Criminal Justice

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https://www.saintpeters.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-arts-criminal-justice/curriculum/

The MACJ program emphasizes a balance between theoretical knowledge, practical application, and advanced research, equipping students with the skills required to lead and innovate in various criminal justice roles. With 36 credits, students will engage in rigorous coursework, hands-on experiences, and a capstone project or comprehensive exam, preparing them for real-world challenges and leadership positions within criminal justice agencies, government, nonprofit organizations, and private sectors.

PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

The courses are offered on a trimester calendar and during the summer at the Jersey City Campus.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The degree requires 36 semester-hour credits. There are two tracks: the thesis MACJ Program and the Non-thesis MACJ program. The thesis program requires 21 credits for core courses, 12 credits for elective concentration courses, and a thesis (3 credits). The non-thesis MACJ program requires 21 credits for core courses, 15 credits for elective concentration courses, and a comprehensive examination.

TIME LIMITATION

Students are expected to enroll continuously until their programs are completed. Students are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress by maintaining the required grade point average and accumulating sufficient credits within five years. By federal regulation, F-1 International students must enroll as full-time students, so their time to completion will be considerably shorter.

CURRICULUM - MASTER OF ARTS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Students in the Masters in Public Administration program take classes with their cohort, allowing them to develop relationships while learning and growing with their peers. The 36-credit program focuses on the skills and knowledge needed for professionals in Criminal Justice.

Core Curriculum (21 credits)

All students complete a core curriculum focusing on constitutional law, advanced criminological theories, policy analysis, ethical issues, and research methods. This solid foundation prepares graduates to critically assess and address complex challenges within the criminal justice system.

CJA-616	U.S. Constitution and Criminal Justice
CJA-665	Advanced Criminological Theory
CJA-674	Crim Justice Policy Formation & Analysis
CJA-658	Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice Admin
CJA-650	Research Methods in Criminal Justice
GB-511	Management & Human Behavior
AC-501	Managerial Accounting

Specializations (12 credits for the Thesis MACJ Program, 15 credits for the non-thesis MACJ Program)
To provide targeted expertise, the program offers three unique specializations:

Criminal Justice Administration Specialization: This track focuses on leadership in law enforcement and criminal justice management. It includes courses on human resources, multicultural law enforcement, and community policing, culminating in practical experiences through an internship.

CJA-662	The Judicial System
CJA-652	Multicultural Law Enforcement
CJA-663	Community Policing and Problem Solving

CJA-688	Probation Patrol & Comm Correc	
GB-621	Human Resources	

Global Criminal Justice Specialization: Ideal for those interested in the international dimensions of criminal justice, this specialization covers terrorism, transnational crimes, multicultural perspectives, and comparative criminal justice systems, offering students a global understanding of justice issues and solutions.

CJA-672	Terrorism
CJA-652	Multicultural Law Enforcement
CJA	Transnational and Organized Crimes (to be developed)
CJA	Cyber-criminology (to be developed)
CJA	Comparative CJ System (to be developed)

Cybercrime Investigation and Cybersecurity Specialization: This track focuses on the advanced skills and knowledge needed to address the increasing complexity of cyber threats and digital crimes. As technology rapidly evolves, so do cybercriminals methods and sophistication. This specialization prepares graduates to investigate, prevent, and respond to cybercrimes while also understanding the broader cybersecurity landscape, making it ideal for those pursuing careers in law enforcement, corporate security, intelligence, or cybersecurity consulting.

CY-640	Cybercrime and Digital Forensics
CY-510	Cyber Security Planning & Risk Analysis
CY-520	Cyber Security Ethical & Legal Concerns
CJA	Cyber-criminology (To be developed)
CJA	Cyberterrorism (To be developed)
CJA	Artificial Intelligence and Criminal Justice (To be developed)