

Program Overview

This new approach to a traditional master's degree in Criminal Justice focuses on the growing emphasis on research evidence in the system. In this changing field, successful professionals will need to know how to use research to evaluate the effectiveness of programs aimed at preventing and controlling crime.

While working alongside experienced faculty, students choosing the thesis track will earn credits for conducting original research and presenting a thesis.

Either track prepares students for professional careers by providing an understanding of the causes of crime, the impact of law and policy on society and contemporary issues in policing, courts and corrections.

Who should apply?

This program is designed for people interested in what research evidence tells us about the effectiveness of programs and policies aimed at preventing and controlling crime. It is for recent college graduates looking for a full-time or part-time graduate school experience or individuals in the field seeking a new challenge. Graduates will be prepared for leadership positions in police, court and corrections agencies and research positions in public, private and non-profit research institutes. Students interested in a doctoral program will receive a strong foundation for their continued studies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT:

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FOR GRADUATE ADMISSION INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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M.A.

in Criminal Justice

- Thesis Track
- Non-Thesis Track

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL



Department of Law & Justice Studies

Wilson Hall
 201 Mullica Hill Road
 Glassboro, NJ 08028-1701



WHERE WILL I GO AFTER I RECEIVE MY DEGREE?

Upon completion of the program, you will be able to conduct research, evaluate evidence from existing studies and apply knowledge and skills to compete successfully for advanced positions. You will understand cultural and individual differences and how they can play a constructive rather than counterproductive role in the way the criminal justice system operates.

You can pursue administrative or research positions in federal, state, county, city, non-profit and private agencies and research institutions that focus on criminal justice issues.

Examples of research institutes are:

- National Institute of Justice
- Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)
- Police Foundation
- New York Criminal Justice Agency
- Vera Institute
- National Development and Research Institutes

Other jobs include intensive supervision program (ISP) officer, assistant trial court administrator, case manager, research analyst, program specialist and community college professor.

RECENT GRADUATES

The program produces successful and highly motivated graduates:

After completing my bachelor's degree, I was attracted by the flexibility and the convenience of the M.A. in Criminal Justice program. Continuing my studies was a very easy decision to make.

Jennifer Mitchell '09

This program allowed me to apply academic studies and theory to my 34 years of professional experiences as a court administrator.

James Castagnoli '10

Having a criminal justice M.A. from Rowan prepared me for working in the field of security management and has played a big part in the successes I've had.

Adam Moltisanti '09

My graduate degree has opened doors for me that would not have opened had I remained in Trinidad & Tobago, my country of origin. Thanks to this program, I'm now pursuing a Ph.D in criminal justice.

Vaughn Crichlow '09

COURSE OF STUDY—TWO OPTIONS

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice requires a total of twelve courses.

Thesis Track:

The Thesis Track includes six required and four elective courses, and the equivalent of credit for two additional courses for original research and a thesis.

Non-Thesis Track:

The Non-Thesis Track includes the same six required courses, six electives and a comprehensive exam after the coursework has been completed.

FACULTY INFORMATION

The graduate faculty provides an interdisciplinary perspective with doctorate degrees in criminal justice, criminology, sociology and political science. Some have law degrees as well as Ph.Ds. Prior experience as practitioners in the criminal justice system allows the faculty to bring a realistic perspective to their work.

For more faculty information and a list of courses, please visit www.rowan.edu/lawjustice.

ADMISSION

Admission procedures follow those of the graduate school, which require a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, the submission of GRE scores and two recommendations. Students with diverse academic backgrounds can succeed in this program, but an introductory class in criminal justice, research methods and/or statistics may be required if these were not completed at the undergraduate level.