

Texas A&M International University

Online Master of Science in Criminal Justice

(MSCJ)

Our Mission

The Criminal Justice Program faculty and staff are dedicated to your academic attainment and committed to providing you with the best education possible. Our aim is to impart the knowledge and skills necessary for your future goals in obtaining a doctorate or working in the field of criminal justice.

Our Program

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ) is an online comprehensive program designed to prepare you to actively participate in the development of knowledge and policy responses to contemporary crime problems. A focus is placed on criminological theory, research in criminal justice, and the administration of justice (policing, corrections, ethics, and legal studies). It is also designed to prepare you to conduct research and to take an active leadership role as a professional in the field of criminal justice or juvenile justice.

The degree is especially beneficial if you already work in the criminal justice system and wish to enhance your professional knowledge and skills. The program is entirely online which allows you the flexibility to complete coursework while working full-time or part-time.

Why TAMIU?

In particular, the MSCJ program has internationally and nationally recognized scholars teaching courses. You will learn from renowned faculty the scientific knowledge and critical thinking skills that will help you achieve a competitive edge.

We offer a wide array of courses in a 5-week format that allows you to complete the degree in less than 2 years. The MSCJ program also works closely with programs across the university including Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology, and Psychology. This allows you to take general electives in any of these areas.



How to Apply:

- Complete and submit University graduate application. All applications can be downloaded from www.applytexas.org or visit: www.tamtu.edu/gradschool.
- Submit graduate application fee.
- Submit official undergraduate transcripts to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.
- Write a student narrative with a minimum of 300 words describing your academic & career goals & objectives.
- Have official GRE test scores sent directly from ETS.

Spring application deadline is November 30.
Fall and Summer application deadline is April 30.

Thesis Plan

The thesis option requires you to demonstrate the ability to organize and conduct a research study and write a professionally competent research paper which makes a substantial contribution to ongoing work in the discipline. You are guided in the thesis project by an advisory committee, under the direction of the committee chair.

Required Courses:

- CRIJ 5301 Advanced Seminar on the Criminal Justice System
- CRIJ 5320 Advanced Methods of Social Research
- CRIJ 5327 Advanced Quantitative Methods in Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 5330 Seminar in Criminological Theory

Four Courses Chosen From:

- CRIJ 5315 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems
- CRIJ 5325 Seminar in Corrections
- CRIJ 5326 Seminar on Police Practices
- CRIJ 5340 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 5345 Criminal Issues in Criminal Justice Policy

Thesis:

- CRIJ 5398 Thesis
- CRIJ 5399 Thesis

TOTAL: 30 SCH

Non-Thesis Plan

The requirements for the non-thesis option for a master's degree are satisfied by completing additional semester hours of course work in lieu of the thesis. Thirty-six credit hours are required and you are allowed to take general electives at the 5000-level to complete the degree. Note, that the non-thesis plan option requires the successful completion of a comprehensive exam.

Required Courses:

- CRIJ 5301 Advanced Seminar on the Criminal Justice System
- CRIJ 5303 Law and Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 5320 Advanced Methods of Social Research
- CRIJ 5330 Seminar in Criminological Theory

Five Courses Chosen From:

- CRIJ 5315 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems
- CRIJ 5325 Seminar in Corrections
- CRIJ 5326 Seminar on Police Practices
- CRIJ 5327 Advanced Quantitative Methods in Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 5340 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 5345 Critical Issues in Criminal Justice Policy

General Electives:

- Three graduate courses from one discipline at the 5000-level from ENGL/HIST/PADM/PSCY/SOCI/SPAN

TOTAL: 36 SCH

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

- Website: <http://www.tamtu.edu/catalog/current/ms-crij-nonthesis.shtml>
- E-mail: criminaljustice@tamtu.edu; telephone: 956.326.2529; fax: 956.326.2474