

UMSL | Graduate School

Master of Arts Criminology and Criminal Justice

Degree Program

A minimum of 30 credit hours is required, at least 21 of which are in Criminology and Criminal Justice. 12 of these hours represent the core of the curriculum.

- **Non-thesis option:** requires a minimum of 30 credit hours, which includes the 12-hour core course requirement, at least 9 hours of seminar courses within the Department, and 9 hours of electives.
- **Thesis option:** Students must complete the 12 hours of core courses, at least 9 hours of seminar courses, and a combination of electives AND thesis research hours (typically taken in 3 hour increments over two semesters).

Program Website

- <https://www.umsl.edu/ccj/graduate/masters.html>

Application Requirements

1. Application
 - a. <https://www.umsl.edu/admissions/applications.html>
2. Statement of Purpose
 - a. In 1-2 pages, briefly explain why an advanced degree in criminology and criminal justice is of interest and why the applicant merits serious consideration.
3. Official transcripts from all universities attended
 - a. Successful applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree before beginning the master's program.
4. Entrance examinations
 - a. The Graduate Record Examination General Test is not required but may add value to the application.
 - b. International students are required to document English proficiency by providing scores from an internationally accepted standardized examination before a decision is made on admission. See International Admissions for more information: <https://www.umsl.edu/global/admissions/grad.html>
5. Grade Point Average
 - a. Minimum of 3.0 on 4.0 scale in the last 60 hours of the undergraduate degree.
6. Two Letters of recommendation
 - a. Letters of recommendation from persons qualified to evaluate the applicant's recent academic performance are required.

Application Deadlines

Priority deadline April 1st.

Applications submitted after April 1st will be considered for admission on a rolling basis.

Application Fee

\$50 for domestic applicants; \$40 for international applicants

Graduate Program Director

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