

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE (M.S.)

## Master of Science Program

Program Code: MS-SP

Major Code: CRJ

## Criminal Justice Department

Cassety Hall Room 102

(716) 878-4517

[criminaljustice.buffalostate.edu/](https://criminaljustice.buffalostate.edu/) (<https://criminaljustice.buffalostate.edu/>)

This program integrates theory, research, and practice that are grounded in the social sciences. The academically rigorous curriculum prepares students for leadership positions in professional criminal justice fields or for advanced graduate study.

Program graduates have a broad base of knowledge in criminal justice and related disciplines; academic skills in critical thinking, conceptualization and analysis; and an in-depth understanding of the complexities of decision making, policy implementation, and planned organizational change in criminal justice.

## Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) in the last 60 credit hours or a Master's degree from an accredited college or university.
2. A written statement of intent that includes the applicant's preparation for graduate study.
3. If minimum requirements are not met, the graduate faculty may grant an applicant conditional admission to the program as a premajor if the applicant has a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 (4.0 scale) AND a minimum of five years of full-time work experience in the criminal justice field.
4. Applications are reviewed on a continual basis for the fall and spring semesters.

In addition, all applicants should review the Admission to a Graduate Program (<http://ecatalog.buffalostate.edu/graduate/admission-graduate-program/>) section in this catalog.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Core Courses (18 credit hours)</b>		
CRJ 501	THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES ON CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
CRJ 504	RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3

CRJ 601	CORRECTIONAL STRATEGIES	3
CRJ 604	CRIMINAL COURTS	3
CRJ 606	LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES	3
CRJ 609	STATISTICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3

## Elective Courses (9-18 credit hours)

Select 9-18 credit hours from the following: 9-18

CRJ 508	HISTORY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRJ 511	ADVANCED CRIME ANALYSIS	
CRJ 590	INDEPENDENT STUDY	
CRJ 602	ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND THE MANAGEMENT PROCESS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRJ 603	ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE	
CRJ 608	SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRJ 611	DATA-DRIVEN POLICING	
CRJ 620	WHITE-COLLAR CRIME	
CRJ 622	JUVENILE JUSTICE	
CRJ 624	COMPUTER APPLICATION	
CRJ 625	RACE AND ETHNICITY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRJ 626	GENDER ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRJ 630	CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
CRJ 635	CRIMINAL JUSTICE ETHICS	
CRJ 710	RESEARCH PROJECT	

Up to 9 credit hours of electives may be taken outside the department with prior written approval of the student's academic adviser.

## Comprehensive Examination or Master's Project (0-3 credit hours)

Select one option: 0-3

CRJ 690	MASTER'S PROJECT Comprehensive Examination	
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**Total Credit Hours 36**

Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of methods of gathering evidence in criminal justice and an understanding of what constitutes acceptable and appropriate evidence.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the impacts and outcomes of various criminal justice policies and practices.

3. Demonstrate the ability to articulate, apply and critically evaluate criminal justice theories.
4. Demonstrate competence in writing discipline specific research-based papers incorporating supporting material.
5. Demonstrate the ability to think critically.