Justice Studies, MS

The MS in justice studies prepares future scholars and change agents who want to conduct research and evaluate policies that promote social change. Housed in the transdisciplinary learning environment of the School of Social Transformation, this program is composed of scholars dedicated to creating and implementing innovations to change the world.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Justice Studies

The MS program in justice studies prepares students to pursue careers in law and public policy, community and nonprofit organizations, social work and advocacy, labor relations, criminal justice, education, and research and policy institutes. Many graduates also go on to pursue doctoral degrees in interdisciplinary programs such as justice studies, criminology and law, American studies, ethnic studies, and women and gender studies.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Accelerated Degrees

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- Justice Studies, BA
- Justice Studies, BS
Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

**Degree Requirements**

30 credit hours and a thesis, or
30 credit hours including the required applied project course (JUS 593)

**Required Core (12 credit hours)**
- JUS 500 Justice Research Methods (3)
- JUS 501 Justice Theory (3)
- JUS 509 Statistical Problems in Justice Research (3)
- JUS 521 Qualitative Data Analysis and Evaluation (3)

**Electives (12 credit hours)**

**Research (0-3 credit hours)**
- JUS 592 Research (3)

**Culminating Experience (3-6 credit hours)**
- JUS 593 Applied Project (3) or
- JUS 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**

Each student's program is developed in concert with the advisory committee. The required foundation courses provide students with a fundamental understanding of the theories, methods and analytic techniques associated with the study of justice.

To satisfy the thesis requirement for the degree, candidates must write a thesis and defend it in an oral examination conducted by the student's advisory committee. Students in this option are not required to take JUS 592 Research.

Students who elect to complete the applied project option will have to enroll in three credit hours of JUS 592 Research prior to enrolling in JUS 593 Applied Project. Candidates pursuing the applied project option must present their applied project and defend it in an oral examination conducted by the faculty member who supervises the project and the graduate programs director or designated representative. The applied project typically includes a brief literature review to identify the nature of the issue or problem and a description of the methodology used and, if relevant, of the program studied, followed by an analysis.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. writing sample
5. resume or curriculum vitae
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. Information regarding acceptable proof of English proficiency can be found via the Graduate Admission Services webpage: https://students.asu.edu/graduate/proficiency.

Applicants should visit the School of Social Transformation's Master of Science in justice studies webpage for further details on the listed application requirements and application deadlines.

No GRE testing is required for admission.

Mailing addresses and further admission information is available on the ASU Graduate Admission Services website.

Application requirements vary for the accelerated justice studies 4+1 program. Undergraduate students majoring in justice studies who are interested and eligible for this accelerated graduate program should contact the academic unit, to schedule an appointment with a graduate advisor prior to submitting an application. Further details about the accelerated justice studies 4+1 program can be found on the School of Social Transformation webpage.

Contact Information