

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

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice (M.S.C.J.) promotes evidence-based policy and practice and prepares future leaders in the fields of criminal justice by conducting relevant, innovative research and offering cutting-edge courses.

## Admission Requirements:

1) Evidence of an awarded baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.

2) Quality of the applicant's academic record, as evidenced by cumulative grade- point average. At least a 3.0 or equivalent grade-point average on the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework is required.

3) Three (3) letters of professional recommendation, preferably from professors familiar with your academic qualifications or others familiar with your work ethic and ability to be successful in graduate school.

4) A 400- to 500-word statement of interest that describes your interest in pursuing the degree, your future career goals, and why you believe you will be successful in graduate school.

5) Submit a sample of your recent written work that best showcases your skills as a writer and critical thinker. Writing samples should be in English and no more than 10 double-spaced pages in length. There are no specific formatting requirements. This could be a term paper, professional report, policy brief, or any other document that demonstrates writing and analytic skills.

6) Curriculum vitae or resume.

7) International students must demonstrate compliance with the University of Mississippi's English Language Proficiency Score Requirements and Exemptions policy.

Prospective students that are interested in a graduate assistantship position (only applicable for the in-person emphasis in CJ policy and practice) should also submit:

- Resume or curriculum vitae.
- Brief statement of interest of no more than 300 words in the assistantship position, including interest in research and/or teaching and skills that you will bring to the position.

### Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30 Course Requirements

The M.S.C.J. is a 30-graduate-hour program. All students must complete the 12 hours of core courses.

- CJ 600 Criminal Justice Administration
- CJ 601 Criminal Justice Statistics
- CJ 602 Criminal Justice Research Methods
- CJ 624 Theories of Criminal Behavior

### **Other Academic Requirements**

The minimum requirements to graduate are: An overall graduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher; must complete a minimum of three (3) classes in their emphasis; and students must complete all core classes with a minimum grade of B-.

#### Specializations

Emphasis - Crim. Just. Policy & Practice

The University of Mississippi is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and baccalaureate, master's, specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, call 404-679-4500, or visit online at www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation.

