

## M.C.J. in Criminal Justice Description

The Master of Criminal Justice (M.C.J.) provides a person with educational experiences beyond the bachelor's degree to enhance skills and knowledge so as to allow graduates of the program to work in the field of criminal justice, as well as attend doctoral programs. As part of the degree, two emphases are offered: criminal justice and homeland security.

### Minimum Total Credit Hours: 36 Course Requirements

The M.C.J. is a 36-graduate-hour program. All students must complete the 12 hours of core courses (CJ 600, 635, 645, and 655), 9 hours from either the criminal justice or homeland security emphasis area, 9 hours of electives (from the courses included in this program or up to 6 hours of graduate courses either from another department or institution approved by legal studies graduate program coordinator and the department chair), and 6 hours of program completion options of: 1) thesis (CJ 697, 6 credit hours); 2) practicum (CJ 690, 6 credit hours); or 3) non-thesis/non-practicum option of taking at a minimum of 6 more additional credit hours of criminal justice elective classes.

### Other Academic Requirements

Students must pass an oral comprehensive examination for the thesis and practicum program completion options and a written comprehensive exam for the non-thesis/non-practicum option (i.e., completing at least 6 additional credit hours of criminal justice elective courses).

### Specializations

- [Emphasis - MCJ Criminal Justice](#)
- [Emphasis - MCJ Homeland Security](#)

