Develop the dexterity and leadership skills you could not learn in a traditional criminal justice program. Conveniently located at ASU's Downtown Phoenix Campus, courses are delivered by nationally recognized professors with diverse expertise. You will quickly understand why this degree is consistently ranked No. 5.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Criminology and Criminal Justice

The MS in criminology and criminal justice is a research degree program designed to provide students with a high level of theoretical and empirical knowledge about crime and criminal justice.

The program provides students with the advanced research skills needed for careers as criminal justice researchers, leadership roles in criminal justice and related agencies and organizations, and for continued study in doctoral programs in criminology and criminal justice.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Watts College of Public Service & Community Solutions
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus

Concurrent Program Options

This degree is also offered as concurrent degree program with:

- Public Administration - Downtown Phoenix, MPA
- Public Policy, MPP

Accelerated Program Options
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:

Criminology and Criminal Justice, 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 capstone course (CRJ 505)

**Required Core (12 credit hours)**
CRJ 501 Seminar in Criminal Justice (3)
CRJ 502 Seminar in Criminology (3)
CRJ 503 Research Methods for Criminal Justice (3)
CRJ 504 Statistical Tools for Criminology and Criminal Justice (3)

**Systems Courses (6 credit hours)**
CRJ 512 Seminar in Policing (3)
CRJ 513 Seminar in Courts and Sentencing (3)
CRJ 514 Seminar in Corrections (3)

**Electives (6-12 credits hours)**

**Other Requirement (0-3 credit hours)**
CRJ 604 Advanced Statistical Analysis (3)

**Culminating Experience: (3-6 credit hours)**
CRJ 505 Theory and Practice in Criminal Justice (3) or
CRJ 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Students select two of the three systems courses listed above.

For the culminating experience, students choose either the thesis option or the capstone course. CRJ 604 Advanced Statistical Analysis is only required for the thesis option. To satisfy the thesis requirements for the degree, candidates must write a thesis and defend it in an oral examination conducted by the student's thesis committee. Students in the capstone option are not required to take CRJ 604.

Each student's program is designed in consultation with the faculty advisor.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in criminology or criminal justice or another closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (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. two letters of recommendation
4. personal statement
5. GRE scores
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The personal statement should address the applicant’s prior education and professional experience, discuss the applicant’s career goals and explain how the degree will help the applicant achieve these goals.

The GRE scores must be from within the last five years.

Applicants should see the program website for application deadlines.

Application Deadlines

Fall
Spring

Contact Information