

Name: _____

Student Number: G _____

I. Core Requirements (18 Credits) – All students must complete the following 6 courses

CJ 604 - Criminal Justice Policy and Program Evaluation (3 credits) Offered winter semester of odd-numbered years	CJ 609 - Criminal Justice Systems (3 credits) Offered fall semester of odd-number years
CJ 606 - Research Methodology and Data Analysis (3 credits) Offered winter semester	CJ 610 - Race, Gender, and Class in the Criminal Justice System (3 credits) Offered fall semester of even-numbered years
CJ 607 - Criminology (3 credits) Offered fall semester of odd-numbered years	CJ 642 - Victimology (3 credits) Offered fall semester of even-numbered years

II. Electives (15 Credits if completing capstone seminar ([CJ 650](#)) or 12 Credits if completing the thesis ([CJ 695](#)))

CJ 600 - Qualitative Methodology (3 credits) Offered fall and winter semesters	CJ 622 - Juvenile Justice Systems and Issues (3 credits) Offered fall semester of odd-numbered years
CJ 619 - Legal Issues in Criminal Justice (3 credits)	CJ 640 - Graduate Internship (3 credits) Credit/no-credit. Offered every semester
CJ 620 - Policing and Society (3 credits) Offered winter semester of odd-numbered years	CJ 680 - Special Topics in Criminal Justice and Legal Studies (1 to 4 credits) Offered on sufficient demand
CJ 621 - Corrections and Punishment (3 credits) Offered fall semester of even-numbered years	CJ 699 - Directed Readings (1 to 3 credits) Offered every semester

III. Capstone Seminar

CJ 650 - Master's Capstone in Criminal Justice (3 credits) Offered winter semester, <i>completion of 18 credits, including all MCJ core classes</i>	CJ 695 - Criminal Justice Thesis (1 to 6 credits) Offered every semester
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The Capstone Seminar option requires students to complete 33 hours of coursework. The three credit Capstone Seminar serves as a culminating experience within the graduate program in lieu of the six-credit-hour thesis option. Students must complete a minimum of 18 credits before registering for the Capstone course. **This class should normally be taken in the student's final semester of study.**



Criminal Justice, M.S.

2022-2023
Catalog Year

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The 36-credit hour Master of Science degree in criminal justice at Grand Valley State University is designed to provide graduate students with the necessary education and practical skills to become natural leaders and academicians in the field. The program’s mission is to develop highly ethical and capable leaders, specialists, and scholars, with an advanced and practical knowledge in criminology and criminal justice to prepare them for future work in their careers, classrooms, and/or communities.

The criminal justice curriculum encompasses applied concepts of ethics, political and social justice, historical analysis of institutions and policy, leadership and management, and theories and research. The curriculum also prepares students who plan to apply to a doctoral program with appropriate theoretical, research, analytical, and critical interpretation skills.

TRANSFER CREDIT

Up to 12 hours of transfer credit may be applied to the degree program. Such credit must meet the requirements specified in the Transfer of Credit section of this catalog, be recommended as applicable to the degree program by a graduate faculty advisor, and be approved for transfer application by the MCJ graduate program director.

PROGRAM LOCATION

The program is offered in the DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, located in downtown Grand Rapids, MI.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE M.S. IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Students must complete a minimum of 36 graduate credit hours:

18 credit hours of core courses
12-15 credit hours of elective courses (12 credit hours if completing a thesis; 15 credit hours if completing the MCJ Capstone course)
Three to six hours of culminating experience.



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Example Schedule for **Full Time Graduate Student**, starting in Fall Even-Numbered Year (August 2022)

- 18 Core Requirements (CR)
- 15 Elective Requirements (ER) + Capstone (CAP)

Year 1

Fall (Even-Numbered Year)	Winter (Odd-Numbered Year)
CJ 610 - Race, Gender, and Class in the Criminal Justice System (3 credits) (CR)	CJ 604 - Criminal Justice Policy and Program Evaluation (3 credits) (CR)
CJ 621 - Corrections and Punishment (3 credits) (ER)	CJ 606 - Research Methodology and Data Analysis (3 credits) (CR)
CJ 642 - Victimology (3 credits) (CR)	CJ 620 - Policing and Society (3 credits) (ER)

Year 2

Fall (Odd-Numbered Year)	Winter (Even-Numbered Year)
CJ 609 - Criminal Justice Systems (3 credits) (CR)	CJ 650 - Master's Capstone in Criminal Justice (3 credits) (CAP)
CJ 607 - Criminology (3 credits) (CR)	
CJ 622 - Juvenile Justice Systems and Issues (3 credits) (ER)	