



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (MA)

The Master of Arts (MA) in Criminal Justice provides opportunities for graduate training in theory, methods, and research. The areas covered include, but are not limited to, policing, corrections, social services, and policy development.

See our website for more information on our program: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/criminal-justice/graduate-program-and-courses/index.html>

Applications for any given September start are open for three months, from November 1 of the preceding year until February 1 of the start year. We do not have a January intake.

Because of its flexibility and options for practical and applied studies, the MA in Criminal Justice will appeal to both traditional students pursuing advanced studies in the social sciences as well as in-service professionals. Students in the program gain an in-depth understanding of the criminal justice system, as well as advanced skills in research methodology, study design and application, and policy development.

Students can pursue one of two streams: 1) course and thesis; or 2) course and knowledge synthesis project (KSP).

This program may be completed on a part-time or full-time basis. The normal time to graduate is 24 months (full-time) or 48 months (part-time).

SAMPLE CAREERS

Graduates of our program are well-positioned for multiple paths after graduation. Some of our students have gone on to PhD programs, while others have entered mid-level planning, policy, and/or research officer positions in government or the non-profit sector.

SAMPLE COURSES

- Conceptualizing Criminal Justice
- Critical Criminal Justice Theory
- Criminal Justice Policy
- Constitutional Issues in Criminal Law
- Seminar in Research Design

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants who hold an Honours degree in a related social science discipline (e.g., Criminal Justice, Criminology, Psychology, Political Science) with an overall grade point average of at least 3.0 are preferred candidates.

Applicants with a four-year social science degree, strong backgrounds in theory and methods and a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher will also be considered.

Students without a strong background in criminology or criminal justice, or without coursework at a fourth-year level, may be asked to take additional courses at the third or fourth-year level or complete a qualifying year.

Individuals with five or more years of experience at the line level (police officer, probation officer) in the justice field may be given credit for CJ-3800/6 field placement, although this will only be put towards qualifying year courses. There may be other professional experiences that can be considered.

NOTE: Applicants who do not have social science degrees must demonstrate in their applications that they have the proficiency or potential to succeed in a social science graduate program.

English Requirement (if an applicant's first language is not English): A minimum TOEFL iBT score of 100, with a score of at least 22 on the writing and speaking components, or an IELTS score of 7.5, or Duolingo score of 125. The test must have been taken within two years of the date a completed application is filed.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete the online application form: uwinnipeg.ca/apply-to-grad-studies
2. Transcripts are required from ALL recognized, post-secondary institutions attended, whether or not a degree has been awarded. For initial assessment purposes only, copies of unofficial transcripts uploaded on the online application are acceptable and preferred. Official transcripts will only be required if you are recommended for admission. All official transcripts are to be sent directly from the post-secondary institutions. If the final transcript does not show a completed degree, an official/notarized copy of your diploma is also required.
3. Provide contact information for two individuals familiar with your academic work and who will provide letters of recommendation.
4. Provide a narrative statement (1800 characters or less, including spaces) describing your reasons for applying to this program. If applicable, attach your curriculum vitae or résumé.
5. In 3000 characters or less (including spaces), and based on the stream to which you are applying, concisely outline i) the KSP or thesis topic you would like to pursue, ii) brief summary of key literature that informed your topic choice, iii) your research question(s), iv) your proposed method, and v) which faculty member(s) you would like to work with. This is a key part of your application, so we encourage applicants to give these research proposals careful attention.
6. (Optional) In 1800 characters or less (including spaces), you may include additional relevant information for the selection committee's consideration that is not already in your application.
7. Include an academic writing sample from a previous course (e.g. paper in an upper-year course).
8. If applicable, provide results of English proficiency test, taken within two years of the date of application.

The deadline to submit a complete application package, including all supporting documents is **February 1**.

CONTACT US

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