Accelerated Master's Program
Criminal Justice

General Requirements

The School of Public Affairs offers a unique opportunity for highly qualified undergraduate criminal justice students to work concurrently toward the Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and the Master of Criminal Justice. AMP students may count up to 9 credit hours of eligible graduate-level criminal justice courses toward both their BA and MCJ degrees, allowing them to complete both degrees in an accelerated time frame.

In order for credit to be double-counted, the following conditions must be met:

- Dual credit courses must be approved by the BACJ Director prior to enrolling in the course.
- Dual credit courses must be completed with a grade of B or better.
- Dual credit courses must be taken at the graduate level (for graduate credit).

Eligibility Requirements

Both current UCCS and new transfer students are eligible to apply after meeting the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled in the School of Public Affairs as a Criminal Justice major.
- Junior year students (making the application for their senior year).
- Completed the following 10 credit hours of Criminal Justice major requirements with grades of B or better:
  - CJ 1001 Introduction to Criminal Justice
  - CJ 2041 Crime Theory and Causes
  - SOC 3070 Social Research Methods or CJ 3100 CJ Research Methods
- Have either successfully completed (grade of B or better) or are currently enrolled in:
  - CJ 3170 - Crime Prevention and Analysis or SOC 3170 - Social Statistics
  - CJ 3150 Statistics for Criminal Justice
- Minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA.
- No GRE Required.

To apply for the AMP, ensure you meet the criteria above, and then complete an intent form at uccs.edu/spa.

Students accepted into the AMP program may apply directly to the Master of Criminal Justice program in the final year of their Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice program.

For further information, contact the School of Public Affairs at 719.255.4993 or spa@uccs.edu or Dr. Kosloski, BACJ Director 719.255.4044 or Dr. Weir, MCJ Director 719.255.5121

Course Requirements

Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) students will select two required core MCJ courses (6 credits) from the following list, plus one MCJ elective (3 credits), which will count for both the BA and MCJ degrees:

- CJ 5001 Criminal Justice Systems, Policy and Practice
- CJ 5002 Criminological Theory
- CJ 5007 Violence

MCJ electives can be found in the UCCS Academic Catalog at catalog.uccs.edu.
Bachelor of Arts Criminal Justice Requirements

The BA in Criminal Justice requires completion of a minimum of 120 semester credit hours including the UCCS BACJ adaptation of the UCCS general education courses, criminal justice major requirements (42 credit hours) and a minimum of 45 credit hours of upper-division course work (3000 and above.) 42 credit hours in the major to include the following courses:

- CJ 1001 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- CJ 2041 Crime Theory and Causes
- CJ 3170 Crime Prevention and Analysis OR SOC 3170 Social Statistics OR CJ 3150 Statistics for Criminal Justice
- CJ 3250 Violence in Society
- CJ 4042 Corrections
- CJ 4043 Law Enforcement
- CJ 4044 Courts and Judicial Process
- CJ 4121 Ethics in Criminal Justice
- CJ 4960 Criminal Justice Internship
- SOC 3070 Social Research Methods OR CJ 3100 CJ Research Methods
- 9 credit hours of upper-division CJ electives

Students may use their major elective course options to form a concentration or “option” area in one or more of the following areas:
- Cybercrime and Cybersecurity (12 credits)
- Forensic Studies (15 credits)
- Law (12 credits)
- Law Enforcement (12 credits)

Students may take classes online, on campus, or a combination of both. The entire program may be completed online.

To view the courses accepted for each option area, general education requirements, and electives offered in the School of Public Affairs, please refer to the UCCS Academic Catalog at catalog.uccs.edu.

Master of Criminal Justice Requirements

The MCJ degree requires completion of a minimum of 36 credit hours

Core Courses (12 hours)
- CJ 5001 Criminal Justice Systems, Policy and Practice
- CJ 5002 Criminological Theory
- CJ 5003 Research Methods *
- CJ 5007 Violence

*should not be taken while an undergraduate or in the first semester of MCJ program

Internship (3 hours)
- CJ 6910 Internship*

*Required for students lacking significant experience in the criminal justice field.

Capstone or Thesis (3 - 6 hours)
- CJ 5361 Capstone Seminar (3 credit hours, final semester) OR
- CJ 6950 Master’s Thesis (6 credit hours, final two semesters)

Elective Courses (select 15-21 hours)
Number of hours depends on Internship requirement and Capstone or Thesis selection

To view electives offered in the School of Public Affairs, please refer to the UCCS Academic Catalog at catalog.uccs.edu.