

CRIMINAL JUSTICE *

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Quarter Credit Hours Required = 56

The Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice is designed to provide an advanced and in-depth study of the criminal justice system from a management and administrative viewpoint. The curriculum includes courses that address the diverse nature of fraud and white-collar-crime-related investigations, including relevant advanced courses in the different fields of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, corrections, and juvenile justice, as well as courses that will increase the student's understanding of criminological theories and social science research. This program is designed to prepare the student to handle leadership and managerial positions at the local, state, and federal levels of the criminal justice system.

In addition to successful completion of all required courses and elective hours, the student will be tasked with completion of five comprehensive examinations, which will cover specific course materials, as a means to fully demonstrate the student's mastery of the material learned. The student will also complete an area paper or research paper of a field of interest within criminal justice. This project must be completed prior to graduation, and its topic and specifications required must be approved, overseen, and graded by an approved MSCJ faculty member.

Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to

- critique the issues and decisions made at the administrative levels of the criminal justice system;
- assemble the tools needed to conduct social science research in criminal justice institutions;
- interpret criminological theories, past and present, which explain criminal and deviant behavior; and
- conduct detailed research, analyze data, and report findings in a thorough manner.

AREA OF CONCENTRATION:

	Quarter Credit Hours
CRJ 5000 Issues in Criminal Justice	4
CRJ 5010 Seminar in Deviant Behavior	4
CRJ 5200 Criminal Justice Policy	4
CRJ 5300 Criminal Justice Leadership	4
CRJ 5400 Research Methods	4
CRJ 5450 Seminar in Corrections	4
CRJ 5550 Law and Social Processes	4
CRJ 5700 Seminar in Law Enforcement	4
CRJ 5900 Seminar in Juvenile Justice	4
CRJ 6000 Criminal Justice Statistics	4
CRJ 6010 Directed Research	8
Total Minimum Required Area of Concentration Credits	48

SUPPORTING ELECTIVES:

A minimum of 8 credit hours are to be selected from approved criminal justice-related courses completed at Virginia College or transferred from another accredited institution.

Total Minimum Supporting Elective Credits 8

TOTAL MINIMUM QUARTER CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED 56

****This program is only offered through Virginia College Online.***