

Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice

Department Head

Full Graduate Faculty: Calvi, Coleman, Hueston, Maloy, Rausch, Thoman, Welch.

Associate Graduate Faculty: Parrish, Price.

The Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice offers master of arts degrees in political science with two options. The first option is the traditional thesis program in which the student completes 30 semester hours, six of which are for the thesis. With approval of the graduate adviser, the student may elect an additional field of a minimum of six and maximum of 12 semester hours. At least 21 of the 30 semester hours must be taken at the 6000 level.

The second option is the non-thesis program. This program requires 36 semester hours, 24 hours of which must be completed at the 6000 level. The student must demonstrate proficiency in research and writing in graduate seminars. With approval of the graduate adviser, the student may elect an additional field of a minimum of six and maximum of 12 semester hours.

The Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice also offers a master of arts degree in criminal justice with two options. The first option is the traditional thesis program in which the student completes 42 semester hours, six of which are for the thesis. With approval of the graduate adviser, the student may elect an additional field with a minimum of six and maximum of 12 semester hours. At least 30 of the 42 hours must be taken at the 6000 level. The second option is the non-thesis program. This program requires 42 semester hours, 30 of which must be completed at the 6000 level. The student must demonstrate proficiency in research and writing in graduate seminars. With approval of the graduate adviser, the student may elect an additional field with a minimum of six and maximum of 12 semester hours.

In addition to extensive offerings in political science and criminal justice, the department offers graduate courses in public administration and international politics. These programs are designed to prepare students for a career in their respective fields.

Discipline	Course Prefix
Criminal Justice	CRIJ
Political Science	POSC
NOTE: See the "Academic Courses and Abbreviations" and "Course Descriptions" sections of this catalog for a complete list of courses offered by the University.	

Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree

Major in Criminal Justice Studies

(Major Code: 5133)

General Requirements

Students must have a minimum of 24 hours of criminal justice or equivalent courses. Any leveling classes will be individually arranged.

42-Hour Thesis Program

Required Criminal Justice Courses (12 semester credit hours)

- CRIJ 6340, 6348, 6387, 6388.

Elective Courses (24 semester credit hours)

The student may select not less than six semester credit hours or more than 12 semester credit hours from political science, psychology, sociology or a related field.

- Choose from CRIJ 6096, 6098, 6312, 6320, 6322, 6335, 6337, 6342, 6346, 6362, 6364, 6366, 6372, 6374, 6392.
- Approved related fields (six to 12 semester credit hours).

Thesis (six semester credit hours)

- CRIJ 6301 and 6302.

42-Hour Non-Thesis Program

Required Criminal Justice Courses (12 semester credit hours)

- CRIJ 6340, 6348, 6387, 6388.

Elective Courses—30 semester credit hours

The student may select not less than six semester credit hours or more than 12 semester credit hours from political science, psychology, sociology or a related field.

- Choose from CRIJ 6096, 6098, 6312, 6320, 6322, 6335, 6337, 6342, 6346, 6362, 6364, 6366, 6372, 6374, 6392.
- Approved related fields (six to 12 semester credit hours).

Major in Political Science (Major Code: 5110)

General Requirements

The student may take work in a general field or concentrate in areas such as American government, state and local government, public administration or international politics.

30-Hour Thesis Program

- 18–30 semester hours in political science, including POSC 6301, 6302, 6387 and 6388.

Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice

- With approval of the graduate adviser, the student may elect an additional field of study of at least six but not more than 12 semester hours.
- At least 21 of the total 30 semester hours must be taken at the 6000 level.
- Students will be required to pass an oral comprehensive examination over the thesis upon its completion.

36-Hour Non-Thesis Program

- 24–36 semester hours in political science, including POSC 6387 and 6388.
- With approval of the graduate adviser, the student may elect an additional field of study of at least six but not more than 12 semester hours.
- At least 24 of the total 36 semester hours must be taken at the 6000 level.
- Students will be required to pass a written comprehensive examination in their areas of concentration. Students may also be required to pass an oral comprehensive examination at the discretion of the department.