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
Dr. Lisa Sample
College of Public Affairs & Community Service (CPACS) 218
402-554-2610
lsample@unomaha.edu


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
- International Applicants:
  - International students seeking admission to the graduate program must meet UNO Graduate Studies requirements governing the admission of international students. In addition, all English as Second Language (ESL) students are required to submit scores from the IELTS, the PTE, or the internet-based TOEFL (the paper version of the TOEFL will NOT be accepted). 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
  - 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

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
<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 or CRCJ 9030</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN WOMEN AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE</td>
<td>3</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: 9
CRCJ 8990 | MASTERS THESIS                                      | 6       |

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 the Supervisory Committee, Thesis/Thesis Equivalent Proposal Approval Forms, and final approval/submission of the thesis.