRM JST 920</td>
<td>Criminal Justice Masters Capstone Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select an additional 12 credits of Criminal Justice Electives (4 courses)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select an additional 6 credit hours taken elsewhere in the School of Social Welfare or in other UWM departments with the prior consent of advisor</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The student must pursue either Option A: Essay Option, or Capstone Option B: Non-Essay Option described below.

**Option A: Essay Option**

Students must complete the required proseminars and, as part of the 33 graduate credits required, must complete 3 credits of research and a graduate-level statistics course approved by the student's faculty advisor. Students planning to go into doctoral programs are strongly encouraged to pursue the essay option.

**Essay**

An acceptable essay must be written on the student's area of concentration.

**Comprehensive Examination**

The student must pass a final oral examination in defense of the essay.

**Option B: Non-Essay Option**

Students must complete the 33 graduate credits required, including the three proseminars and the criminal justice capstone seminar course.

**Program Requirements**

**Major Professor as Advisor**

The student must have a faculty advisor to advise and supervise the student's studies as specified in Graduate School regulations. At the time of admission, the Graduate Program Director will assign each student to a faculty advisor. Students who begin to work closely with a particular faculty member with expertise in their area of interest may request that this faculty member serve as their advisor. Students who pursue the Essay Option must choose a faculty member to serve as their major professor.

**Time Limit**

The student must complete all degree requirements within seven years of initial enrollment.