J.D./M.S. in Criminal Justice Joint Degree Program

The J.D./M.S. in Criminal Justice Joint Degree Program was approved by the Wayne State University Board of Governors effective 2012.

Applications must be submitted to the Criminal Justice Department via the Wayne State University Online Application process by June 1 for Fall Semester admission.

Admission Requirements and Criteria

Applicants must meet requirements for admission to the Law School, be admitted into the Law School, and have successfully completed first year law school courses.

Applications to the joint program should be made by interested first year law students to the Criminal Justice Department in accordance with the Criminal Justice Graduate Handbook, which states:

Admission to the graduate program in Criminal Justice is based on:

1) Evidence of a completed Baccalaureate Degree from an accredited College or University.

2) Quality of the applicant's undergraduate record, as evidenced by his/her undergraduate GPA.

3) Two letters of recommendation (letters from college and/or law school professors acceptable).

4) Personal statement (Why do you want to pursue a master’s degree in criminal justice?).

Nature of the Joint Program

To receive the M.S degree in the joint J.D./M.S. in C.J. degree program, the student must complete:

(A) CRJ core course requirements, modified to include: Contemporary Criminal Justice (CRJ 7010), Research Methods (CRJ 7860), Data Management and Analysis in Criminal Justice (CRJ 7400), and Master's Essay Direction (CRJ 7999) (13 credit hours),

(B) Criminal justice electives, limited to 7000 level CRJ courses (9 credit hours),

(C) Law school courses from the approved list (10 credits), that apply toward the M.S. degree, and

(D) Receive J.D. degree from Wayne State University Law School.

Note: Up to four Criminal Justice courses are applied toward a student’s satisfaction of the Law School’s elective credits. In effect, nine additional credit hours (three courses) beyond the 86 credits required for the J.D. Degree are necessary to complete the M.S. Degree in Criminal Justice.

M.S. in CJ graduate courses are available on-line or in traditional classes.

Rev. 8/8/2018
The following Criminal Justice courses will ordinarily count toward a student’s J.D. degree:

- 7010 Contemporary Criminal Justice. Cr. 3 [core/required]
- 7020 The Nature of Crime. Cr. 3
- 7200 Public Policy and Criminal Justice. Cr. 3
- 7220 Delinquency and Justice. Cr. 3
- 7230 Policing and Society. Cr. 3
- 7240 Corrections. Cr. 3
- 7400 Data Management and Analysis in Criminal Justice. Cr. 3 [core/required]
- 7405 Wrongful Conviction
- 7860 Research Methods in Criminal Justice. Cr. 3 [core/required]
- 7990 Directed Study. Cr. 1-3 (Max. 3)
- 7995 Special Topics in Criminal Justice and Criminology. Cr. 3 (Max. 9)
- 7999 Master's Essay Direction. Cr. 3 [core/required]

The following Law School courses will count toward a student’s M.S. (Criminal Justice) degree:

- 6300 Criminal Law. Cr. 3
- 7075 Child Abuse and Neglect. Cr. 2
- 7112 Comparative Criminal Procedure. Cr. 2-3
- 7160 Criminal Pre-Trial Advocacy. Cr. 3
- 7161 Criminal Procedure: Investigation. Cr. 3
- 7166 Criminal Procedure: Adjudication. Cr. 3
- 7413 International Prosecution of State Actors. Cr. 3
- 7435 Juvenile Delinquency. Cr. 2
- 7941 White Collar Crime. Cr. 3
- 8043 Criminal Law: Advanced Topics Seminar. Cr. 3
- 8044 Advanced Topics in Criminal Law and Procedure. Cr. 3
- 8101 Family Violence: Seminar. Cr. 3
- 8280 National Security Law Seminar. Cr. 3
- 8505 Criminal Justice Externship Practicum Cr. 2
- 8506 Criminal Justice Externship: Colloquium. Cr. 2
- 8601 Criminal Appellate Practice Clinic. Cr. 3

**Tuition Note.** M.S. courses that do not count toward the J.D. degree are charged at the lower Graduate School tuition rate rather than the Law School tuition rate.

Joint degree students are eligible for Criminal Justice/Graduate School scholarships and for compensated positions as Graduate Teaching Assistant or research assistant positions.

**Time Lines for Degree Completion.** It is possible to complete the C.J. degree within the time in which a law student completes the law degree by taking M.S. courses in the summer. The M.S. degree can also easily be completed within a year after graduating with the J.D. degree.

**Time Limit for Degree.** All M.S. course work including the master’s essay must be completed within six (6) years commencing from the first term in which a grade is recorded for graduate coursework.