

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE



**N** UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH  
FLORIDA

## Graduate Studies in Criminal Justice

The Master of Science in Criminal Justice at UNF provides an opportunity for advanced academic work in this expanding field of study. As a discipline, criminal justice draws together all the social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, mathematical and computer sciences, history, law and jurisprudence to focus on the problem of crime in society. The graduate program at UNF builds upon the unifying interdisciplinary nature of the field it seeks to address.

Furthermore, the program at UNF is vitally concerned with theory, practice, and research, based on the firm conviction that none of these can stand alone. Sound practice requires a firm theoretical and research base, while advances in theory and research arise from the realities of practice. The program emphasizes the acquisition of professional skills that will enable students to keep abreast of research and developments in the field long after they have completed their formal studies.



### Criminal Justice M.S. Degree Program

The program consists of 36 graduate semester hours. There is a common core of courses required of all students, comprising 12 semester hours of study. The students must also complete either a thesis (or demonstration project) or a non-thesis project (graduate practicum or a supervised teaching experience) with comprehensive exams.

### Prerequisites

- Undergraduate Statistics or Social Science Research Methods
- Undergraduate Criminological Theory or Introductory Criminology with theory component

Prerequisites must be completed within the first nine hours of graduate course work.

# Corequisites

The following are graduate level corequisites which can be completed in place of up to 6 hours of electives:

- Students lacking computer literacy must complete a computer class approved by the department
- Students lacking course work in criminal law will be required to take a graduate course in criminal law and procedures

# Required Core Courses: 12 Hours

Advanced Criminological Theory .....	3 Hours
Deviance Processes and Social Control .....	3 Hours
Quantitative Research Methods .....	3 Hours
Qualitative Research Methods .....	3 Hours

# Exit Requirements: 6 Hours

Select from Thesis or Non-Thesis options (Non-Thesis option requires written comprehensive examination.)

## Thesis Option

Thesis/Demonstration Project .....	6 Hours
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## Non-Thesis Option (Select one)

Graduate Supervised Teaching Practicum .....	6 Hours
Graduate Practicum in Criminal Justice .....	6 Hours
Graduate Level Electives (with special permission) .....	6 Hours

# Electives: 12-18 Hours

Elective courses in the MSCJ Program can be selected from a variety of courses which include but are not limited to:

- Analysis of Subcultural Perspectives
- Counseling Applications in CJ
- Working with Juvenile Offenders
- History and Philosophy of Corrections
- Criminal Justice Administration
- Crisis Intervention
- Information Systems in CJ
- Comparative CJ Systems
- Victimology
- Elite Crime

# Graduate Advising

Applicants for the MSCJ Program will work with the Program Director to develop their initial graduate program of study. At the end of the first 9 hours of graduate study, students will work with the Program Director and CJ faculty to develop a graduate committee who will direct the student through completion of the program.

# Admissions

To be admitted to the MSCJ Program applicants must meet *both* University and MSCJ Program admissions requirements. These requirements include:

## ***University Admission:***

1. A baccalaureate degree from an approved college or university
2. At least one of the following:
  - a) A grade point average of 3.00 (B) or higher for all work as an upper division student,
  - b) A composite score of 1000 or better on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), or
  - c) A graduate degree from an accredited university.

*(Note: All applicants must submit GRE scores.)*

Ordinarily, students should submit the above documents, along with an application for admission, to UNF Admissions Office at least two (2) months prior to anticipated enrollment. Note that sometimes GRE scores take six weeks or more to arrive. Make application to the program at the same time materials to the University are submitted.

## ***Department Admission:***

To be considered for admission, the applicant must submit the following to the MSCJ Program Director:

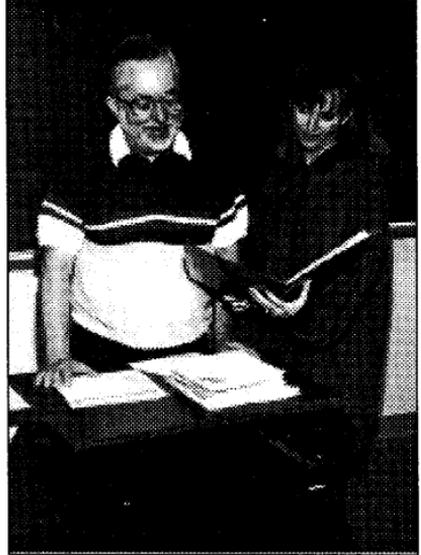
1. A letter requesting admission to the program discussing:
  - a) academic and relevant employment experiences,
  - b) career goals,
  - c) areas of chief interest in the field, and
  - d) reasons for seeking the MSCJ degree.
2. Two (2) or more letters of recommendation from responsible persons who hold graduate degrees and know the student well enough to attest to the student's ability to do graduate work.
3. Evidence of satisfactory completion of program prerequisites.

Students failing to meet University or program requirements may petition the program for an exceptional admission. In the case of those students for whom other qualities may be documented which may make them suitable for graduate study, probationary admission may be permitted.

## **Graduate Research and Teaching Opportunities**

A number of opportunities are available in the department for students in good standing and interested in working as teaching assistants or research assistants on various research and service projects.

- *Research Assistants:* In recent years, faculty in the department have been successful in obtaining externally funded projects. A number of students have been hired as research assistants.
- *Teaching Assistants:* Each semester one or more paid teaching assistantships are available for graduate students to assist in undergraduate courses.



## Research and Service Activities

Members of the department are involved in a variety of research and service areas. Some of these areas are:

- Domestic/Intimate Violence
- Criminal Justice Training
- Corrections Research
- Juvenile Justice Program Evaluation
- Gender and Crime
- Law Enforcement
- Gender and the Judiciary
- Homicide

## Criminal Justice Faculty

**Susan McCain**, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, J.D., University of Southern California): *Law and Society, Qualitative Methods*

**Charles E. Owens**, Professor (Ed.D., University of New Mexico): *Mental Health, Domestic Violence, Corrections*

**Christine E. Rasche**, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Washington University, St Louis): *Theory, Deviance, Gender, Qualitative Methods, Criminology, Domestic Violence, Homicide*

**Joque Soskis**, Assistant Professor (J.D., University of Florida): *Technology Applications, Agency Management and Organization Theory, Law, Forensics, Information Management*

**Stanley L. Swart**, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Northwestern University): *Comparative Criminal Justice, Historical Criminal Justice, Corrections*

### *Associated Faculty*

**Henry Camp**, Department Chair and Professor of Sociology (Ph.D., University of Nebraska): *Social Welfare, Community Sociology, Aging*

**Eddie Collins**, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., University of Florida): *Race Relations, Education, Social Psychology*

**Martin Edwards**, Director, Pre-Law Program (J.D., University of Florida): *Constitutional Law*

**Kumar Kuthiala**, Associate Professor (Ph.D., University of Georgia): *Demography, Family, Theory, Methods*

**Robert Thunen**, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., Northwestern University): *Archeology, Physical Anthropology, Native Americans*

**Jeffrey A. Will**, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, Amherst): *Research Methods, Inequality, Urban Studies*

## Additional Information

Additional information about the MSCJ Program can be obtained by writing or calling:

**MSCJ Program Director**

**Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice**

**University of North Florida**

**4567 St. Johns Bluff Road, S.**

**Jacksonville, FL 32224-2645**

**Ph: (904) 646-2850 FAX:(904) 646-2540**

Prospective students who wish to receive more information about UNF in general are encouraged to contact the New Student Information Office at (904) 646-2638 or the Office of Admissions at (904) 646-2624.



Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice  
4567 St. Johns Bluff Road, South  
Jacksonville, Florida 32224-2645

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*from 1995*