PH.D. IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Degree Description
The Doctoral Program in Criminal Justice is a 57-credit-hour, post-Master's program of study and research. Students receive core coursework in criminal justice theory and institutions, as well as an in-depth concentration in policing, corrections or juvenile justice. Students complete a minimum of 42 credit hours of doctoral course work and 15 credit hours of dissertation research.

Minimum Hours Required for Criminal Justice Ph.D.—57 Credit Hours

Substantive Core Requirements - 15 Credit Hours
- CCJ 7019 Seminar in Nature of Crime (3 credits)
- CCJ 7457 Seminar in Criminal Justice Theory (3 credits)
- CCJ 7096 Seminar in Criminal Justice Systems (3 credits)
- CCJ 7785 Teaching in Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- CCJ 7775 Criminal Justice Research in the Community (3 credits)

Methodological Core Requirements - 12 Credit Hours
- CCJ 7727 Advanced Research Methods in Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- CCJ 7708 Advanced Quantitative Methods for Criminal Justice Research (3 credits)
- Select two and/or another methodological course(s) with advisor approval
  - CCJ 7725 The Geography of Crime: Theory and Methods (3 credits)
  - CCJ 7747 Hierarchical Linear Modeling in Criminal Justice Research (3 credits)
  - CCJ 7752 Structural Equation Modeling in Criminal Justice Research (3 credits)

Concentration Area - 9 Credit Hours

Policing Theory and Research
- CJE 6320 Seminar in Police Administration (3 credits)
- CJE 6456 Seminar in Policing Urban Communities (3 credits)
- CJE 6706 Seminar in Police Socialization and Culture

Correctional Theory and Research
- CJC 6135 Seminar in Institutional Corrections (3 credits)
- CJC 6165 Seminar in Community Corrections (3 credits)
- CJC 6486 Seminar in Correctional Effectiveness (3 credits)

Juvenile Justice Theory and Research
- CJJ 6124 Seminar in Prosecuting Juvenile Offenders (3 credits)
- CJJ 6126 Seminar in Juvenile Corrections (3 credits)
- CJJ 6546 Seminar in Policing and Prevention in the Juvenile Justice System (3 credits)

Elective Requirement - 6 Credit Hours
Select two additional courses (6 credits) in consultation with program advisor.

Examinations
Students must successfully complete a series of cumulative examinations to ensure expertise in the substantive, methodological and concentration areas.
Dissertation- 15 Credit Hours
Upon successful completion of all examinations, students will enter candidacy and complete a dissertation. Dissertation committees will contain a minimum of four faculty members, at least three of which (including the chair) will be from the Department of Criminal Justice. The fourth member must be from outside the Department of Criminal Justice and may be from outside the university. All dissertation committee members must be approved graduate faculty or graduate faculty scholars.

Students must complete 57 credit hours of course work with at least a 3.0 overall grade point average in their program of study and must earn a B (3.0) or better in all classes. Courses over seven years old will not count towards the degree.

Application and Admission
Applicants must apply online (https://application.graduate.ucf.edu/).

In addition to the general university admission requirements, applicants must provide:

- One official transcript (in a sealed envelope) from each college/university attended.
- An earned or in progress Master’s degree in criminal justice or a closely related discipline from an accredited institution with at least a 3.5 GPA.
- Official, competitive GRE score taken within the last five years.
- Three letters of recommendation, with at least two being from university faculty members who can assess the student’s ability to succeed in a doctoral program.
- A personal narrative of 500 - 1,000 words describing research interests, educational expectations, career aspirations, level of computer skills, and any special qualifications that may enhance the overall learning environment of the CJ PhD program.
- A curriculum vita.
- A writing sample that is at least 2,000 words long, is academic in nature (e.g., paper written for a Master’s class), and demonstrates the applicant’s ability to complete graduate-level composition. Should not be published work and applicant must be the sole author.

Applicants may be requested to participate in an interview (by Skype) with the Department’s Doctoral Program Committee and coordinator. Students will simultaneously be considered for both admission and funding.

Students should be aware that admission to any graduate program is granted on a competitive basis. There may be cases where students meeting minimum requirements are denied admission based on such factors as program capacity or academic discretion.

Applicants must turn in all materials prior to the following deadline:

Fall Admission: January 15th

Note: International students are bound by different deadlines and admissions criteria. These regulations can be found in the graduate catalog: www.admissions.graduate.ucf.edu Please also check the UCF Graduate Catalog for the most up-to-date admissions information for the program.

Contact: Department of Criminal Justice
Criminal Justice Graduate Advising Office www.cohpa.ucf.edu/criminaljustice
407-823-2603