

## THE MASTER OF ARTS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

John Penny, Ph.D., Th.D., **Associate Professor**

Office: Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Bldg., Room 313

Phone: (504) 284-5478

Email: jpenny@suno.edu

**Associate Professor:** John Penny, Ph.D.

**Assistant Professors:** Darren Gil, Ph.D.; Raymond M. Delaney, DM; Darryl Roberts, Ph.D.

The University offers a Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. The Criminal Justice Graduate Program is designed to serve as a stepping stone to further graduate work, law school, or administrative research and management careers in the criminal justice system or the private sector. The Criminal Justice Graduate Program has three primary concentrations: Law Enforcement, Corrections, and Juvenile Justice. The program is responsive to the criminal justice needs in the public sector in specialized areas such as corrections, police administration, and Juvenile Justice.

The Graduate Program is designed to serve the following students:

1. Those seeking intermediate level administrative or research positions.
2. Those gainfully employed in the criminal justice system who wish to broaden their perspective and advance in the system.
3. Those pursuing a teaching career at the community college level.
4. Those who plan to continue in a doctoral program, specifically in one of the cognate areas (criminology, criminal justice, corrections, and law enforcement).
5. Those preparing to enter law school.

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice requires a total of thirty-six (36) credit hours of graduate work.

**Master's with Thesis Option:** The thesis option is recommended for those students wishing to conduct original research and those who wish to pursue law school or a doctoral degree in the future. This option requires students to take at least thirty (30) credit hours of approved graduate course work in addition to six (6) thesis hours for a total of thirty-six (36) credit hours for graduation. An oral defense of the thesis is required.

**Master's without Thesis Option:** This option is intended for students and/or working professionals who elect additional hours of course work. Students who choose this option must take at least thirty-six (36) credit hours of graduate course work, approved by his or her advisor, along with a Comprehensive Examination in the final semester before graduation. The comprehensive must be registered for but offers no credit.

Criminal Justice graduate students are encouraged to join professional associations, and to attend conferences and meetings. Student participation in research presentations and round table discussions during regional and national conferences is encouraged.

First year, first semester graduate students must enroll in CRMJ 500 Criminal Justice Systems and CRMJ 505 Writing for Research. Graduate students must successfully complete each course with a B average

or above during their first semester into the program. This requirement is to ensure that graduates learn critical, analytical, and technical skills for building competencies as a criminologist.

First year, first semester graduate students admitted under special consideration (e.g., have no experience working in the justice system, or do not possess an undergraduate or minor degree in criminal justice) must successfully complete CRMJ 500 Criminal Justice Systems, CRMJ 505 Writing for Research, and CRMJ 510 Research Methods and successfully complete each course with a B average or above before enrollment into CRMJ 520 Criminology and above. Successful matriculation and completion of the Masters of Criminal Justice program within 18 months and 2 years will help facilitate the goal of improving the retention rates of each new cohort.

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

### A. Law Enforcement Administration

Graduate Level Criminal Justice Courses 12 hours: CRMJ 600, 610 and 615. From the following elective courses, nine hours (9 hrs.) must be taken: 555, 556, 565, 572, 575, 590, 640, 645, 655, 660, and 699.

### B. Corrections

Graduate Level Criminal Justice Courses 12 hours: CRMJ 625, 635, 680, and 685. From the following elective courses, nine hours (9 hrs.) must be taken: 555, 556, 560, 565, 572, 575, 590, 605, 655, 660, 665, 675, and 699.

### C. Juvenile Justice

Graduate level Criminal Justice Courses 12 hours: CRMJ 705, 710, 715, and 720. From the following elective courses, nine hours (9 hrs.) must be taken: 555, 565, 590, 660, 665 and 699.

**D. Thesis Option:** CRMJ 690 and CRMJ 695

**E. Non-Thesis Option:** Comprehensive Examination

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A completed application includes:

- Application form
- Official Transcript(s)
- GRE score
- Three (3) letters of recommendation (Two of which must come from people in the position to evaluate applicant's potential for graduate work, i.e. former professors)
- Letter of intent
- SUNO Health Form
- Application Fee (\$25.00), International students (\$35.00)

In case of an international student, official results of a TOEFL examination or other evidence of English proficiency is required. Such student must possess the appropriate student Visa status to be able to enroll in classes.

### **Core Courses** - Required 18 credit hours

#### Required Courses

CRMJ 500	Criminal Justice Systems (3 credits)
CRMJ 505	Writing for Research in Criminal Justice (3 credits)
CRMJ 510	Criminal Justice Research Methods (3 credits)
CRMJ 520	Criminology (3 credits)
CRMJ 530	Criminal Justice Administration; Theory, Policy & Practice (3 credits)
CRMJ 540	Criminal Justice Statistics (3 credits)

**Law Enforcement Concentration** - Required 12 credits hours

## Required Courses

CRMJ 600	Advance Police Administration (3 credits)
CRMJ 610	Community Policing (3 credits)
CRMJ 615	Criminal Justice Planning & Budgeting (3 credits)

## Electives

CRMJ 640	Crime Prevention (3 credits)
CRMJ 645	Program Evaluation (3 credits)
CRMJ 655	Legal & Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice Administration (3 credits)
CRMJ 660	Applied Study (3 credits)

**Corrections Concentration** - Required 12 credit hours

## Required Courses

CRMJ 625	Management & Administration in Corrections (3 credits)
CRMJ 635	Classification and Assessment of Offenders (3 credits)
CRMJ 680	Advance Seminar in Corrections (3 credits)
CRMJ 685	Community Corrections (3 credits)

## Electives

CRMJ 655	Legal & Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice (3 credits)
CRMJ 660	Applied Study (3 credits)
CRMJ 665	Alcohol, Drugs, Mental Illness & Criminal Behavior (3 credits)
CRMJ 675	Correctional Law (3 credits)

**Juvenile Justice Concentration** - Required 12 credit hours

## Required Courses

CRMJ 705	Human Resource Administration (3 credits)
CRMJ 710	Management and Administration of Juvenile Justice Systems (3 credits)
CRMJ 715	Legal and Ethical Issues in Juvenile Justice Systems (3 credits)
CRMJ 720	Advance Seminar in Juvenile Corrections (3 credits)

## Electives

CRMJ 555	Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (3 credits)
CRMJ 556	Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (Travel) (3 credits)
CRMJ 565	Advanced Seminar in Juvenile Justice System (3 credits)
CRMJ 590	A-Z Selected Topics in Criminal Justice (3 credits)
CRMJ 660	Applied Study (3 credits)
CRMJ 665	Alcohol, Drugs, Mental Illness & Criminal Behavior (3 credits)

**General Electives**

CRMJ 555	Comparative Criminal Justice System (3 credits)
CRMJ 556	Comparative Criminal Justice System - Travel (3 credits)
CRMJ 560	Security Management (3 credits)
CRMJ 565	Advance Seminar in Juvenile Justice System (3 credits)
CRMJ 572	Criminal Justice & The Community (3 credits)
CRMJ 575	Race & Gender in the Criminal Justice System (3 credits)
CRMJ 590	A-D Selected Topics in Criminal Justice (3 credits)

CRMJ 690	Thesis I (3 credits)
CRMJ 695	Thesis II (3 credits)
CRMJ 699	Independent Study (3 credits)
Comprehensive Examination (0 credit)	

### **MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE CURRICULUM**

Three Areas of Concentration: (A) Law Enforcement, (B) Corrections, and (C) Juvenile Justice

#### FIRST SEMESTER (FALL)

<b>Course No. and Title</b>	<b>Hrs. Credit</b>
CRMJ 500 Criminal Justice Systems .....	3
CRMJ 505 Writing for Research in Criminal Justice .....	3
CRMJ 520 Criminology .....	3
CRMJ 530 Criminal Justice Administration: Theory, Policy & Practice .....	3
CRMJ 540 Criminal Justice Statistics .....	3
CRMJ 600(A) Advanced Police Administration .....	3
CRMJ 610(A) community Policing .....	3
CRMJ 625(B) Management & Administration in Corrections	3
CRMJ 680(B) Advanced Seminar in Corrections .....	3
CRMJ 715(C) Legal and Ethical Issues in Juvenile Justice Systems .....	3
CRMJ 720(C) Advance Seminar in Juvenile Corrections	3
	-----
	6-12

#### SECOND SEMESTER (SPRING)

CRMJ 510 Criminal Justice Research Methods .....	3
CRMJ 530 Criminal Justice Administration: Theory, Policy & Practice .....	3
CRMJ 615(A) Criminal Justice Planning & Budgeting ....	3
CRMJ 635(B) Classification and Assessment of Offenders	3
CRMJ 685(B) Community Corrections .....	3
CRMJ 705(C) Human Resource Administration .....	3
CRMJ 710(C) Management and Administration of Juvenile Justice Systems .....	3
	-----
	6-12

## SUMMER SESSION

CRMJ Elective .....	3
---------------------	---

## THIRD SEMESTER (FALL)

CRMJ 540 Applied Statistics .....	3
Remaining Core and Concentration Courses	

## FOURTH SEMESTER (SPRING)

Remaining Core and Concentration Courses  
Comprehensive Examination

## FULL-TIME STUDENT CREDIT-HOUR LOAD PER SEMESTER

First Semester .....	9
Second Semester .....	9
Third Semester .....	9
Fourth Semester .....	9

(Required for Graduation).....	<b>36 Total</b>
--------------------------------	-----------------

In addition, the following course will be required for all persons admitted to the program whose baccalaureate degree is not in Criminal Justice and/or who does not have previous research background:

**CRMJ 590(G) Special Topics: Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure**

Note: It is recommended that students take only nine (9) credit hours per semester. A maximum of twelve (12) credit hours may be taken per semester with special approval of the student's advisor only.

**Financial Aid**

A limited number of assistantships are available to qualified applicants. Financial need, Academic standing and full time student status are some of the criteria considered in awarding all financial assistance. The Financial Aid office at SUNO also provides assistance to graduate students, such as college work study and Guaranteed Student Loans. Inquiries regarding availability of assistance and application procedures should be made directly to SUNO Financial Aid Office.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS GRADUATE LEVEL**

### **CRMJ 500 CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

3 credit hours

This course provides a foundation and overview of the criminal justice system and process. It focuses on critical decisions with emphasis on contemporary issues, controversies, and trends. (Prerequisite to enrollment into CRMJ 520 or above and declaring a concentration or thesis option)

### **CRMJ 505 WRITING FOR RESEARCH IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

3 credit hours

This graduate level course develops proficiency in the techniques of writing precise summaries and synthesis of published professional literature. Completion of a literature review related to an issue, event, or subject appropriate as a foundation for a final research project will begin. Mastery of professional English will be demonstrated through the completion of a manuscript of 1500-3000 words suitable for publication. (Prerequisite to enrollment into CRMJ 520 or above and declaring a concentration or thesis option)

### **CRMJ 510 CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH METHODS**

3 credit hours

Methods and techniques of research in the behavioral sciences with an emphasis on research designs most appropriate for data collection in criminal justice. (Prerequisite to enrollment into CRMJ 520 or above and declaring a concentration or thesis option)

### **CRMJ 520 CRIMINOLOGY**

3 credit hours

This course provides an overview of the nature and scope of delinquency and crime problem; considers problems of the assessment and measurement of delinquency and crime; surveys available theoretical formulations concerning criminal and delinquent behavior. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

### **CRMJ 530 CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION: THEORY, POLICY, AND PRACTICE**

3 credit hours

This course presents the examination and analysis of basic management principles for criminal justice administration. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

### **CRMJ 540 CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS**

3 credit hours

This course will provide Criminal Justice Graduate students with the basic understanding and application of statistical concepts and techniques in Criminal Justice. A major objective will be to use statistics to manage, interpret and utilize criminal justice data. Students will have an opportunity for hands-on experiences with the computer and SPSS on appropriate criminal justice data sets. Topics include: history of Criminal Justice Statistics, utilizing raw data in various types of graphs, charts, measures of central tendency, measures of variability, comparative statistics, Pearson's R, regression, Manova, Anova, etc. It is expected that upon completion, students will be able to analyze and interpret data in the field of Criminal Justice.

### **CRMJ 555 COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

3 credit hours

A cross-national analysis and evaluation of selected criminal justice systems in terms of theories, types and effects of intervention is presented. Emphasis should include the effects of diverse political ideologies on theory and practice.

**CRMJ 556 COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS (Travel)** 3 credit hours

This course gives an intensive overseas/international study, which includes educational travel to selected criminal justice systems of other nations. Emphasis on the formal and informal social control system, along with cross-national analysis of the impact of culture, religion, and political systems on the criminal justice system is included. It involves travel orientation, seminars, visits to criminal justice agencies and a term paper.

**CRMJ 560 SECURITY MANAGEMENT** 3 credit hours

The organization and management of security operations in business, industry, institutions and government.

**CRMJ 565 ADVANCE SEMINAR IN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM** 3 credit hours

Advance study of the juvenile justice system and law. Theories of juvenile delinquency and crime prevention. Topical issues include: the study of programs and organizations which prevent, evaluate, and treat youth offenders.

**CRMJ 572 CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE COMMUNITY** 3 credit hours

This course examines the relationship between the Criminal Justice Agencies and the Community they serve. Emphasis is on their crime prevention and participation strategies, and the community involvement in Criminal Justice Agencies planning, implementation and policy development.

**CRMJ 575 RACE AND GENDER IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM** 3 credit hours

This course examines how race, gender, (and class) impact crime, justice practices and employment in the criminal justice system. Historical as well as present day practices of institutional discrimination on the basis of race, gender, and class are analyzed. The course incorporates the literature of majority, minority and women scholars.

**CRMJ 590A-Z SELECTED TOPICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE** 3 credit hours

Special topics of interest and of current importance not given significant coverage in other courses. Students may elect this course again as long as different topics/subject matters are studied. No more than six credit hours of special topics may be used toward the degree program. Topics offered will be listed in current published schedules.

**CRMJ 600 ADVANCED POLICE ADMINISTRATION** 3 credit hours

An examination of principles and theories of administration as applied to law enforcement organizations with an emphasis on the environment, change, conflict, strategy, and management. These are analyzed in relation to the functions, organizational structure, and policies of law enforcement agencies. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 605 HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATION** 3 credit hours

This is a study of legal, technical, and policy issues in juvenile justice administration related to: a) recruitment, selection, and promotions; b) career development, compensation management, job analysis, performance appraisal, and measures of productivity; c) disciplinary systems and civil liabilities of law enforcement personnel and agencies; d) training and collective bargaining agreements; e) budgeting, and other labor-management issues. (Law Enforcement & Corrections Concentrations) (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)



**CRMJ 610 COMMUNITY POLICING** 3 credit hours

Community policing philosophy, applications, issues, administration and contemporary research. Community policing models. Social, political, economic and organizational factors affecting community policing policies. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 615 CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING & BUDGETING** 3 credit hours

An examination of the interactive process of planning and financial management. The development of current budgeting modes in the public sector, including application of forms of zero-based and programmatic budgets to law enforcement agencies. The political context of criminal justice planning/budgeting as relevant to preparation, presentation, executive and legislative approval, execution, and audit. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 625 MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION IN CORRECTIONS** 3 credit hours

Major organizational and management issues in corrections administration. Topics include contemporary issues in prisons, probation and parole, etc. Social, political, economic and organizational factors affecting correctional policies. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 635 CLASSIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF OFFENDERS** 3 credit hours

Techniques and methods used for appraising personality characteristics. Selection, administration, interpretation and evaluation of test instruments. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 640 CRIME PREVENTION** 3 credit hours

An examination of basic principles of prevention, deterrence and control of crime in the United States. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 645 PROGRAM EVALUATION** 3 credit hours

Systematic review of efforts to evaluate intervention programs and assess effectiveness of crime prevention schemes and methods for the treatment of offenders. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 655 LEGAL & ETHICAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION** 3 credit hours

A study of legal issues involved in the administration of a modern police agency.

**CRMJ 660 APPLIED STUDY** 3 credit hours

First-hand experience in the day-to-day operation of a criminal justice program under the guidance and supervision of a faculty member and a practitioner in the field placement.

**CRMJ 665 ALCOHOL, DRUGS, MENTAL ILLNESS & CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR** 3 credit hours

Examination of the legal, ethical and social issues involved in criminal justice agencies dealing with alcohol and drug misuse and abuse and mental illness.

**CRMJ 675 CORRECTIONAL LAW** 3 credit hours

In-depth examination of a particular area within the broader field of correctional law. Emphasis on the study of different correctional cases. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 680 ADVANCED SEMINAR IN CORRECTIONS**

3 credit hours

Analysis of the purpose, theories and practice of correctional institutions. Topical issues include: traditional and contemporary correctional practices, security operations, treatment issues, etc. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 685 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

3 credit hours

Includes an overview of treatment and rehabilitative practices of community correction programs and provides an opportunity for a detailed critical assessment of them, including an analysis of evaluation of effectiveness. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 690 THESIS I**

3 credit hours

Development of thesis proposal including literature review, research design, and theoretical introduction. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 695 THESIS II**

3 credit hours

A continuation research culminating in the writing of the Master Degree research report required for the M.A. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 699 INDEPENDENT STUDY**

3 credit hours

This course requires individual research and writing under faculty supervision. An intensive study in areas not provided in other courses or an advanced study in areas of special interest to the student under the approval and direction of a faculty person. Open only to graduate students who completed at least 15 credit hours of criminal justice graduate courses. Permission of Instructor and Director required. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 705 HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATION**

3 credit hours

This is a study of legal, technical, and policy issues in juvenile justice administration related to: a) recruitment, selection, and promotions; b) career development, compensation management, job analysis, performance appraisal, and measures of productivity; c) disciplinary systems and civil liabilities of law enforcement personnel and agencies; d) training and collective bargaining agreements, e) budgeting, and other labor-management issues. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 710 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION IN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

3 credit hours

This course involves the study of major theories, organizations, management and research issues in Juvenile Justice Systems. Specific issues such as the role of professional administration, juvenile courts, juvenile detention center, house arrest, electronic monitoring problems and challenges of initiating reform, and issues relating to interagency relations will be discussed. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 715 LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

3 credit hours

This course will examine relevant law and case studies involving juveniles. It will involve the study of legal and ethical issues with regard to the police handling of juveniles, juvenile court administration, corrections and juvenile agency activities. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**CRMJ 720 ADVANCE SEMINAR IN JUVENILE CORRECTIONS**

3 credit hours

The examination of the origin, nature, purpose, and standards of juvenile correctional institutions. Topical issues include: traditional and contemporary juvenile correctional practices, security operations, and treatment and rehabilitation issues. Research based current practices and innovative programs will also be reviewed. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)

**COMPREHENSIVE EXAM (Pass/Fail)**

0 credit hours

THIRTY-SIX (36) CREDIT HOURS of course work are required for the Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. This includes eighteen (18) credit hours in core courses, twelve (12) credit hours in an area of concentration and six (6) hours of electives or Six (6) hours for a thesis option. (Prerequisite: CRMJ 500, CRMJ 505, and CRMJ 510)