

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Degree Requirements

Master of Arts (M.A.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

The thesis track requires 30 credits. Six of the credits (CRIMJ 600) will be for the thesis.

The master's paper track requires 30 credits. Three of these credits will be awarded for successful completion of a master's paper, for which a student will register for three credits of CRIMJ 594.

All credits must be at the 400, 500, 600, or 800 level, with a minimum of 18 credits at the 500 or 600 level. A minimum of 24 credits must be at the 500, 600, or 800 level.

A minimum grade-point average of a 3.0 must be earned for course work taken as a graduate student.

Students are required to take the following courses: CRIMJ 500, CRIMJ 501, CRIMJ 502, CRIMJ 503, and CRIMJ 504. Students must complete a 9 credit concentration. Students in the non-thesis track will also be required to complete an additional 3-credit elective. A list of courses required for each concentration and additional approved elective courses is maintained by the graduate program office.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CRIMJ 500	Advanced Criminological Theory	3
CRIMJ 501	Advanced Research Methods for Criminal Justice	3
CRIMJ 502	Public Policy and the Criminal Justice System	3
CRIMJ 503	Advanced Statistics in Criminal Justice	3
CRIMJ 504	Criminal Justice Organization and Management	3
<i>Concentration</i> ¹		9
Culminating Experience		6
Thesis Track: 6 credits of CRIMJ 600		
Master's Paper Track: 3 credits of CRIMJ 594 and a 3-credit elective ¹		
Total Credits		30

¹ A list of courses required for each concentration and additional approved elective courses is maintained by the graduate program office.

Students who believe they have completed a course substantially similar to one of the specific course requirements may apply to have their previous work evaluated for the purposes of exemption to that requirement. If approved, another course will be taken in place of that requirement.

Credits earned at other institutions but not used to earn a degree may be applied toward the requirements for a graduate degree, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/>).