

Criminal Justice

Department Information

- **Department Chair:**
Amy Stichman, Ph.D.
- **Graduate Coordinator:**
Andrew J. Myers, Ph.D.
- **Department Location:**
104 Putnam Hall
- **Department Phone:**
(701) 231-8567
- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/criminaljustice/ (<http://www.ndsu.edu/criminaljustice/>)
- **Application Deadline:**
April 1 for Ph.D. applicants, Master's applications accepted for fall and spring enrollments on a rolling basis.
- **Credential Offered:**
Ph.D., M.S.
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**
TOEFL iBT 100, IELTS 7, Duolingo 125; to qualify for assistantship TOEFL iBT 114, IELTS 8, Duolingo 135

Doctor of Philosophy

Students should enter the program with an approved master's degree. Students will be required to have had one course in research methods and one course in statistics. Plus, students should have adequate background preparation or demonstrated potential in the field of criminology or criminal justice.

Students will be required to submit their undergraduate and graduate transcripts. For admission to full standing, students are required achieve a minimum grade point average of 3.0 over their last 60 credit hours. Students not meeting this standard will be evaluated and possibly admitted on conditional status.

A student entering the program with a master's degree would take a minimum of 60 credit hours. Students entering the program with a master's degree should submit their research thesis to the graduate committee for review. This committee would be charged with determining whether the research project is sufficient in scope and depth to warrant further supervised research.

Master of Science

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.

Accelerated Master's Degree in Criminal Justice

The accelerated master's program allows exceptional undergraduate criminal justice students to complete their master's degree in three semesters beyond the bachelor's degree.

ADMISSION PROCESS: Upon completion of 60 undergraduate credit hours, eligible Criminal Justice majors can apply to the accelerated master's program. A minimum GPA of 3.5 for the Criminal Justice major, an overall cumulative GPA of 3.5, and successful completion of CJ 325 (Applied Research Methods) are required prior to admission to the program. Students may apply while enrolled in CJ 325, but must earn a minimum grade of "B" prior to beginning graduate coursework. Interested students may apply by completing an application on the NDSU graduate school website (www.ndsu.edu/graduateschool), requesting at least two letters of recommendation from faculty or instructors, and submitting a statement of intent explaining why the applicant wants to pursue a master's degree in Criminal Justice. Interested students should apply early in the criminal justice program as credits from completed 400 level courses cannot be retroactively applied to the accelerated master's program.

COURSES: Once admitted to the Accelerated Master's program, students will take four 400/600 level courses (CJ 606 Crime and Delinquency; CJ 607 Deviant Behavior; CJ 660 Criminal Court System, and CJ 661 Corrections) to fulfill the requirements for their Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and also receiving credit toward a master's degree in Criminal Justice. Students enrolling in these courses at the 600 level can expect additional reading and writing beyond expectations for students completing these courses for 400 level credit. Students are required to earn a minimum of a "B" in order for the course to count toward the master's degree. Students failing to earn a "B" in any of the 400/600 cross-listed courses will be allowed to repeat the course once. Students receiving anything below a "B" in a retaking of a 400/600 level course will be removed from the program and will not be allowed to re-apply for admission into the accelerated program or the traditional master's program. Transfer credits from courses completed at other

universities are not accepted for the accelerated master's program. Upon successful completion of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree, students will begin taking 700 level graduate courses.