

**CATALOG YEAR 2013-2014**COLLEGE/SCHOOL/SECTION: COAS

**Other:** Add information:    Change information: X Attach new/changed information. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Justification: The MSCJ program proposes the following changes to align with the new COAS initiative to streamline graduate admission requirements and also our online graduate program. While the GRE is no longer required for admission, the MSCJ program proposes other means to assess students' competencies for graduate work in an online program. (Note, the proposed changes were submitted to the Graduate Council and changes were approved).

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRADUATE PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

All application materials for the Master of Science in Criminal Justice are due by the date provided by the Office of Graduate Studies & Research to be considered for full admission. Students are able to apply and begin their graduate programs in the Fall, Spring, or Summer (to begin the summer, the application materials must be received by the due date for Spring). To be considered for admission to the Master of Science in Criminal Justice, the student must ~~meet complete~~ the following requirements prior to the application deadline:

1. ~~Completed~~ **Submit** an application for graduate studies.
2. ~~Pay id the~~ application fee.
3. ~~Submitted~~ transcripts from all colleges/universities attended.
4. ~~Submitted a Personal Narrative.~~ **Submit a Personal Statement describing your research interests and indicating how your research interests and academic/professional background characteristics will assist you in successfully completing the online degree program.**
5. Earned a ~~2.5~~ **2.7** GPA overall **and a 3.0 GPA in upper-level courses within their undergraduate degree (junior and senior years of coursework of the major).** ~~if degree earned within last 5 years or 2.0 GPA if degree was earned more than 5 years ago.~~
6. ~~Submitted~~ two letters of recommendation from academic sources sent to the Office of Graduate Studies & Research. You may include one academic and one professional recommendation ~~and to the Department of Behavioral, Applied Sciences, and Criminal Justice. Academic letters must come from outside of the Criminal Justice faculty.~~ **Letters of recommendation should indicate:**
  - a. Applicant's academic performance (or job performance that is relevant to show competency to be successful in graduate education).
  - b. Applicant's ability to succeed in an online program where a good deal of motivation, dedication, and self-direction is necessary.
  - c. Applicant's strengths and weaknesses.
7. ~~Submitted~~ scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. **Submit a resume.**
8. ~~Submitted~~ a Writing Sample **that demonstrates:**
  - a. knowledge of contemporary issues in the field of criminal justice
  - b. professional writing skills**The Writing Sample must contain elements of good writing and comport with American Psychological Association's (6th edition) writing style/format.**

In addition, the admissions committee may request a personal interview with the applicant.

Approvals:

Signature

Date

Chair

Department Curriculum Committee

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Department

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College Curriculum Committee

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