

MSCJ Thesis & Non-Thesis Option Descriptions

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ) program requires satisfactory completion of 36 hours beyond the bachelor's degree. The degree requires each student to select a thesis or non-thesis option. The courses required under each option are listed below:

Thesis Option

Core Curriculum – Part I (9 hours)

CJUS 5000 – Criminal Justice Policy	3 hours
CJUS 5600 – Advanced Criminological Theory	3 hours
CJUS 5700 – Evaluation and Research Methodologies	<u>3 hours</u>
	9 hours

Core Curriculum – Part II (3 hours)

CJUS 5200 – Legal Aspects of the Criminal Justice System <u>or</u> CJUS 5500 – Seminar in Criminal Justice Administration	3 hours
--	---------

Statistics (3 hours)

As part of the departmental consent process to enroll in thesis, all students who are planning on writing a thesis must satisfactorily complete CJUS 5750 – Criminal Justice Statistics before enrolling in thesis.

CJUS 5750 – Criminal Justice Statistics	3 hours
---	---------

Electives	15 hours
-----------	----------

Thesis

CJUS 5950 – Thesis	6 hours
--------------------	---------

Total hours: 36 hours

Non-Thesis Option

Core Curriculum – Part I (9 hours)	
CJUS 5000 – Criminal Justice Policy	3 hours
CJUS 5600 – Advanced Criminological Theory	3 hours
CJUS 5700 – Evaluation and Research Methodologies	<u>3 hours</u>
	9 hours
Core Curriculum – Part II (3 hours)	
CJUS 5200 – Legal Aspects of the Criminal Justice System	
<u>or</u> CJUS 5500 – Seminar in Criminal Justice Administration	3 hours
Statistics (3 hours)	
As part of the departmental consent process to enroll in thesis, all students who are planning on writing a thesis must satisfactorily complete CJUS 5750 – Criminal Justice Statistics before enrolling in thesis.	
CJUS 5750 – Criminal Justice Statistics	3 hours
Electives	21 hours
	Total hours: 36 hours

Required Course Offerings:

Courses comprising the core curriculum are scheduled in the Fall and Spring semesters. The schedule for required course offerings is as follows:

Fall of each academic year:

CJUS 5000 – Criminal Justice Policy
CJUS 5700 – Evaluation and Research Methodologies

Spring of each academic year:

CJUS 5600 – Advanced Criminological Theory
CJUS 5200 – Legal Aspects of the Criminal Justice System
or CJUS 5500 – Seminar in Criminal Justice Administration
CJUS 5750 – Criminal Justice Statistics (depending on need)

Electives

CJUS 5050 – Criminals and Drugs
CJUS 5100 – Information Warfare, Security and Risk Analysis
CJUS 5120 – Cybercrime and Digital Forensics
CJUS 5130 – Information Policy, Law and Justice
CJUS 5250 – Administrative Law and Justice
CJUS 5270 – Criminal Evidence
CJUS 5350 – Seminar in Contemporary Policing

CJUS 5450 – Punishment, Discipline and Social Policy
CJUS 5460 – Correctional Programs
CJUS 5470 – Seminar in Juvenile Delinquency
CJUS 5620 – Seminar in Victimology
CJUS 5750 – Criminal Justice Statistics
CJUS 5800 – Topics in Criminal Justice*

*Content varies as course covers specific issues of current interest and concern in criminal justice and criminology. Topics may be repeated as topic changes.

Topics Include

Blood Spatter Analysis
Capital Punishment
Criminal Justice
Crime Scene Reconstruction
Diversity Issues in Criminal Justice
Gangs in America
Gender and Crime
Homeland Security for Policing
Sexual Deviance
Shooting Incident Reconstruction