

# Master of Science in Criminology (M.S)

## Faculty

**Professors:** James W. Marquart,

**Associate Professors:** Bruce Jacobs, John Worrall

**Assistant Professors:** Karen Hayslett-McCall, Denise Paquette-Boots

**Clinical Professors:** Timothy Bray, Danielle Lavin-Loucks

## Mission

The Mission of the Master of Science in Criminology program at the University of Texas at Dallas is threefold, to:

1. Deliver high-quality education to a diverse body of students regarding the etiology, control, and variation of law-breaking across space and time.
2. Serve local, regional, and national communities through professional development programs, public policy analyses and evaluation research, program and policy design, and as a forum for new ideas and approaches to the study of crime.
3. Advance the understanding of criminology through a multidisciplinary mix of theoretical and applied research.

## Objectives

The Master of Science in Criminology provides students with a coherent and intellectually challenging degree that prepares them to conduct interdisciplinary research on various aspects of criminology and/or criminal justice, depending on their specific areas of specialty. Students will be well prepared for analytical and administrative posts in international and domestic research and policy institutions, criminal justice organizations, and in the private sector.

## Facilities

Students have access to the computing facilities in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences and the University's Computing Center. The School has two computing laboratories which have over 30 computers that are network linked and equipped with major social science software packages, including E-Views, R, Rats, SPSS and STATA. A computerized geographic information system, the Lexis Nexis Database, and WestLaw are also available for student use. The University's Computing Center provides personal computers and UNIX Workstations. Many important data and reference materials are also available online via the library's and School's memberships in numerous organizations.

## Prerequisites

For the Master of Science in Criminology, students with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology will have the necessary foundation in criminology. Students who lack this foundation should complete the following undergraduate courses at UTD or their equivalents at another institution:

CRIM 3303 Advanced Criminology, CRIM 3303 Advanced Criminal Justice, CRIM 3304 Research Methods in Crime and Justice Studies, SOC 3305 Introduction to Social Statistics. Prospective students with concerns about their preparation for the Applied Sociology program are encouraged to consult with the program coordinator.

## **Transfer Policies**

Students who have previous graduate work pertinent to the requirements of the Criminology degree may be given up to 15 hours of transfer credit, and the hours of coursework required for the degree will be reduced accordingly. Students desiring to transfer graduate courses thought to be equivalent to core courses may be required to demonstrate competency through examination. The award of such transfer credit must be consistent with the University's "Transfer of Credit" policy.

## **Degree Requirements**

The University's general degree requirements are discussed [here](#).

Students seeking a Master of Science in Criminology degree must complete 36 semester credit hours of coursework in the program. The Core curriculum involves 36 hours, including 9 hours of research methods and statistics, 21 hours in various aspects of criminology (i.e., contemporary criminological theory, pro-seminar in criminology, law & social control), and six hours of independent research to satisfy a writing requirement. Students must achieve at least a 3.0 grade point average in the Criminology core courses and an overall grade point average of 3.0 to graduate.

## **Core Courses**

CRIM 5310 Research Design I  
CRIM 5313 Descriptive and Inferential Statistics  
CRIM 5316 Advanced Regression Analysis

CRIM 6300 Proseminar in Criminology  
CRIM 6303 Etiology of Crime and Criminality.  
CRIM 6305 Law and Social Control.  
CRIM 6307 Extent of Crime and Measurement Problems in Criminology  
CRIM 6311 Crime and Justice Policy  
CRIM 6324 Correlates of Crime and Justice  
CRIM 7300 Advances in Criminology Theory

## **Research Project Requirement (6 credit hours)**

CRIM 6996 Master Thesis Research