



## Master of Arts Criminal Justice

A Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from CSU Stanislaus can accelerate your career to the next level. In addition to enhancing your qualifications for supervisory positions in law enforcement, investigations and corrections, a master's degree in Criminal Justice can also qualify you to teach at the postsecondary level, or to conduct training for local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies.

### Careers in Criminal Justice

- The continued growth of the Department of Homeland Security has led to a greater need for qualified criminal justice administrators and instructors.
- A master's degree can improve your chances for promotion, open doors to leadership positions, and qualify you to teach criminal justice in a variety of academic settings.
- An advanced degree will enhance your qualifications for supervisory positions in law enforcement, investigations, and corrections.
- Bottom Line: You'll be better prepared for the future as law enforcement agencies are increasingly placing greater emphasis on education.

### Program Highlights

- Meet the public and private demand for academically-prepared and professionally competent criminal justice practitioners;
- Provide academic emphases in research and data analysis as well as criminology while adding a unique emphasis on teaching criminal justice at the postsecondary level;
- Increase cultural, linguistic, and gender diversity among criminal justice practitioners in order to address the needs of a culturally and linguistically diverse community;
- Advance the University's mission by expanding students' intellectual horizons, helping them reach their potentials, and encouraging a passion for lifelong learning.

### Program Overview

Designed for working adults who need maximum scheduling flexibility, the Criminal Justice M.A. at CSU Stanislaus provides an intensive study of theory and practice in the field of criminal justice. The program fosters independent learning and enables students to contribute intellectually to the corrections, law enforcement, and administration of justice professions.

Small class sizes mean maximum access to your instructors. In this effective setting, students learn to manage components of the criminal justice system through coursework in areas such as correctional systems; law enforcement; court systems; criminal justice and criminology theory; domestic violence; gender, race, and crime; constitutional law; criminal justice research; and management and leadership in criminal justice.

Finally, we work with an assortment of local, state and federal criminal justice agencies, and not for profit organizations as part of our internship program.

Most students complete the program in just two years. You will graduate with a full understanding of advanced criminal justice systems that will enable you to critically analyze and solve problems based on applied research methods. If you currently work in the criminal justice system, or want to enter this challenging and rewarding field, and have a bachelor's degree, this program is designed to meet your needs.

## Core Courses

*Complete 21 core course units for the Criminal Justice Master of Arts degree*

- CJ 5000** - Advanced Criminological Theory
- CJ 5001** - Critical Analysis of the Criminal Justice System
- CJ 5101** - Criminal Justice Planning and Program Evaluation; or
- CJ 5150** - Emergent Issues in Criminal Justice
- CJ 5200** - Applied Data Analysis
- CJ 5201** - Research Strategies in Criminal Justice
- CJ 5290** - Management of Criminal Justice Organizations
- CJ 5600** - Instructional Strategies in Criminal Justice

## Elective Courses

*Complete 12 elective units for the Criminal Justice Master of Arts degree*

- CJ 5250** - Qualitative Research in Criminal Law
- CJ 5320** - Critical Examination of Criminal Law
- CJ 5325** - Advanced Seminar in Domestic Violence and Intimate Abuse
- CJ 5330** - Investigating Death & Dying in the CJ System
- CJ 5340** - Constitutional Law in Criminal Justice Seminar
- CJ 5420** - Women, Crime, and Justice
- CJ 5555** - Theory of Crime and Punishment
- CJ 5940** - Graduate Internship in Criminal Justice
- CJ 5960** - Criminal Justice Project
- CJ 5980** - Individual Study
- CJ 5990** - Master's Thesis

## Culminating Experience

Students electing to do a project as their culminating experience must take CJ 5960 for 3 elective units. Students electing to do a thesis must take CJ 5990 for 6 elective units. Students electing to take a comprehensive examination must complete 33 units of coursework. (21 core and 12 elective).

## Contact Information

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## Interested in Applying?

**Application to our graduate program at CSU Stanislaus is completed online: Students must apply to the Graduate School and upload all required documents as listed below.**

**Qualified individuals holding a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university may apply to the Graduate School. Each applicant must upload the following directly to the Cal State Apply application:**

- Completed application on [www.calstate.edu/apply](http://www.calstate.edu/apply)
- Official transcripts from each college or university attended. International students must have transcripts evaluated by an approved institution.
- Letter of intent
- Writing sample
- Three letters of reference

## CJ Program Admission Requirements

- Completion of a bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.0
- A grade of B or better in an upper-division research and methodology course

**Other requirements may apply. Please refer to the course catalog online at <https://www.csustan.edu/catalog>**

