

Program Information

Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration is designed to offer post-baccalaureate education to professionals, administrators, and traditional students seeking criminal justice graduate education. The curriculum offers coursework and skills necessary for successful leadership in corrections, courts, and law enforcement agencies as well as private agencies such as residential treatment centers, halfway houses, and private security firms. Students seeking admission to law school or doctoral studies in criminal justice will find this program appealing.

Admission Information

Regular admission status may be granted to applicants having submitted all required information. Students may be admitted for both full- and part-time studies. *Provisional admission* status may be accorded to applicants who have submitted required credentials, yet exhibit deficiencies in certain requirements.

Applicants receiving *provisional admission* will be offered *regular admission* upon successfully completing 12 graduate semester hours of course work with a 3.0 GPA or higher.

Basic Requirements for Admission

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration admissions committee will convene to review application materials. The committee will base its recommendations primarily upon grade point average, recommendation letters, personal statement and any relevant work experience.

- a. Baccalaureate degree (preferably in criminal justice or social science) from an accredited institution;
- b. An earned cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher during junior and senior years of study;

- c. Applicants must submit official copies of transcripts from the college conferring their bachelor's degree and any graduate level courses; Ferris graduates do not need to submit transcripts
- d. Three completed reference forms from faculty or agency employers; and
- e. A 500 word (2 pages double-spaced) personal statement indicating why the applicant is pursuing the master's degree at Ferris.
- f. An updated resume'

Program Requirements

Graduation Requirements:

- a. Complete 30 semester hours with a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- b. Up to 6 credit hours **may** be transferred from another accredited graduate program in criminal justice.
- c. No grade under a C is permitted. All work below a C must be repeated to fulfill graduation requirements. Only one C will be accepted on the transcripts. Upon any second grade C+ or below, the student may be allowed to repeat one course or may be removed from enrollment.
- e. Students must complete all degree requirements within five years of starting classes at Ferris State University. An extension may be granted for extenuating circumstances, upon recommendation of the student's major program advisor and written approval of the Director of the School of Criminal Justice.

Additional information on the program is available by calling (231) 591-3652.

Program Course Requirements:

Criminal Justice Core (9 hours)

CRIM 605	Legal Issues	3
CRIM 615	Nature of Crime	3
CRIM 630	Seminar in Law Enforcement OR	
CRIM 640	Seminar in Corrections	3

Skill/Tool Requirement (6 hours)

CRIM 645	Quantitative Inquiry	3
CRIM 655	Qualitative Inquiry	3

Administration (9 hours)

CRIM 608	Organizational Leadership	3
CRIM 665	Financial Management for CJ Administrators	3
CRIM 673	Human Resource Management	<u>3</u>

Required In-Class Credit Hours = 24

Culminating Experience (6 hours)

OPTION 1:		
CRIM 660	Thesis	6
OPTION 2:		
CRIM 670	Graduate Topics	3
CRIM 699	Comprehensive Critique/Exam	3

TOTAL 30 semester hours

Course Descriptions

CRIM 605 Legal Issues in Criminal Justice

This course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of legal issues surrounding the role of an administrator and a line worker. Subjects to be addressed include civil liability under state tort law, civil liability under federal law, criminal liability, and the impact of recent court decisions. Students will acquire a working knowledge of their legal role and responsibility and will learn risk management strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to liability.

CRIM 608 Organizational Leadership

This course is designed for graduate students interested in identifying and enhancing their leadership styles and skills in preparation for management careers in the field of criminal justice. Students will be exposed to related theories, concepts and issues, and will apply these theories and skills through selected projects and experiential exercises.

CRIM 615 Nature of Crime

This course examines the theory and research on the nature and correlates of crime. The relationship between explanations of and the policies proposed to reduce crime will be covered. The most recent contributions to understanding the nature of crime will be reviewed.

CRIM 645 Quantitative Inquiry

This course provides an introduction to quantitative research methods and statistical concepts. Students will gain an understanding of the stages of quantitative research design. This course is focused on the basics of descriptive and inferential statistics. The students will learn various techniques that are used in describing and interpreting quantitative data from empirical studies. Students will gain hands-on experience in data collection, analysis, program evaluation, and grant writing. The overarching intent is to prepare graduates to appropriately assess the efficacy of published empirical studies to better inform their decision making as criminal justice practitioners.

CRIM 630 Seminar in Law Enforcement

This course is designed for graduate students with an interest in contemporary policing. This course will explore the role of police in American society. Attention is given to the origin of policing, the nature of police organizations and police work, and patterns of relations between police and the public. The values of a democratic society as they affect the law enforcement role are also discussed.

CRIM 640 Seminar in Corrections

This course is designed to give an analytical perspective to the history, development, current practices, critical issues and future of corrections. Various theoretical and practical approaches to corrections and the research intended to support or refute these perspectives will be assessed.

CRIM 655 Qualitative Inquiry

This course provides an introduction to qualitative research methods. Students will gain an understanding of the stages of qualitative research design. The focus of the course is on the basics of various qualitative methodological approaches. The students will learn various techniques that are used in describing and interpreting qualitative data from empirical studies. Students will gain hands-on experience in data collection and analysis. The overarching intent is to prepare graduates to appropriately assess the efficacy of published empirical studies to better inform their decision making as criminal justice practitioners.

CRIM 660 Criminal Justice Thesis

This is a directed studies course, which requires students to apply research methods learned in the curriculum in solving a criminal justice problem or resolving an issue in the criminal justice system. The focus will be on the application of scientific technique to problem solving and the preparation of a formal, and defense of research.

CRIM 665 Financial Management for Criminal Justice Administrators

This course introduces professionals in the criminal justice field to the basic principles of accounting and financial management, including the preparation of budgets, the use of external and internal audits, and the working relationship between accounting personnel and other administrators. Special emphasis will be placed on governmental accounting and its unique considerations.

CRIM 670 Graduate Topics in Criminal Justice

This course offers a concentrated study of selected critical issues in the criminal justice system. Topics that are timely and of concern to both academicians and practitioners will be chosen for study.

CRIM 673 Human Resource Management

This program takes a problem solving/ decision-making approach to human resource management. Students will overview and integrate such topics as: legal aspects of personnel management, job analysis, employee selection and performance evaluation, training and development, compensation systems, and labor relations.

CRIM 680 Special Studies in Criminal Justice

The special studies are for students who have completed all the required courses and are working on the completion of their thesis. This continuing credit allows the student to remain active in the program.

CRIM 699 Comprehensive Critique/Exam

This course is designed to review key areas of concentration taught in the program including the criminal justice core courses, research and evaluation, and managerial skills. By reviewing the key concepts of these major areas, the student will be prepared for the end of the term comprehensive exam.