

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, M.A.

Today's justice and community systems need professionals who can think across disciplines, adapt to change, and lead in complex environments. Saint Louis University's Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice gives you a strong foundation in criminology while helping you build advanced, career-ready skills.

This SLU program prepares you for advanced roles across justice and community settings, including leadership, analysis, treatment, policy and innovation. Graduates pursue careers in government, nonprofit and private organizations, justice agencies, treatment programs and policy-focused fields.

Classes are offered in flexible formats, with some courses in person and others online. Students can enroll full time or part time, making it possible to balance graduate school with work and life while building a degree that opens doors to what's next.

Curriculum Overview

The M.A. in criminology and criminal justice is a 33-credit-hour program that you can complete in as little as two years.

You will begin with core criminology and criminal justice coursework that builds a strong foundation in crime, justice and social systems. These courses strengthen your critical thinking and research skills while deepening your understanding of how justice systems operate.

You will then customize your degree by selecting a concentration aligned with your interests and career goals:

- Cybersecurity
- Organizational leadership
- Strategic intelligence
- Treatment and rehabilitation

Cybersecurity

Learn to apply security principles to analyze, detect and mitigate vulnerabilities and intrusions into justice-serving organizations' cyber infrastructure. As computers play an increasingly vital role in the functioning of the criminal justice system, cybersecurity expertise will continue to be in high demand.

Organizational Leadership

Prepare for leadership roles in justice-serving organizations through coursework designed to increase your management skills and enable you to overcome the challenges of administration in a fast-paced and ever-evolving context. Become the kind of leader that facilitates a healthy and productive professional environment. Students integrate knowledge gained through rigorous coursework with community-based learning opportunities to create solutions to complex social and organizational challenges.

Strategic Intelligence

Law enforcement relies on intelligence to fight crime and apprehend perpetrators. Learn to manage various information sources, think strategically and analyze data to develop actionable plans for managing investigations.

Treatment and Rehabilitation

Gain an in-depth understanding of human behavior, issues related to the treatment of high-risk populations, and evidence-based practices for improving the health of offenders and the communities in which they reside. A blend of in-class training and community-based practice experiences prepares students to become effective treatment agents.

Careers

An M.A. in criminology and criminal justice is for people who want to move into higher-level roles — where they lead, analyze and guide important work across justice and community settings. Whether you're interested in intelligence, cybersecurity, leadership, or treatment and rehabilitation, this degree prepares you to step into advanced roles across justice and community systems.

Graduates pursue careers connected to:

- Cybersecurity and information protection in justice organizations
- Intelligence, analysis, and investigative strategy
- Leadership and administration in justice and community agencies
- Treatment, rehabilitation and re-entry services
- Policy development and program evaluation
- Nonprofit and public-sector leadership

Recent graduates from SLU's M.A. in criminology and criminal justice program have accepted positions with organizations such as the FBI, U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Secret Service, IRS, and the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office, demonstrating the reach and impact of this degree.

Tuition

Tuition	Total Program Cost
MA Criminology and Criminal Justice	\$35,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/>)

Financial Aid

We are committed to helping you make your graduate education both affordable and meaningful. As an incoming student, you may be eligible

for several forms of financial support, including scholarships, fellowships and graduate assistantships, as well as additional funding opportunities available during your program.

FAFSA and Other Resources

All incoming students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<https://studentaid.gov/>) application. A step-by-step guide to submitting your FAFSA is available online (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/apply-accept/>). Saint Louis University Student Financial Services provides a Graduate Financial Aid Handbook (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/-pdf/24y-grad-financing-guide.pdf>) that outlines the process of financing your graduate education.

The following links to resources in Saint Louis University Student Financial Services may also be helpful:

- Graduate loan options (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/student-loan-information/>)
- Confirming your award (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/apply-accept/accept.php>)
- Paying your bill and payment plans (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/paying-your-bill/>)

Scholarships

All new incoming students will receive a partial scholarship upon admittance, thanks to our generous alumni and benefactors. Scholarship awards vary and are awarded upon admission. No separate application process is required.

Fellowships

In addition to scholarships, the School of Social Work offers competitive graduate fellowships that provide financial support and/or scholarships along with professional experience to graduate students. Unlike scholarships, all fellowships include a work or research requirement, which varies by fellowship type. Graduate Fellows contribute to the School's teaching, research and administrative activities while furthering their professional development. Find more information on the School of Social Work website (<https://www.slu.edu/social-work/admission.php>).

Newly accepted master's or doctoral students and students in the first year of a program may also be eligible to apply for University-wide diversity, dissertation or presidential fellowships. Find more details on fellowship applications here.

Graduate Assistantships and Internships

Graduate assistantships (GA) are University-funded assistantships awarded by the School of Social Work. They are assigned and funded for two semesters (a duration of 10 months, 20 hours per week), working with designated faculty. Benefits include an option for health insurance coverage (12 months), a stipend and two semesters (fall and spring) of tuition remission.

Under faculty mentors, GAs provide assistance with research/scholarship, teaching, community engagement and other professional, SSW or programmatic activities and are required to attend the University's Graduate Assistants' orientation the week before fall classes.

For more information about graduate assistantships, fellowships, scholarships and financial aid, please visit #SLU's Graduate Scholarships, Fellowships, Assistantships and Awards website.

Other Funding for Current Students

Current students may be eligible for conference/training funding. Opportunities and eligibility requirements vary and are communicated throughout the year by the programs.

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to evaluate/interpret existing research and apply it appropriately in their professional lives.
2. Graduates will be able to analyze and apply CCJ theories to problems of crime and justice.
3. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of how race, gender, social class, sexual orientation and/or sexual identity impacts people who come into contact with the criminal justice system and will be able to address those problems within the context of the criminal justice system to further social justice.
4. Graduates will be able to articulate criminology and criminal justice explanations/arguments to a disciplinary/professional audience in both written and oral formats.
5. Graduates will be able to evidence scholarly/professional integrity (ethics) in criminology and criminal justice.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

Successful applicants to SLU's Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice degree program possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00. Conditional admission may be considered for students with cumulative GPAs below 3.00.

Application Requirements

- Application form
- Transcript(s)
- Résumé
- Professional statement

Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students. International students must also meet the following additional requirements:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>). SLU's M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice program requires a TOEFL of 92 or higher.
- Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include:
 - Courses taken and/or lectures attended
 - Practical laboratory work
 - The maximum and minimum grades attainable
 - The grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations
 - Any honors or degrees received.
- Credential Evaluation Reports (such as the WES, ECE, The Evaluation Company (TEC), or Scholaro) are required.

If admitted to the School of Social Work, the International Office (<https://www.slu.edu/international-services/>) will require additional

documentation to issue an I-20. Questions about these requirements can be directed to internationalservices@slu.edu.

Application Deadlines

Fall Admissions

- February 1- Priority deadline for any student wishing to be considered for merit-based scholarships, graduate assistantships and fellowship opportunities.
- June 1- Final deadline for any international candidates wishing to begin their coursework in the fall of that year
- August 1- Final deadline for any domestic student wishing to begin their coursework in the fall of that year

Spring Admissions

- October 1- Final deadline for any international candidates wishing to begin their coursework in the spring of that year
- December 1- Final deadline for any domestic student wishing to begin their coursework in the spring of that year

Review Process

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. The admissions committee considers several factors to determine a candidate's eligibility.

- Academic achievement
- Strength of the undergraduate program
- Application information
- Professional statement
- Work experience
- Any graduate degrees earned
- Motivation
- Leadership and service
- Undergraduate GPA

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses ¹		
CCJ 5000	Criminological Theory	3
CCJ 5100	Ethics in the Administration of Justice	3
CCJ 5200	Research Methods	3
CCJ 5300	Proseminar in Criminal Justice	3
CCJ 6400	Issues in Jurisprudence	3
Elective Courses		6
Select six (6) credits of Thesis or any two (2) courses with the "MACCJ Elective" attribute. Options may include any of the following:		
CCJ 5910	Criminology and Criminal Justice Internship ²	

CCJ 5990	Thesis Research (6 hours required if student chooses a thesis) ²	
CCJ 6000	Issues in Policing	
CCJ 6100	Issues in Corrections	
CCJ 6200	Issues in Juvenile Justice Administration	
Related Field Elective ³		
Concentration specific courses ⁴		12
Select one of the following:		
Cybersecurity (p. 3)		
Organizational Leadership (p. 4)		
Strategic Intelligence (p. 4)		
Treatment and Rehabilitation (p. 4)		
Total Credits		33

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

- ¹ CCJ Core classes can be taken in any sequence and are offered on a rotating basis given a student's starting semester (Fall or Spring). They are rotated on a four-semester basis. Search courses by the following attributes : "MACCJ Even Fall", "MACCJ Odd Fall", "MACCJ Even Spring, and "MACCJ Odd Spring"
- ² CCJ 5910 and CCJ 5990 can be taken during any semester. Students need to make arrangements in advance with the Director of the Internship Program or their thesis advisor to take these classes.
- ³ Students may take electives in a related field, e.g., SWRK 5771 or SWRK 5744. In addition, one (3-credit) class at the 4000 level may be taken, with the CCJ Director's (dyan.mcguire@slu.edu) approval, and counted as a CCJ elective.
- ⁴ Students in an approved dual degree program, such as the M.S.W. and M.A.C.C.J. dual degree (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/social-work/social-work-dual-degree-ma-ccj/>), will select 12 credits of electives instead of choosing a concentration. Those 12 credits of electives will be fulfilled with M.S.W. coursework.

Cybersecurity

Code	Title	Credits
CCJ 6000	Issues in Policing	3
CYBR 5000	Cybersecurity Principles ¹	3
CYBR 5010	Networking Concepts ¹	3
CYBR 5030	Cyber Threats and Defense ¹	3
Total Credits		12

- ¹ Select courses from the Cybersecurity concentration may meet the requirements of the Cybersecurity Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/professional-studies/cybersecurity-pb-cert/>) offered in the School for Professional Studies.

Organizational Leadership

Code	Title	Credits
CCJ 6000	Issues in Policing	3
or CCJ 6100	Issues in Corrections	
ORLD 5010	Contemporary Organizational Leadership ¹	3
ORLD 5350	Team Leadership ¹	3
ORLD 5100	Prof Leadership Development ¹	3
or ORLD 5150	Talent Mgmt & Development	
or ORLD 5250	Leading a Healthy Organization	
or ORLD 5650	Future-Focused Leadership	
or ORLD 5750	Contemporary Issues in Leadership	
Total Credits		12

¹ Select courses from the Organizational Leadership concentration may meet the requirements of the Organizational Leadership Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/professional-studies/organizational-leadership-pb-cert/>) offered by the School for Professional Studies.

Strategic Intelligence

Code	Title	Credits
CCJ 6000	Issues in Policing	3
INTL 5000	The Intelligence Cycle ¹	3
Choose two of the following:		6
INTL 5050	Terrorism & US Foreign Policy ¹	
INTL 5200	Cyber Operations and National Security ¹	
INTL 5250	Structured Analytical Techniques for Intelligence ¹	
Total Credits		12

¹ Select courses from the Strategic Intelligence concentration may meet the requirements of the Strategic Intelligence Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/professional-studies/strategic-intelligence-pb-cert/>) offered in the School for Professional Studies.

Treatment and Rehabilitation

Code	Title	Credits
SWRK 5762	Diagnosis & Assessment in Clinical Practice	3
Select three courses with the "Social Work Generalist" attribute		9
Total Credits		12

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in

consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Classes for the M.A. in criminology and criminal justice rotate on a four-semester cycle. The order of courses depends upon your starting semester. This roadmap is for illustrative purposes only and assumes an odd-year fall start date.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
CCJ 5100	Ethics in the Administration of Justice	3
CCJ 5300	Proseminar in Criminal Justice	3
Concentration Course		3
		Credits
		9
Spring		
CCJ 6400	Issues in Jurisprudence	3
MACCJ Elective attributed course		3
Concentration Course		3
		Credits
		9
Year Two		
Fall		
CCJ 5000	Criminological Theory	3
CCJ 5200	Research Methods	3
Concentration course		3
		Credits
		9
Spring		
MACCJ Elective attributed course		3
Concentration course		3
		Credits
		6
		Total Credits
		33

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://www.slu.edu/admission/>)

For admission questions contact:

Social Work School Graduate Admissions Office
 sswadmissions@slu.edu
 314-977-2752

For program questions contact:

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