Criminal Justice

College of Arts and Sciences
Bloomington

Departmental E-mail
crimjust@indiana.edu

Departmental URL
www.indiana.edu/~crimjust

Graduate Faculty
(An asterisk [*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

Professors
Ellen Dwyer* (History), Roger J. R. Levesque, Harold E. Pepinsky*, Leon E. Pettiway*

Associate Professors

Assistant Professors
Veronica M. Herrera, Jody L. Sundt

Graduate Advisor
Associate Professor Mary Lee Luskin*, Sycamore Hall 302, (812) 855-9325

Please check with the Director of Graduate Affairs for the current list of faculty endorsed to direct dissertations.

Degrees Offered
Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy

Program Information

The department offers the opportunity for multidisciplinary graduate degrees in criminal justice that are designed for students coming from a variety of academic backgrounds. Courses and programs in the department prepare students for academic teaching and research positions or for administrative, research, and management careers in the criminal justice system or the private sector. The faculty represents a diversity of approaches to criminal justice studies: anthropology, criminal justice, geography, history, law, political science, psychology, and sociology. Students may also study with faculty from other departments and schools who make up the university-wide criminal justice consortium.
**Special Departmental Requirements**

See also [general University Graduate School requirements](#).

**Master of Arts Degree**

**Admission Requirements**
Applicants must submit the following: (1) an official undergraduate transcript; (2) a 300- to 500-word statement of academic and professional goals; (3) scores from the verbal, quantitative, and writing sections of the GRE; (4) evidence of potential for success in graduate work, as attested by letters of recommendation from those familiar with the applicant's academic performance (two of the applicant's three letters must be from faculty members); (5) international TOEFL is required of all foreign students.

**Course Requirements**
A total of 36 credit hours, 15 of which must be taken in the Department of Criminal Justice. Required are P501, P502, P594, P595, and P610 or P670.

**Thesis**
Optional. Students may earn up to 6 credit hours for an M.A. thesis.

**Doctor of Philosophy Degree**

**Admission Requirements**
Applicants must submit the following: (1) an official undergraduate transcript; (2) a 300- to 500-word statement of academic and professional goals; (3) scores from the verbal, quantitative, and writing sections of the GRE; (4) evidence of potential for success in graduate work, as attested by letters of recommendation from those familiar with the applicant's academic performance (two of the applicant's three letters must be from faculty members); (5) international TOEFL is required of all foreign students.

**Course Requirements**
A total of 90 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree, of which 12 credit hours are in core proseminars, and another 12 credit hours are in other required courses. Of hours needed for the degree, a student must complete 9 credit hours beyond the required core proseminal in each of two areas of specialization within the curriculum and complete a minor, consisting of 6 credit hours beyond the required proseminal in a third area of specialization. The minor may be selected from outside the Department of Criminal Justice. Students are required to complete courses in each of the four substantive tracks that the program is organized: P501, P502, P610, P670. All students are required to complete P594, P595, and P596. A research skill requirement may be satisfied by completing P599 or a research skills course approved by the Director of Graduate Affairs. A dissertation for up to 30 credit hours is required.

**Foreign Language/Research Tool Requirement**
One of the following: (1) reading proficiency in one of the languages from those approved by the Department of Criminal Justice or a language demonstrably useful in the student's research program; or (2) the research tool requirement may be satisfied by either 3 credits of advanced research or statistics course work. Students may obtain a list of approved tool-skill courses from the department.

**Qualifying Examination**
All doctoral students are expected to demonstrate basic proficiency by passing written doctoral examinations in two of the following core areas: (1) nature of crime; (2) criminal justice systems and processes; (3) law and society; (4) cross-cultural studies.

**Dissertation Proposal**
Dissertation proposals must be submitted only after successfully completing the required qualifying Ph.D. examinations. An oral defense of the dissertation proposal is required.
Final Examination
Oral defense of the dissertation is required.

Ph.D. Minor in Criminal Justice
Students from other departments or schools who wish to minor in criminal justice should consult with the Director of Graduate Affairs, who will ordinarily serve as the minor advisor. The usual requirement for a minor is at least 12 graduate credit hours in criminal justice. P501 and P502 are required and the remaining 6 hours are elective credits in the department. A Declaration of Minor Form must be submitted to the Director of Graduate Affairs.

Courses
Courses in the 300s and 400s listed here are open to graduate students with the prior approval of the director of graduate affairs in criminal justice and the course instructor.

P411 Criminal Justice Management (3 cr.)
P482 The Family and Formal Control Systems (3 cr.)

P501 Proseminar: Criminal Justice I (3 cr.) A proseminar to provide an intensive introduction to the basic areas of criminal justice.

P502 Proseminar: Criminal Justice II (3 cr.) Theories of crime and delinquency.

P512 Corrections (3 cr.) Reviews historical and philosophical bases of correctional system and examines components of system (community corrections, jails, and prisons). Focuses on the structure and functions of the corrections system with particular attention to the role of broader social forces on the development and operation of the system.

P515 Police in Society (3 cr.) Covers the bases and impacts of recent changes in U.S. policing, particularly with respect to community-oriented policing. Changes are analyzed in terms of the organizational and political contexts in which they occur as well as from historical and cross-cultural perspectives.

P517 Juvenile Justice (3 cr.) Examines the historical development of the juvenile justice system, the tradition of reform, underlying ideologies, and current debates.

P519 Probation and Parole (3 cr.) Primary emphasis on the development and evaluation of probation, parole, and other systems of community corrections. Examines the theoretical underpinnings of community programs for offenders, and analysis of recent research will be undertaken. The policy implications for this area will also be studied.

P520 Public Control of Deviant Behavior (3 cr.) Critical review of theoretical and empirical literature on selected topics in deviant behavior, including prostitution, child abuse, psychopathy, homosexuality, drug abuse, alcohol abuse, and alcoholism.

P594 Introduction to Research Methods (3 cr.) P: one semester of graduate-level statistics (S540 or equivalent). Research methodology in criminal justice. Research design, scientific methods, quantitative applications, ethical questions, and the role of the criminal justice researcher.

P595 Data Analysis in Criminal Justice I (3 cr.) Data analysis applied to criminal justice data, including measurement, tables, graphs, probability, nonparametric statics, matrix algebra, correlation and regression, and tests of significance.

P596 Data Analysis in Criminal Justice II (3 cr.) P: CJUS P595. Focus on the general linear model and multivariate statistical techniques such as logit, probit, and structural equation modeling.
P599 Research Practicum (1-6 cr.) Required course for Ph.D. students. Designed to provide guided experience in conducting research independently. The topic and scope of the student's effort must be approved in advance by the professor.

P600 Theories of Crime Causation (3 cr.) Examination of theories of crime and criminal behavior from three major perspectives: biology, psychology, and sociology. The goal of the seminar is twofold: (1) to understand the strengths and weaknesses of existing theories from these diverse perspectives, and (2) to suggest that theoretical explanations of crime must of necessity be multidimensional to encompass the complexity of the problem.

P602 Courts and Criminal Justice (3 cr.) Addresses the nature and operation of courts with respect to criminal cases: structure and administration of courts; recruitment and selection of major participants; and specific decisions in the processing of criminal cases, including the decision to charge, pretrial release, trials and plea bargains, and criminal appeals.

P610 Law and Society (3 cr.) Study of the interaction between social forces and legal processes, focusing on the question of what shapes the law. Subareas to be examined include the courts, sentencing, police, crime, deviance, and community-based justice. Emphasis on the links between crime-related behavior as defined by the law, its social and cultural environments, and the individual.

P619 Crime and Public Policy (3 cr.) Examines processes by which societies define crime and develop responses to crime. Particular attention is given to case studies of how particular policies were developed and implemented, and what effects these policies produced.

P622 Criminal Careers (3 cr.) A small number of career criminals commit the majority of serious crimes. Seminar explores the major personal and typological dimensions of such criminals by exposing the student to the commonalities among diverse forms of criminal activity and the implications for crime theory development and crime control policies.

P623 Violent Behavior (3 cr.) Critical analysis of current theory and research on violent behavior utilizing a multidisciplinary framework. Topics include concepts and methods in the study of violence; prediction of violence; family and sexual violence; institutional violence; drugs and violence; and prevention of violent behavior.

P625 Correlates of Crime (3 cr.) Examines the incidence and correlates (individual, community, and cultural) of crime and the varying methods of measuring crime. Implications for criminological theory and research are addressed.

P627 White-Collar Crime (3 cr.) Examines the data and research related to white-collar crime in an effort to understand issues of causation and social control of this particular form of crime. Places white-collar crime within the context of general theories of crime, and compares and contrasts the various legal mechanisms (civil, administrative, and criminal) available to control it.

P629 Victimization (3 cr.) Covers current theory, research, and measurement issues pertaining to the nature, extent, causes, and effects of criminal victimization; evaluations of programs for crime victims; and political and ideological differences among varying views of victim rights.

P633 Dispute Settlement (3 cr.) Examines relationships between social and cultural contexts in the fields of crime and law. Focuses on factors that influence the development and use of dispute settlement processes, such as mediation and negotiation; and the evolution, development, and disintegration of legal and criminal justice systems.

P634 Sentencing Theory and Practice (3 cr.) Examines the theoretical and practical issues relating to the sentencing of criminals. In particular, focuses on the aims of punishment and the construction of sentencing models and alternatives designed to achieve these aims.

P637 Community, Crime, and Criminal Justice (3 cr.) Examines the role of community structure and function in the distribution of crime and the formal and informal response to crime.
P639 History of Criminal Justice in the U.S. (3 cr.) Examination of the development of the American criminal justice system, with particular attention to courts, prisons, and the police. Examines how definitions of deviance and criminality have changed over time and the ways class, gender, and race have shaped law and justice.

P670 Cross-Cultural Studies (3 cr.) Examines significance of cross-cultural research to criminology/criminal justice, research practices and problems, with emphasis on analysis of field experiences and findings.

P671 Comparative Justice Systems (3 cr.) Engages students in comparative issues and research to reveal political, historical, and cultural factors that have influenced criminal justice and law in the United States. Develops student abilities to conceptualize crime and law without using official legal concepts, but for purposes of comparative social scientific research.

P672 Ideas About Justice (3 cr.) Explores a school or related schools of thought and practice about what "justice" means and requires. Special topics for the course may vary; focusing, for instance, on feminist justice, "just desserts" theory, restorative justice, retributive justice, or utilitarian justice.

P674 Law, Crime, and Justice in Post-Soviet Russia (3 cr.) This interdisciplinary course begins by examining how the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government are being influenced by the forces of transition. We then look at Russian crime, including corruption, patterns of interpersonal violence, human trafficking, and drug use. The last section focuses on the Russian criminal justice system, including juvenile justice, policing, and prisons.

P675 Women and Crime (3 cr.) Provides a flexible forum for the discussion of a previously neglected topic in criminology/criminal justice: women and crime. Includes discussion and debate on the nature and extent of women's criminality, processing of women through each step of the criminal justice system, and women working in criminal justice.

P680 Seminar: Issues in Criminal Justice (3 cr.) Selected topics in criminal justice that will vary from semester to semester. May be repeated for credit.

P682 Seminar on Law Enforcement and Minorities (3 cr.) Selected topics dealing with problems involving minorities and criminal justice system operations.

P694 Research in Criminal Justice (cr. arr.)** P: P594.

P751 Topical Research Seminar (3-12 cr.) Students are expected to demonstrate their skills in research design and data analysis on a topic agreed-upon with the instructor. The instructor may encourage team research for appropriate designs and topics. Students are encouraged to develop topics related to dissertation research.

P794 M.A. Thesis (6 cr.)* P: P594.

P851 Reading in Criminal Justice (1-6 cr.)** Individualized readings on topics not covered in regular course offerings.

P855 Research in Criminal Justice (1-6 cr.)** P: graduate standing in criminal justice or consent of instructor. The student is expected to make substantial progress toward identification of an eventual dissertation project.

P859 Ph.D. Thesis (cr. arr., 30 cr. max.)**

**These courses are eligible for a deferred grade.