

CRIMINAL JUSTICE - MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

All candidates, regardless of chosen degree option, must complete a final examination. Examination requirements vary by degree option. Please contact the director of the MCJ program or consult the Department of Criminal Justice website (<http://crimjust.nmsu.edu/criminal-justice-graduat/>) for details.

Thesis Option (33 Credits)

Thesis students must submit a thesis proposal to their faculty committee for approval and subsequently complete the approved thesis project. An approved thesis proposal is one wherein the thesis committee determines the student demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the nexus of theory, method, and policy as it applies to the proposed thesis project. At the discretion of the thesis committee the proposal may be considered inadequate and the student is required to revise and resubmit the thesis proposal until the committee determines the proposal is satisfactory. The final examination minimally includes a defense of the completed thesis, but may also include a general examination based upon the candidate's program of study. The minimum coursework requirements are displayed below.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Required Courses		15
CJUS 501	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	
CJUS 502	Statistics in Criminal Justice	
CJUS 511	Nature of Crime	
CJUS 514	Advanced Race, Crime, and Justice	
CJUS 525	Issues in Ethics, Law, and Criminal Justice	
Master's Thesis Credits		
CJUS 599	Master's Thesis	6
General Electives		
Select 12 credits from General Electives. ¹		12
Total Credits		33

¹ Students may not count CJUS 593 Internship or CJUS 592 Independent Research credit toward their elective requirement. No more than three total credits of CJUS 591 Directed Readings in Criminal Justice coursework may be used as electives; a minimum of 3 of the 12 credit general elective requirement must come from the Department of Criminal Justice.

A minor is optional (contact the director of the MCJ program or consult the Department of Criminal Justice web site, <https://crimjust.nmsu.edu/>, for details) and may result in more than 33 total credits for the degree.

Focused Coursework Option (36 Credits)

Focused coursework students must pass a written comprehensive examination following completion of the required courses. Students not passing the examination will be required to wait until the following semester to retake the examination. The minimum course requirements are displayed below.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Required Courses		15
CJUS 501	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	

CJUS 502	Statistics in Criminal Justice	
CJUS 511	Nature of Crime	
CJUS 514	Advanced Race, Crime, and Justice	
CJUS 525	Issues in Ethics, Law, and Criminal Justice	
CJus Electives		
Select 12 credits from electives from courses offered by the Department of Criminal Justice, to be selected in consultation with a student's advisor. ¹		12
General Electives/Minor		
An additional 9 credits of electives, to be selected in consultation with a student's advisor. ²		9
Total Credits		36

¹ No more than three total credits of CJUS 593 Internship or CJUS 591 Directed Readings in Criminal Justice courses may be used as Criminal Justice electives. CJUS 592 Independent Research may not be used as Criminal Justice Electives for this option.

² No more than three credits of C J 593 Internship or C J 591 Directed Readings may be used to fulfill the general elective requirement. C J 592 Independent Research may not be used as Criminal Justice Elective for this option.

A minor is optional (contact the director of the MCJ program or consult the Department of Criminal Justice web site, <https://crimjust.nmsu.edu/>, for details) and may result in more than 36 total credits for the degree.

Minimum Grade Requirement

Students must earn a minimum B- grade in all required core courses, excluding elective credits. This applies to both options: Thesis and Focused Coursework as well as to both programs: On-Campus (traditional) and Online.