

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## Handbook for MSCJ Students

This Handbook for MSCJ Students should answer many of the questions that prospective and current students have about the Georgia College Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ) program. The GC Graduate Catalog officially describes the MSCJ program and is the official reference for rules, regulations, and policies considered binding for students and faculty involved with any of the graduate programs at GC. Every student should have a current copy of the Graduate Catalog and should familiarize themselves with it. The catalog is available at <http://www.gcsu.edu/registrar>.

### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the masters of criminal justice program is to create opportunities for critical thinking for future and current practitioners and academic researchers in the field of criminal justice/ criminology. Moreover, the program encourages and creates environments conducive to learning the body of knowledge generally defined within the field of criminal justice/ criminology which includes the meaning of laws, the creation of laws, the breaking of laws, social reactions to deviant and criminal behavior, and how individuals are processed over time. The liberal arts mission is at the center of the program by placing emphasis on classroom discussion and experiential learning by a diverse group of faculty and professionals in the field. Individual relationships between faculty and students create unique opportunities through internships and independent research within the vast field of criminal justice.

More specifically the program is structured to focus on the areas of criminal justice policy, policing, corrections, criminological theory, legal issues, research design and statistics, and ethics. After the completion of the program, graduates will be able to critically analyze criminal justice policy and practices in relation to functioning in a democratic society. The goal of the program is to prepare graduates to assume roles as ethical, responsible citizens and professionals in the field.

### **Admission Requirements**

**Complete application found at <http://www.gcsu.edu/future-students/graduate>**

#### **All Applicants**

- Must have completed requirements for a Bachelor's degree from a college accredited by the proper regional accrediting association.
- Submit a current resume detailing relevant work experience.

#### **Regular Admission**

- A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale in undergraduate work.
- Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 are not required to submit exam scores.
- Applicants with an undergraduate GPA 2.75 - 2.99 must submit official scores on either the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or Graduate Management Aptitude Test (GMAT) scores. Scores must be within the last five years.

The applicant must have:

- GRE: A combined score of 290 (verbal and quantitative) or
- GMAT: 450 or

- MAT: 395
- Applicants may make a formal request to waive these requirement only when the applicant has completed another accredited graduate degree program and an appropriate transcript is submitted in support of the request.

**Provisional Admission**

- Provisional admission may be granted to applicants with at least a 2.75 GPA who have scored:
  - GRE: 280-289 or
  - GMAT: 400-449 or
  - MAT: 380-394
- Provisional admission will be considered for applicants who do not meet the academic requirements if strong evidence of ability to perform well in graduate work is provided through reference to work experience or other means.
- Provisional status may be granted for a maximum of one academic year. All students admitted under provisional status must maintain a 3.00 or higher GPA during the probationary period. At the completion of the provisional period of time, a decision will be made as to accepting the student as a regular admission. To gain regular admission, a provisionally admitted student must take in that status the equivalent of a semester’s full load (9 to 12 hours) of MSCJ courses and maintain a 3.00 GPA in all graduate coursework).

**PROGRAM OF STUDY**

The curriculum is divided into required courses and elective courses. Students are strongly encouraged to take CRJU 6100 and CRJU 6605 in their first or second terms in the MSCJ program. CRJU 6100 serves as an overview to criminal justice and to this particular MSCJ program.

At the culmination of the curriculum, students are required to take and pass CRJU 6700 the comprehensive exam. Students must take this exam during their last semester of course work. The exam will be given one month prior to the last day of class. The comprehensive exam covers core curriculum classes, which include CRJU 6100, 6200, 6300, 6400, 6500, 6515, 6605 and 6610. Students are given two days to complete 7 general questions from each section. Students are given two questions from each subject area and choose one question to respond to. Any subjects that are failed on the comprehensive exam must be tested on a second time. If the student still fails the exam, the student will be required to take that course over, and go through the testing process again. If a comprehensive exam subject is failed twice, that student is dismissed from the program.

**The MSCJ Curriculum**

**1. Required Courses (24 Semester Hours)**

- CRJU 6100 The Criminal Justice System (3 hours)
- CRJU 6200 Police in Society (3 hours)
- CRJU 6300 Seminar in Corrections (3 hours)
- CRJU 6400 Criminological Theory (3 hours)
- CRJU 6500 Legal Issues in Criminal Justice (3 hours)
- CRJU 6515 Criminal Justice Ethics (3 hours)
- CRJU 6605 Criminal Justice Research Design (3 hours)
- CRJU 6610 Criminal Justice Statistics (3 hours)

CRJU 6700 Comprehensive Exam (0 hours)

**2. Electives (12 Semester Hours) Select from following:**

- CRJU 6120 Current Issues in Criminal Justice (3 hours)
- CRJU 6140 Organization Theory and Management of Criminal Justice Systems (3 hours)
- CRJU 6160 History of Criminal Justice and Crime Control Policy (3 hours)
- CRJU 6180 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (3 hours)
- CRJU 6340 Correctional Counseling and Treatment (3 hours)
- CRJU 6405 Victimology (3 hours) (Preq. CRJU 6400)
- CRJU 6410 Critical Criminology (Radical Theorists) (3 hours) (Preq. CRJU 6400)
- CRJU 6420 Criminal Behaviors (Preq. CRJU 6400)
- CRJU 6460 International Terrorism (CRJU 6180 recommended)
- CRJU 6940 Independent Study (Var. 1-3)
- CRJU 6950 Special Topics (3 hours)

With graduate coordinators approval, students may substitute current CRJU 5000 level courses for any of the above electives, OR substitute up to 6 hours of the following towards the electives: PUAD/POLS 5401, POLS 5531, PUAD 6538, 6558, 6578, 6625

**3. Optional (Not Required)**

- CRJU 6960 Internship (0 credit hours)
- CRJU 6970 Capstone Research Project (3 hours) (Preq. CRJU 6605 and 6610)

**Total of 36 Semester Hours**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CRJU)**

Unless otherwise noted, courses may not be repeated for additional academic credit. Courses may be repeated to raise a grade, but the hours credited will only count once toward the total hours earned.

**CRJU 5950. SPECIAL TOPICS. (VAR. 1-4) SUMMER**

This course is designed to examine critical issues of public policy that affect criminal justice. Topics could include advance police management, policy options on the war on drugs, ethics in criminal justice, or others.

**CRJU 6100. THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. (3-0-3) FALL**

An examination of the criminal justice system, focusing on how the system functions in theory and practice as well as on current and future trends.

**CRJU 6120. CURRENT ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**CRJU 6140. ORGANIZATIONAL THEORY AND MANAGEMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. This course is designed to introduce students to the development and evolution of organization and management theory in criminal justice organizations.

**CRJU 6160. HISTORY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIME CONTROL POLICY. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. A study of the history and evolution of the Anglo-American justice system, its problems, defects, and proposals for reform.

**CRJU 6180. COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. A study of selected international criminal justice systems, including police, courts, and correctional subsystems. Emphasis is placed on geographical, historical and cultural perspectives that make the systems unique.

**CRJU 6200. POLICE IN SOCIETY. (3-0-3)**

The philosophy and role of American policing, politics of policing, managing the police organization, police operational and administrative practices, and emergent issues and problems in policing.

**CRJU 6300. SEMINAR IN CORRECTIONS. (3-0-3)**

An in-depth examination of the various issues and problems in corrections as they relate to administration and management of correctional programs and organizations.

**CRJU 6340. CORRECTIONAL COUNSELING AND TREATMENT. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. A critical study of past, present, and potential future correctional counseling and treatment, analysis of practices, and intended goals.

**CRJU 6400. CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY. (3-0-3)**

An intensive overview and examination of each of the major criminological perspectives, theory construction, and theory integration.

**CRJU 6405. VICTIMOLOGY. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisites: Graduate standing and CRJU 6400. This course is designed to introduce students to the study of crime victims. Students will become familiar with the historical role of crime victims, the changes in that role and theories that help explain the role of victims in crime.

**CRJU 6410. CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisites: Graduate standing and CRJU 6400. The purpose of this course is to examine the criminological theories of the late modern period and placing them in the context of the massive social transformations that have taken place in the past thirty to forty years. More specifically this course will examine social justice in the context of critical criminology by focusing on the following criminological theories and ideas: Marxist criminology, Socialist Feminist criminology, Peacemaking criminology, Prophetic criticism, Anarchist criminology, Postmodern Feminist criminology, Semiotics, Constitutive criminology, Critical race theory, Chaos theory, Catastrophe/topology theory, and Queer theory.

**CRJU 6420. CRIMINAL BEHAVIORS. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisites: Graduate standing and CRJU 6400. This graduate course examines criminal behaviors using a psychological and sociological theories. Students will study specific categories of criminal offenders such as murderers, rapists and embezzlers. Students will also study biographies of well-known criminals as case studies, with the intent of applying specific criminological theories to the case studies.

**CRJU 6460. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisites: Graduate standing and CRJU 6180 is recommended. This course is designed to have students look critically at world terrorist organizations and responses to terroristic acts.

**CRJU 6500. LEGAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. (3-0-3) FALL**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. An in-depth analysis of the development and current application of criminal law and the constitutional law. Primary focus is on criminal law and procedure.

**CRJU 6515. CRIMINAL JUSTICE ETHICS. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. An examination of ethical theoretical perspectives and dilemmas in policing, courts, and corrections.

**CRJU 6605. CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH DESIGN. (3-0-3) FALL**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. An exploration of quantitative and qualitative research designs utilized in the study of criminal justice.

**CRJU 6610. CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS. (3-0-3) SPRING**

Prerequisites: Graduate standing and CRJU 6605.. An exploration of quantitative and qualitative research methods utilized in the study of criminal justice.

**CRJU 6695. RESEARCH PROBLEM IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. (0-0-3)**

An in-depth study of a critical issue in contemporary criminal justice. Specific issues will vary, and will be selected by the student with the approval of the instructor.

**CRJU 6700. COMPREHENSIVE EXAM. (0-0-0)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing in last semester of MSCJ coursework.

**CRJU 6940. INDEPENDENT STUDY. (1-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing and instructor approval. Offers academic credit courses to students interested in earning academic credit through self-directed study.

**CRJU 6950. SPECIAL TOPICS. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisite: Graduate standing. This course is designed to examine topics in criminal justice and criminal justice policy that may not be covered in other graduate CJ courses.

**CRJU 6960. INTERNSHIP. (VAR. 0-15)**

Individually designed and planned learning experience involving off-campus field experience and study in the public and private sector. Must be approved by the department chairperson or program coordinator.

**CRJU 6970. CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT. (3-0-3)**

Prerequisites: Graduate standing, approval of Graduate Coordinator, CRJU 6605 and CRJU 6610. Student prepares a detailed prospectus or research project to include: bibliography, methodology, and research goals.

### **Academic Standing**

It is very important for graduate students to be aware of the need and requirements for good academic standing. Grades of "C" are not satisfactory graduate level grades. A grade of "C" earned in a course when the student has conditional or provisional status will cause that student to be dismissed from the MSCJ program. Students with regular status must have a grade point average of 3.00 (B average) to remain in the program and to graduate. Earning a "C" drops one below the 3.00 GPA, unless there is an "A" to compensate for the

unsatisfactory grade. Two uncompensated "C's" (or a "D" without two compensating "A's") will cause the student to be dismissed. Failing a course will also lead to dismissal. Regular students whose grade average falls below B will be placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation must bring their average up to B during the semester they are on academic probation. If a student does not bring his/her average up during the probation period, he/she will be dismissed from the program. The Graduate Catalog should be consulted for more detailed information about the academic grade point average and the academic renewal policy.

### **Advisement and Registration**

One of the purposes of the MSCJ Handbook, the Graduate Catalog, the Program of Study form, and the MSCJ Check-Sheet is to simplify advisement and schedule planning. The University publishes an annual schedule of classes that can be of value in helping students to see the long-run plan of MSCJ courses. The Coordinator will also distribute course-scheduling up-dates each semester. The updates are very important because the annual schedule can never be fully accurate, especially as the academic year proceeds. With all of the information available, graduate students should be able to handle for themselves most of the schedule planning process each semester. Do not hesitate, however, to contact the Coordinator if you have questions about what you need to take each semester.

Nine hours is full time for a graduate student. Students who have full time jobs generally take 6 hours. Most of the required courses (except 6100, 6605/10) are on every other fall/spring schedule. Special topics/ electives are offered in the summer.

### **Graduation**

With the MSCJ Check-Sheet students should be able to track their progress toward degree completion. The Graduate Catalog states that one should apply for graduation two semesters before completing all course work. For example, to graduate by the end of the spring term, one should apply by the end of the previous summer term. The graduation application can be found at the Office of the Registrar or <http://www.gcsu.edu/sites/files/template-1/graddegreeapp.pdf>. If you have questions about the courses needed to complete the application, please check with the MSCJ Coordinator. You must register for the comprehensive exam and/or internship in your last term in order to be eligible for graduation.

#### ***IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE:***

If you have questions about the MSCJ Program at Georgia College, don't hesitate to contact Dr. Sara Doude, the MSCJ Program Coordinator.

Telephone: 478-445-4257

Fax: 478-445-5273

E-mail: [sara.doude@gcsu.edu](mailto:sara.doude@gcsu.edu)

**MSCJ PROGRAM OF STUDY**

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_____	CRJU 6605	Criminal Justice Research Design (3 hours)
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**Total of 36 Semester Hours**

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## **How to register for classes:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6GPgJbwr\\_8Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6GPgJbwr_8Q)

## **Directions for GeorgiaVIEW (D2L):**

**Open Unify:** <https://unify.gcsu.edu/>

1. Log in using your Bobcats e-mail address and your password. If you have any problems logging in contact CTL at 478-445-1269 or the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the library

## **Open GeorgiaVIEW**

1. Click on GeorgiaVIEW link
2. Select the correct course from the My Courses icons
3. You will see the course content on the right and Announcements and the Calendars on the left.
4. You can add a profile picture and contact information by clicking on your name in the top right hand corner and choosing profile.
5. There is a Student Tutorial on the opening splash page. You can get to this at any time by clicking the Home link in the top left hand corner.
6. Course content is on the right side of the page under the Content Browser. If you open the "START HERE", you will find the course orientation module, the syllabus and the course modules.

## **Review Course Content:**

1. Click the down arrow next to coursework, then Click Content Link  
OR
2. Click Course Home, then click on the modules under the Content Browser

## **Submit Assignment Instructions:**

1. Click the down arrow next to Course Work
2. Choose Assignment link
3. Choose the assignment
4. Click the Add a File Button
5. Click Upload, find the assignment, double click
6. Click Add Button
7. Click Submit button
8. Click Done. You will receive an email in GeorgiaVIEW letting you know your submission was successful.

## **Take a Quiz:**

1. Click the down arrow next to Course Work
2. Choose Quiz link
3. Choose the Quiz from the list
4. Click the Start Quiz! button
5. Read the directions and click ok
6. After each answer click Save
7. Click Go to Submit Quiz button
8. Click Submit Quiz button
9. Verify that you want to submit
10. Click Done button

## **Take a Survey:**

1. Click the down arrow next to Course Work
2. Choose Survey link



3. Choose the Survey from the list
4. Answer the Questions
5. Click Save
6. Click Submit, verify that you want to submit

## Tutorial:

You can take the online tutorial in GeorgiaVIEW before classes begin. If you can't do them all then I suggest doing modules 1, 2, and 5-10, these will give you the basic functionality of GeorgiaVIEW (D2L).

In order to get to the tutorial you will need to

- Log into Unify
- Click on GeorgiaVIEW icon
- Select "Self Registration" in the blue navigational bar
- Select Student Intro to GeorgiaVIEW and WebEx
- Click the Register Button, enter the required fields, click Submit, then click Finish
- You should get an email stating that you are enrolled
- To get to the course you can click on the "Go to Course offering....." Or you can go to the dropdown menu "Select the course..." in the green Navigational bar at the top of the screen
- Start the tutorial by clicking on the "Welcome – Start Here" link under Content Browser

The screenshot shows the Georgia College GeorgiaVIEW interface. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with links for 'Self Registration', 'Maintenance', 'Calendar', 'Content', and 'Log Out'. Below this is a blue header with the Georgia College logo and the text 'Student Intro to GeorgiaVIEW and WebEx'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Announcements' (with a 'Welcome!' message), 'Calendar' (showing 'Thursday, April 20, 2017'), 'Updates' (no current updates), 'Content Browser' (with a list of modules: 'Welcome - Start Here', 'Syllabus', 'Module 1: Where Do I Go for Support?', 'Module 2: Navigating GeorgiaVIEW', 'Module 3: Using Binder', 'Module 4: GALILEO', and 'Module 5: How Do I Communicate in'), and 'Library Resources' (with a search bar for GALILEO and contact information for GC Library). A large red arrow points from the 'Content Browser' title to the 'Welcome - Start Here' link.