



# Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

*"All of the professors were instrumental in preparing me for the field. Without a CJ Masters degree, I would not have been able to apply for my current job. Having a Masters keeps you a step ahead of the rest and has helped me to set the stage for the rest of my career."*

*"Thanks to the CJ department, I can happily and proudly say that the MACJ program has helped me better my career and my life."*

*-Randie Quaglia Phillips '08*

*"The MACJ class sizes are small and are focused on the subject matter. I have used the things I've learned in classes in both of my current jobs. I would not trade my years at Sacred Heart University for anything."*

*-Emily Shaham '09*

*"Every research project I conducted was of my own choosing, which was great motivation. I prepared essays on Cruise Line Security that I presented at the Annual Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2008."*

*-Jeff Barrett '09*

## Goals and Objectives

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice program will provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of all components of the criminal justice system. This program is open to recipients of undergraduate degrees in criminal justice as well as individuals who have developed a career interest in criminal justice after completing an undergraduate degree in another discipline. This Master of Arts in Criminal Justice provides individuals with bachelor's degrees in criminal justice or other disciplines with the knowledge needed to obtain advanced professional positions in the field. It also enables individuals already employed in the field of criminal justice to advance further in their careers.

Thirty (30) credits are required to graduate from the program. Courses are offered during the evenings, and part-time students are welcome. Students must complete eighteen required credits of the core curriculum plus an additional twelve credits of any elective courses. Students may also choose the twelve credits for a concentration in national security or criminal justice management. Upon completion of the required thirty credits, students desiring to pursue an advanced career in criminal justice must successfully complete a comprehensive examination. Students desiring to continue their education towards a Ph.D. should pursue the three credit thesis option rather than the comprehensive examination. The thesis course may be used to satisfy three of the twelve elective credits required.

## Our Graduates

The Master of Arts in Criminal Justice is appropriate for individuals with Bachelor degrees in criminal justice or other disciplines seeking advanced positions in the criminal justice profession, as well as those already in the field who want to progress in their careers.

Alumni currently hold positions as correction officers, higher education emergency management consultants, probation officers, private investigators and police officers.

This program would also be appropriate for individuals interested in pursuing an academic career in higher education at the community college level or those interested in pursuing a Ph.D. for an academic career above the community college level.

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

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## MACJ Curriculum

Students who did not receive an undergraduate degree in criminal justice will be required to complete the prerequisite courses listed below prior to taking any graduate courses.

CJ 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice  
CJ 200 Constitutional Law

## MACJ Core Requirements

(18 Credits)

CJ 401- Theories and Analysis of Crime Causation and Deviance  
CJ 402 - Critical Issues in the Administration and Management of the Criminal Justice System  
CJ 403 - Law, Society and Ethics  
CJ 404 - Issues in the Administration of the Adult and Juvenile Correctional Systems  
CJ 405 - Criminal Law  
CJ 406 - Methods of Research Design and Statistical Analysis

## MACJ Electives

(12 Credits)

CJ 506 – Victimology  
CJ 507 - Organizational Procedures  
CJ 508 - Capital Punishment  
CJ 509 - Criminal Behavior and the Family  
CJ 510 - Criminal Profiling  
CJ 511 – Emergency Management  
CJ 513 - Issues in National Security  
CJ 514 - Domestic and International Terrorism  
CJ 515 - Budgetary Planning in Public Agencies  
CJ 601 - Internship/Practicum Experience in Criminal Justice  
CJ 650 - Criminal Justice Thesis



## Concentrations

As part of your elective work, you may choose one of two areas of concentration:

### Concentration in National Security (12 credits)

CJ 510 - Criminal Profiling  
CJ 511 – Emergency Management  
CJ 513 - Issues in National Security  
CJ 514 - Domestic and International Terrorism

### Concentration in Criminal Justice Management (12 credits)

CJ 507 - Organizational Procedures  
CJ 511 – Emergency Management  
CJ 515 - Budgetary Planning in Public Agencies  
CJ 601 - Internship/Practicum Experience in Criminal Justice

## Admission Deadlines

Applications are reviewed by the Admissions Committee on a rolling basis. However, the University has a priority deadline of March 1 for Fall admittance and November 1 for Spring admittance for financial aid considerations.

## The criteria for admission include:

- Bachelor of Arts or Science degree with a 3.0 GPA from an accredited four-year college or university (official transcripts required)
- Completed Graduate Application
- Application Fee
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Personal Statement addressing your career goals and interest in the program
- Current Resume

## Matriculation

An applicant may be admitted to the program under one of the following categories:

1. Matriculated students who fulfill all admissions requirements.
2. Students who have not completed CJ101 and CJ 200 must complete these courses with a B or better in order to matriculate into the program.

The Criminal Justice Master's Degree Committee will make the final decisions regarding entry into the program.

## Questions?

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Fairfield, Connecticut 06825  
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Visit our website:  
[www.sacredheart.edu/graduate.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/graduate.cfm)

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## Financial Assistance

A limited number of research and staff assistantships are available to full-time graduate students on a competitive basis. Student loans, deferred payment plans and a variety of other programs are available through the Office of Student Financial Assistance at (203) 371-7980.

A limited number of Graduate Assistantships in the MACJ department are available to full-time students on a competitive basis. Fully matriculated students may apply directly to the Program Director.