CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, MA

School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, College of Public Affairs & Community Service

Vision Statement
The Master of Arts (MA) degree is a 30-hour non-terminal degree designed to emphasize research activity and independent inquiry. This degree is recommended for those students seeking an interim degree prior to pursuing a doctoral degree. To complete the MA degree, students must write and orally defend a thesis. The thesis is an independent research project and an academic exercise that is written to the standards of the faculty members on the thesis committee. A thesis requires a committee of three faculty members and typically takes two semesters to complete.

Program Contact Information
Lisa Sample, PhD, Graduate Program Chair
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Admissions

Application Deadlines
Applications for this program are accepted on a rolling basis. All materials must be submitted prior to the beginning of the semester in which the student has elected to begin coursework.

Program-Specific Requirements
• Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the U.S., OR a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a pre-determined country on the waiver list, must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.
  • Minimum required scores are as follows:
    • IELTS: 7.5 required; 8.0+ preferred
    • PTE: score of 76 or higher
    • Internet-based TOEFL: minimum of 21 in each of the 4 areas, and a minimum of 95 overall (the paper version of the TOEFL will NOT be accepted).
  • All ESL students are required to take a proficiency assessment examination at UNO upon admission, which will be used to determine whether further assistance is required.
• Entrance Exam
  • Graduate Record Exam (GRE): a score of 300 or higher is required for admission to the MA program, or to be considered for an assistantship
• Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
• Statement of Purpose
  • One page discussing reasons for pursuing a graduate degree, interests in the field, and career goals for the future
• Unconditional Admission:
  • Possession of a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution
• Student has a 3.00 GPA (average of “B”) overall in undergraduate work
• At least 12 credit hours of criminal justice courses or related courses that meet the requirements of the current School undergraduate curriculum, including a basic statistics course, a research methods course, an introductory criminal justice course, and a criminology course.
• Provisional Admission:
  • Student has not completed all of the undergraduate prerequisite course requirements for unconditional admission to graduate study
  • Student has no less than a 2.75 overall GPA for the last two years of undergraduate work and not less than a 2.75 GPA in the undergraduate major

Degree Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8020</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8030</td>
<td>CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH THEORY AND METHODOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8950</td>
<td>STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE &amp; PUBLIC ADMIN</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 9020</td>
<td>SEMINAR ON THEORIES OF CRIME</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8130</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN WOMEN AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or CRCJ 9030</td>
<td>SEMINAR ON RACE, ETHNICITY, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE</td>
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Optional Course
Students can also take a diversity class from any field at the 8000 level or higher with adviser approval.

Electives
Select nine hours of CRCJ courses at the 8000 level or higher, with adviser approval: 1

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8990</td>
<td>MASTERS THESIS</td>
<td>6</td>
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Total Credits 30

1 If CRCJ 8130 or CRCJ 9030 is taken, they will serve as a diversity class, so another class should be selected to fulfill the 9 credit hours of CRCJ electives.

Exit Requirement
• Thesis 6 hours CRCJ 8990

All candidates should carefully review the Graduate College requirements for forming a Supervisory Committee, Thesis/Thesis Equivalent Proposal Approval Forms and final approval and submission of a thesis.