

About Our Program

Texas A&M International University offers the Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice on its new state-of-the-art campus in Laredo, Texas. Laredo is unique in that it has nearly 20 different law enforcement agencies represented, including the Drug Enforcement Administration, city, county, and state law enforcement, probation and parole offices, Immigration and Naturalization Services, Border Patrol, and a host of other agencies that make the community a fertile site for productive criminal justice research and employment opportunities.

Our program is the only graduate program in criminal justice at a public university in the south-central Texas region. Mostly taught in seminar format, courses are designed for in-depth study of substantive areas in criminal justice and criminology. Graduate courses are usually taught primarily online and in the evenings, allowing you to pursue graduate study on a part-time basis.

Our programs are tailored for active professionals seeking to improve their skill levels or for promotional purposes; those seeking advanced degrees such as J.D. or Ph.D. degrees; and for those seeking to increase their general knowledge of Criminal Justice.

Why Should You Come Here?

This program offers you the opportunity to work with internationally recognized scholars and obtain the

Master of Science degree in several important subfields of criminal justice, including law enforcement and policing; institutional corrections; probation, parole and community corrections; juvenile justice; criminal courts; criminal justice ethics; criminological theory; women in criminal justice; law and society; and advanced methods of social research. Laredo is ideally situated and has different local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies with arrest powers. Internships provide students with valuable learning experiences and in-service training for advancement in their desired professions.

For those interested in improving their organizational status, this program offers you the means whereby this goal can be accomplished. All of the criminal justice faculty are widely networked with key law enforcement agencies throughout the state and federal governments. Both the criminal justice system and juvenile justice system are widely represented. Former and current graduate students are frequently practitioners and full-time employees with various criminal justice agencies, including the U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Probation and Supervised Release, Pretrial Services, the Webb County Sheriff's Department, Laredo Police Department, Texas Rangers, and state troopers.



MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Virtually every one of our graduates earning the Master of Science degree have achieved their immediate goals of either advancement within their own organization or employment in another organization where the work is more suited to their interests and skills.

About Our Faculty

The Criminal Justice program has several internationally recognized scholars who teach a wide variety of interesting courses. The department networks closely with public administration, political science, and sociology to offer even greater faculty diversity and an up-to-date curriculum.

Criminal Justice

Faculty attend both regional and national professional meetings on a regular basis, where they chair important panels, make special presentations and workshops, and give papers summarizing the most recent research findings in their respective fields of interest. They network closely with those within the greater criminal justice community both nationally and internationally.

Careers

With a master's degree in criminal justice, you will have career opportunities in some of the following areas:

- Criminal justice administrator (police, courts, corrections)
- Criminal justice and research
- Advanced Ph.D. work at Ph.D.-granting schools
- Juvenile justice system
- Pre-law
- Social work and counseling
- Work with at-risk youth and special-needs offenders
- Law enforcement positions at local, state, and federal levels
- Institutional and community corrections
- Court positions, such as bailiffs, court reporters, court clerks, and other court aides.



How Do I Apply?

- Complete and submit University graduate application and submit undergraduate transcripts to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is required.
- All applications can be downloaded from www.tamtu.edu/gradschool/admissions or visit www.applytexas.org
- Have official GRE test scores sent directly from ETS.
- Write a student narrative describing particular academic and career goals and objectives. Narratives must contain a minimum of 300 words.
- International students must also submit adequate TOEFL scores and financial documentation.
- Review additional program requirements in the graduate application.

Spring application deadline is Nov. 30 (domestic); Fall and Summer application deadline is April 30 (domestic); the Spring application deadline for International students is Oct. 1.

For more detailed information including program costs and courses, please visit or call:

Website: www.tamtu.edu/coas/psy/crimjust.htm
E-mail: criminaljustice@tamtu.edu
Telephone: 956.326.2616
Fax: 956.326.2464

