



## MASTER OF ARTS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES

**Chairperson:** Robert Homant  
**Office:** Briggs Building 215A  
McNichols Campus  
**Telephone:** (313) 578-0362  
**Fax:** (313) 993-1166  
**E-mail:** homantr@udmercy.edu  
**Website:** [http://liberalarts.udmercy.edu/cjs/cj\\_grad.php](http://liberalarts.udmercy.edu/cjs/cj_grad.php)

Three graduate degree programs are offered: the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Criminal Justice, the Master of Science in Intelligence Analysis, and the Master of Science (M.S.) in Security Administration. These programs are designed for professional workers (law enforcement, corrections officers, security personnel) and others who desire to further their knowledge of the criminal justice system, security operations, and related disciplines. They provide an opportunity for the professional worker to broaden and deepen his/her perspective in the criminal justice profession and/or the administration of security programs. Problem solving, leadership, critical thinking, and the prudent application of theory to practice are skills that these programs are designed to foster.

These graduate programs are developed to meet the need for specialized training for criminal justice and security personnel suited to their unique functions. These studies can be pursued on a full or part-time basis. Furthermore, a three-semester sequence has been arranged within the academic year to provide occasion for expediting the completion of program requirements. Close faculty-student contact is maintained to assist each student in formulating realistic individual objectives and in selecting course work to attain them. Program arrangements are flexible so that individual needs can be served.

At least 50 percent of students enrolling in the Criminal Justice and Security Administration programs are employed full-time, often in the field they are pursuing. Course scheduling and specific, individualized programs are designed to take advantage of students' backgrounds and to permit students to pursue the master's degree at the pace most reasonable to themselves. All programs may be taken in the late afternoon and/or evening, full- or part-time.

### Admission Requirements

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college and must have demonstrated intellectual competence for graduate study. Selection is based on such factors as previous academic record (at least a 2.7 GPA) and/or relevant experience. Acceptance on a probationary status is allowed in some cases where academic standards are not fully met but

competence has been indicated by the level of the applicant's professional advancement. Also, as prerequisites, applicants must have had at least 15 hours of basic course work in the behavioral/social sciences and should solicit three letters of recommendation. Arrangements can be made to make up deficiencies.

### Degree Requirements

The master's degree programs require completion of a minimum of 36 credit hours of approved graduate work with a final grade point average of at least 3.0 (B). Prescribed core courses are listed under each program. In addition to course work, all candidates for the master's degree must complete a research component. This is done in one of three ways: (a) a master's thesis, which also conveys six credit hours; (b) two major review papers, or "Plan B" papers, which do not convey course credit; or (c) a master's research paper, which conveys three credit hours. These research components must receive a grade of B or better. In addition, a final comprehensive paper is written during the last semester before the degree is awarded. The master's paper is content-oriented across the 36 hours of the course sequence.

### Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

Students interested in a generalist's approach to criminal justice will find this course of study appropriate. Law enforcement and corrections personnel acquire a broad background in administrative theory and current concerns of the criminal justice system.

### Core Requirements

Twenty-one of the 36 hours are to include the following core courses:

CJS 5000	Research Methodology	3 cr.
CJS 5410	Constitutional Law	3 cr.
CJS 5550	Deviance & Social Control	3 cr.
CJS 5700	Socialization & Social Control	3 cr.
CJS 5800	Theory of Law Enforcement	3 cr.
CJS 5850	Seminar in Criminology	3 cr.
CJS 5970	Justice Seminar	3 cr.

Based on the student's undergraduate work and career experience, substitutions for the above courses may be made with the approval of the department chair. The remaining 15 hours may be selected from other graduate courses according to areas of need, specialization, and formal preparation including courses in addiction studies, business administration, counseling, education, psychology, and others.

**For further information, please write, call or e-mail:**

Robert Homant, Program Director  
 University of Detroit Mercy  
 4001 W. McNichols Rd.  
 Detroit, MI 48221-3038  
 witkowmj@udmercy.edu  
 (313) 578-0362

or

Jodi Abatemarco  
 Graduate Admissions Counselor  
 abatemjm@udmercy.edu  
 (313) 993-3289

or

Steven Coddington  
 International Admissions Counselor  
 coddinms@udmercy.edu  
 (313) 993-1207

**Overall Course Descriptions**

*Courses for Advanced Undergraduate and Graduate Students*

**CJS 4020 Court Structures and Functions 3 cr.**

The critical and pivotal role of the courts in the criminal justice process. Major structures and basic legal concepts that underlie the criminal courts. The dynamics of case process, management and bargaining, as well as the role of key personnel in the court structure.

**CJS 4100 Criminal Law 3 cr.**

Elements and proof in crimes of frequent concern in law enforcement with reference to principal rules of criminal liability. The importance of criminal law at the enforcement level considered from crime prevention to courtroom appearance.

**CJS 4200 Evidence and Criminal Procedure 3 cr.**

Rules of evidence of particular importance at the operational level in law enforcement and with criminal procedure in important areas such as arrest, force, and seizure. Court decisions affecting law enforcement.

**CJS 4520 Organized Crime 3 cr.**

A study of the impact of organized crime as a social and economic problem with special attention to the role of the criminal justice system as an ameliorative agent. History, nature, and extent of various types of organized crime in the United States and abroad.

**CJS 4560 Managing Aggressive Behavior 3 cr.**

Anticipating, responding to, and preventing or controlling various forms of aggressive behavior in the workplace, the home, and everyday life. Appropriate responses are examined

from law enforcement, human services, and private security perspectives. This course includes a hands-on component in which self-defense techniques are demonstrated.

**CJS 4820 Terrorism 3 cr.**

Examines the subject of terrorism and treats the phenomenon as criminal activity. Special attention to the following topics: 1) historical and social antecedents to today's problems; 2) profiles and motivations of contemporary terrorists; 3) characteristics of active terrorist groups; 4) the vulnerability of western nations to the techniques and technology of terrorism; 5) the role of the media; 6) the impact of terrorism on non-governmental sectors of society; and 7) acceptable counter-terrorist policies and practices.

**CJS 4830 Family Violence: Spouse and Child Abuse 3 cr.**

Current knowledge about family violence from the areas of psychology, sociology, social work, and law enforcement. Understanding the motivations underlying the behavior of the various actors involved: perpetrator, victim, social control agent, and helping professional. The connection between theory and treatment.

**CJS 4840 Psychology, Psychiatry, and Law 3 cr.**

Various interfaces between psychological theory and practice and the criminal justice system. The insanity defense, predictions of dangerousness, handling "victimless" crimes, psychological screening of police officers and other criminal justice system personnel, and the development of a moral-ethical sense.

**CJS 4850 Critical Issues in Criminal Justice 3 cr.**

Selected topics pertaining to crime and justice in America. Sex crimes and sex offenders, women in the criminal justice system, family violence, and victimology. Course may be taken twice under separate topic headings.

**CJS 4870 Victimology 3 cr.**

The process of becoming a victim of crime. Psychological stages through which victims pass. Crisis intervention with crime victims as well as means of prevention. Specific crime patterns and implications for victims. Consideration of victim response to such events as natural disasters and loss of loved ones.

**CJS 4900 Internship in Criminal Justice Studies 3 cr.**

(The course must be arranged in the semester prior to election and requires the approval of the student's advisor.) A supervised work experience in criminal justice under the direction of a faculty advisor and a field supervisor. The experience consists of working in an institutional setting at varying positions to become more familiar with the criminal justice field. Students must spend a minimum of 90 hours per semester in this capacity, maintain a log of their work activity, and meet weekly with their advisor.

**CJS 4920 Senior Seminar: Theory and Research in Criminal Justice** 3 cr.

A review of major trends, problems, and current thought regarding the future of justice in America. A review of major theories as well as an introduction to scientific research. Philosophy of research. Common statistical practices, sampling, and data interpretation. The relationship of theory to research and of research to theory. Preparation of a senior paper.

**CJS 4950 Criminalistics (Forensic Science)** 3 cr.

A general course in forensic operations and techniques. Firearms identification, ballistics, and glass examinations. Physical impressions, document and ink studies, and the science of fingerprints applied to crime investigations. Forensic photography and specimen identification.

**Graduate Courses****CJS 5000 Research Methodology** 3 cr.

The basic methods of empirical research design. The formulation and testing of hypotheses. Sampling, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data.

**CJS 5050 Interviewing Methods (SEC 5050)** 3 cr.

Approaches to interviewing in human services with special attention to legal and practical issues in law enforcement, corrections, and security. Analysis of non-verbal behavior and techniques for assessing credibility.

**CJS 5400 Criminal Justice Process and Criminal Law** 3 cr.

The philosophical and historical development of present law enforcement systems. Criminal law as an agency of formal social control and as an integrative mechanism. Court functions and procedures, adversarial and parental. Administrative and technical problems.

**CJS 5410 Trends in Constitutional Law** 3 cr.

An analysis of recent appellate and U.S. Supreme Court decisions as they bear on criminal justice practice. The impact of current issues on present and future legal considerations. The impact of social and legal literature on judicial consideration.

**CJS 5500 Institutional Corrections** 3 cr.

Administration of correctional agencies, types of facilities, treatment methods, and offender typologies and the problems of prisonization.

**CJS 5550 Deviance and Social Control** 3 cr.

Theories pertaining to selected specific areas: crime, substance abuse, suicide, and sexual deviance. Response of social control agencies to deviance.

**CJS 5590 Community Relations and Criminal Justice** 3 cr.

Review of selected problem areas. Offender and citizen reactions to policies and personnel of community agencies (police, courts, prisons) and correctional agents. Role of community treatment centers and future developments as to the function of police and correctional agents with regard to community response.

**CJS 5600 Community-Based Corrections** 3 cr.

An examination of the rationale for the revolutionary changes in the criminal justice system (theoretical, philosophical, and legal assumptions and issues) experimental methods being employed to implement community treatment plans.

**CJS 5700 Socialization and Social Control** 3 cr.

The ways in which members of any system become committed to group values and norms and the methods designed to regulate general community behavior.

**CJS 5790 Comparative Criminal Justice** 3 cr.

Contrasts and similarities between the American and European systems with an explanation of the merits and limitations of each. Cross-cultural justice.

**CJS 5800 Theory of Law Enforcement** 3 cr.

A comparative analysis of theories of law enforcement as they have been applied in terms of time and place. Historical trends and current applications in selected areas of the world.

**CJS 5850 Seminar in Criminology** 3 cr.

*(Prerequisite: Basic course work in the field of criminology.)* An opportunity to analyze and appraise major issues in criminology.

**CJS 5860 Law and Corrections Practice** 3 cr.

Systems of laws as they relate to various categories of offenders. Concepts of justice, punishment, and responsibility. Role of corrections in the court processes. Significant court decisions as they bear on the rights of the offender and the investigatory and supervisory processes. Pre-sentence reports and legal restrictions. Role of the correctional agent in the adversary process.

**CJS 5870 Criminal Justice Policy Formulation** 3 cr.

Seminar for advanced students in which students conduct original research on administrative/policy making aspects of a criminal justice area (law enforcement, judiciary corrections) and present their findings in a written report. The elements of appropriate policy and the legal and political ramifications of policy implementation and change.

**CJS 5930 Directed Studies** 3 cr.

An opportunity to pursue study in a particular area of interest not formally covered by courses currently available. Restricted to students who have completed a major portion of their course work. By arrangement only.

**CJS 5970 Justice Seminar** 3 cr.

An examination of the criminal justice system from the point of view of social justice. An examination of the ways in which law enforcement and corrections are affected by extra-legal variables such as social class and a critical examination of proposed reforms and likely effects.

**CJS 5980 Research Practice Seminar** 3 cr.

*(Prerequisite: CJS 5000, permission of director required.)*

Specialized research in a specific area. Student works independently or in a group under the close direction of a faculty member.

**University of Detroit Mercy**  
**Master of Arts in Criminal Justice**

***Statement of Purpose***

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Within a minimum of one typewritten page, please provide relevant information about yourself (a brief resume may be attached), including your short-range and long-range goals, objectives, and experiences related to your selected field of graduate study. Please give primary focus to your present circumstances and your ultimate goal(s) (career plan). Please use reverse side if you require additional space. All attachments should be securely stapled to this form.



# University of Detroit Mercy Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

## Admission Recommendation

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant:** This form is to be given to three people who are able to comment on your qualifications for graduate study. They may be professors, employers, or supervisors.

My preference regarding confidentiality of this recommendation is as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have access to this letter of recommendation; it will not be confidential and will be incorporated into my application for graduate study.

\_\_\_\_\_ I waive my right of access to this letter of recommendation and request it be incorporated as confidential material into my application for graduate study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**Note to Recommender:** The person named above is applying for admission to the graduate program indicated and has requested that your evaluation be included as part of the information in which the faculty will base its decision. Under THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT of 1974, this applicant (if admitted and enrolled) will have access to the information provided unless the statement above has waived the right to such access.

Please indicate how long and how well you have known the applicant, and tell what you can of the person's aptitude, emotional adjustment, oral/written expression, personal appearance, and potential for success. Accordingly, our students must exhibit a high level of emotional and social maturity. If you are aware of any weakness in this applicant's social or emotional adjustment that might hamper his/her function within this field, specify this below. Please feel free to use both sides of this form, or an extra sheet, if necessary.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return recommendation to:**

**University of Detroit Mercy  
Admissions Office  
4001 West McNichols Rd.  
FAC 100  
Detroit, MI 48221-3038**

**Please photocopy this sheet for additional recommendations.**

