

Doctor of Philosophy Criminology and Criminal Justice

Degree Program

- Coursework: A minimum of 60 credit hours is required, including at least 6 hours of dissertation research.
- Qualifying Examination: The qualifying examination consists of two sole-authored papers. One of the papers must represent the application of an appropriate methodological technique to an innovative research question, and the other must demonstrate a proficient knowledge of and a new perspective on a fundamental theoretical issue.
- Dissertation: All students must defend orally a written dissertation proposal to their dissertation committee. A dissertation embodying the results of original research must be orally defended and accepted by the faculty and the Graduate School.

Program Website

<https://www.umsl.edu/cji/programs/graduate/phd.html>

Application Requirements

1. Application - <http://umsl.edu/go/Apply-Now>
2. Statement of Purpose
 - a. In 1-2 pages, briefly explain why an advanced degree in criminology and criminal justice is of interest and why the applicant merits serious consideration.
3. Three letters of recommendation
 - a. Letters of recommendation from persons qualified to evaluate the applicant's recent academic performance are required.
4. Official transcripts from all universities attended
 - a. Applicants must have at least a baccalaureate degree at the time they begin the program.
5. Entrance examinations
 - a. Acceptable scores on Graduate Record Examination (<http://www.gre.org/tiindex.html>).
 - b. International students are required to document English proficiency by providing scores from an internationally accepted standardized examination before a decision is made on admission.
6. Writing sample
 - a. Please submit a sample that shows your ability to write a research paper. If you've written a master's thesis, please submit a chapter.
7. Grade Point Average
 - a. Minimum of 3.0 on 4.0 scale
8. Current Resume/CV

Please note: Admission to the Ph.D. program is highly competitive.

Application Deadline

The deadline for receipt of all admission materials is January 20th of each year. New students start only in the Fall Semester.

Application Fee

\$50 for domestic applicants; \$40 for international applicants

Assistantships and Fellowships

The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice offers teaching and research assistantships that include educational fee scholarships from the Graduate School. Please apply directly to the Graduate Program Director. Financial award decisions are made at the time of application review.

PhD Graduate Program Director

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