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SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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Learn law enforcement leadership for the 21st century, by earning National University's Master of Criminal Justice degree in as soon as 12 months. This engaging program integrates theory with practice to prepare you for today's complex criminal justice issues. Enroll and you'll develop problem-solving and research skills as well as the technological expertise necessary to analyze cases and develop practical and effective solutions. Graduates are prepared for challenging and demanding careers in local, state, and federal law enforcement management, correctional administration, security administration, criminal justice research, and teaching or training assignments.

Program highlights:

- Earn your Master's degree in as little as 12 months
- All courses taught by expert practitioners in their field
- Program offered online, on site, and in hybrid formats
- Tuition discounts available
- Member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and Alpha Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society

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MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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The Master of Criminal Justice (MCJ) is designed to provide students with the required knowledge and competence in administration, management and problem-solving skills in the challenging and demanding careers of Criminal Justice in the fields of criminal justice administration and criminal justice research and development. Students completing the Master in Criminal Justice are exposed to both theoretical and applied models and concepts in criminal justice administration, as well as qualitative and quantitative research methods. The Master of Criminal Justice program integrates theory with practice to provide graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to address the complex issues and challenges of criminal justice in the 21st century. Students in this program develop the problem-solving and research skills as well as technological expertise necessary to analyze reality-based cases and assignments to develop strategies and solutions that are both practical and effective. Challenging and demanding careers in government at the local, state, and federal level in the administration of justice, law enforcement management, correctional administration, security administration, and criminal justice research as well as teaching and training assignments await graduates with a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the managerial practices that have shaped the criminal justice professions.
- Analyze court decisions involving police or criminal justice agencies in terms of criminal sanctions.
- Analyze issues of police morale, motivation, retention, selection, and recruitment.
- Evaluate and determine what should be the consequences of unethical conduct by police officers.
- Evaluate and compare the American criminal justice system with other criminal justice systems.
- Evaluate disciplinary, theoretical, criminological, and philosophical foundations in the management of criminal justice.
- Develop oral, written, and technological communication for criminal justice professionals.
- Utilize critical thinking and problem-solving skills to identify quality scholarship and research in the field of criminal justice.

Degree Requirements

To receive a Master of Criminal Justice, students must complete at least 54 quarter units of graduate work. A total of 13.5 quarter units of graduate credit may be granted for equivalent graduate work completed at another institution, as it applies to this degree, and provided the units have not been used to satisfy the requirements of an awarded degree.

For students in the BS in Criminal Justice Administration/MCJ transition program, the University will waive the criminal justice course(s) taken as part of the bachelor's degree (see BS in Criminal Justice Administration transition program) if the grade earned is a "B" or higher but no graduate units will be awarded.

Students should refer to the section on graduate admission requirements for specific information regarding application and evaluation.

Core Requirements

(8 courses; 36 quarter units)

CJA 600	CJ Theory, Practice & Policy
CJA 610	Critical Issues in CJ
CJA 620	Legal Issues in CJ
CJA 622	Professional Ethics in CJ
CJA 627	Comparative CJ Systems
CJA 650	Advanced Criminological Theory
CJA 655	Advanced Research Methods
CJA 690	Research Project Thesis

Prerequisite: CJA 600, CJA 610, CJA 620, CJA 622, CJA 627, CJA 650 and CJA 655

Program Electives

(4 courses; 18 quarter units)

Select **four (4)** courses from the following list of courses:

CJA 625	Security Management & Planning
CJA 660	Drugs, Alcohol & Public Policy
CJA 665	Violence and Victimization
FSC 622	Law and Criminal Procedure
FSC 631	Major Case Investigation
FSC 643	Forensic Psychology