The Department of Criminal Justice and Political Science at North Dakota State University offers a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Administration.

Program Description

The M.S. in Criminal Justice Administration consists of two Tracks. An Applied Criminal Justice Track will be geared to practicing professionals who wish to apply core principles of criminal justice in helping to shape the administration of criminal justice practice and policy. This Track will furnish practicing professionals with advanced knowledge of justice administration, criminal justice policy, behavioral elements of crime, and research skills. This Track will also enhance the thinking skills of leaders in the criminal justice system by improving supervisory standards, facilitate critical thinking, and promoting ideas of social change and will culminate in the student writing a policy-based paper (30 credits).

A second Track will be a traditional Criminology Track with coursework directed toward advanced grounding in the concepts, principles, theories, and research methodology of the field. This Track will provide students with conceptual and research skills that will facilitate coursework in a Ph.D. program and will culminate in the student writing a master's thesis (30 credits).

Admission Requirements

Students will need to enter the program with a baccalaureate degree. Students will be required to have had one course in research methods, one course in statistics, and should document adequate background preparation or demonstrated potential in the field of Criminology or Criminal Justice. For admission to full-standing, students are required to achieve a minimum grade point average of 3.0 over their last 60 credit hours.

Applicants will be required to submit the following: application for admission; official transcript(s) (grade report); a $35 application fee and $10 processing fee (International applicants must pay an additional $15 transcript evaluation fee); statement of purpose outlining your reasons for pursuing graduate study; three (3) letters of recommendation, at least one must be from a person who can evaluate their academic work; official GRE scores; official TOEFL or IELTS scores for International applicants. Students not meeting these standards will be evaluated and possibly placed on conditional status.

Interested students can apply online at http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool/apply/index.shtml

Degree Requirements

Students will need to declare their choice of a Track by the end of their first semester in the program. Both Tracks require the completion of the following six (6) Foundation Courses (18 Credits).

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<th>Advanced Criminology</th>
<th>Criminal Justice Policy</th>
<th>Program Evaluation</th>
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<td>Applied Statistics</td>
<td>Advanced Quantitative Methods</td>
<td>Advanced Research Design</td>
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In addition to the Foundation Courses, students enrolled in the **Applied Track** must complete one (1) course from each of the following two (2) areas (6 credits).

**Corrections**
- Punishment and Society
- Community Corrections
- Crime Prevention
- Correctional Rehabilitation
- Juvenile Corrections

**Policing**
- Police and Society
- Administrative Policing
- Classics in Policing
- Police Effectiveness
- Police and Race Issues

In addition to the Foundation Courses, students enrolled in the **Criminology Track** must complete one (1) course from the Theory area (3 credits) and one (1) course from the Electives area (3 credits).

**Theory**
- Individual Theories of Crime
- Structural Theories of Crime

**Electives**
- Gender and Justice
- Violence
- Criminogenic Commodities

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**Criminal Justice Faculty and Research Interests**

**Carol A. Archbold** (Ph.D. Nebraska-Omaha) - Research interests include the police, gender and race issues in the criminal justice system, and research methods.

**Sarah Boonstoppel** (Ph.D. Maryland) - Research interests include criminological theory, crime and the life course, and qualitative and mixed research methods.

**Steven Briggs** (Ph.D. Nebraska-Omaha) - Research interests include the social ecology of crime, police discretion, and police effectiveness.

**Jeff Bumgarner** (Ph.D. Minnesota) - Research interests include policing, federal law enforcement, federal crime policy, and criminal justice administration.

**Andrew Myer** (Ph.D. Cincinnati) - Research interests include correctional interventions, evidence based program evaluation, actuarial offender risk assessment, and macro-social research methods.

**Amy Stichman** (Ph.D. Cincinnati) - Research interests include corrections, institutional life, inmate & correctional officer attitudes, and sexual assault on college/university campuses.

**Kevin Thompson** (Ph.D. Arizona) - Research interests include adolescent behavior disturbances, high risk college drinking, and drug courts.