Master of Science in Justice Policy (MSJJPY)

Department of Criminal Justice
College of Public Policy
What can a Master’s Degree Do for Me?

• Develop skills (writing, research, critical thinking, problem solving, public speaking)
• Network with a group of like-minded students
• Smaller classes and more individualized attention from nationally-recognized faculty
• Prepare for a Ph.D.
• Broaden job opportunities
• Advancement in current job
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Research Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Hartley</td>
<td>University of Nebraska-Omaha</td>
<td>Courts and Sentencing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Megan Augustyn</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>Juvenile Delinquency and the Life Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Enriquez</td>
<td>University of Iowa</td>
<td>Legal Issues; Delinquency Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Gilbert</td>
<td>Arizona State University</td>
<td>Restorative and Community Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly Miller</td>
<td>University of South Carolina</td>
<td>Delinquency, Immigration, Corrections</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Mitchell Miller</td>
<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td>Drugs and Crime; Program Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Byongook Moon</td>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>School Bullying; Violence; Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Newsome</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Biosocial Criminology; Evolutionary Psych</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Tapia</td>
<td>The Ohio State University</td>
<td>Juvenile Justice; Gangs; Race/Ethnicity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie Tillyer</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Victimization; Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Tillyer</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Policing; Crime Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Ward</td>
<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>Life Course Criminology; Gangs</td>
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</tbody>
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The University of Texas at San Antonio
Some of Our Graduates

- Eladio Castillo, ’08  Special Agent, FBI
- Jorge Gonzales, ’08  Equal Opportunity Specialist, Department of Labor
- Katie Ellis, ’09  Parole Officer/electronic monitoring
- Fabian Romero, ’09  Sociology Ph.D. student, Texas A&M
- Kristina Lopez, ’10  Criminal Justice Ph.D. student, Texas State University
- Jeannie Hahl, ’10  Demography Ph.D. student, UTSA
- Elsa Castro, ’11  Crime Analyst, Oklahoma Department of Public Safety
- Bill Prock, ’11  Criminal Justice Ph.D. student, Texas State University
- Layla McKinnon, ’12  Crime Analyst, Texas Department of Public Safety
Overview of Curriculum

36 hour degree program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core courses</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonthesis (Comp) or Thesis</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
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Core Courses (15 Hours)

Offered every FALL Semester:
- CRJ 5073 Research Methods
- CRJ 5123 Justice Policy Formation/Implementation
- CRJ 6373 Crime Theory and Justice Policy

Offered every SPRING Semester:
- CRJ 5083 Quantitative Analysis
- CRJ 5133 Management of Justice Organizations

***We recommend that students complete their core courses during their first two semesters in the program***
Electives (15 Hours)

Prescribed Electives (9 Hours)
- CRJ Electives listed in the Catalog
- Includes courses on policing and crime control, program evaluation, corrections policy, gender issues in CJ, race/ethnicity in CJ

Free Electives (6 Hours)
- CRJ Electives from Catalog OR
- Can take courses from a pre-approved list in other disciplines (see MSJPY Student Handbook)
Nonthesis Option OR Thesis Option (6 Hours)

- **Option I: Nonthesis (Comprehensive Exam)**
  - CRJ 6383 Capstone Course (3 credit hour course to prepare students for comprehensive exam); additional elective (3 credit hours)
  - Comprehensive exam will be comprised of 5 sections derived from your core courses
Nonthesis Option **OR** Thesis Option (6 Hours)

Option II: Thesis (6 hours)

• Theory-based original research project with policy implications
• Committee of 3 UTSA faculty (1 chair, 2 members)
• Requirements include: committee formation, written manuscript, oral prospectus defense, final oral defense
Admission Requirements

For unconditional admission:

• Satisfy University-wide graduate admission requirements
• Baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or equivalent training at a foreign institution
• Minimum GPA of 3.0 or better in the last 60 semester credit hours of undergraduate work as well as all previous graduate work
• Completed 18 hours in criminal justice, criminology, or a closely-related discipline, or professional experience in the justice system
• Good standing at the last institution attended
• Valid GRE test score
• Recommendation of the Justice Policy Graduate Admissions Committee

Students who do not meet these criteria may be admitted conditionally or on probation as degree-seeking depending on the nature of the deficiency.
What is Needed to Complete My Application Packet?

✓ Completed UTSA Graduate School Application and fee paid (see http://graduateschool.utsa.edu/)

✓ Official undergraduate transcripts from all previous community colleges and universities

✓ Two letters of recommendation

✓ Personal statement

✓ Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores
Admission Deadlines

• For Fall admission
  – Priority deadline ➔ April 15th
  – Final deadline ➔ July 1st
  – Note, however, that scholarship applications are due Feb. 15. Students must be admitted to the program to apply for scholarships. Students who are interested in applying for scholarships are advised to submit their applications early to meet this deadline.

• For Spring admission
  – Final deadline ➔ November 1st

• International student deadliness
  – April 1st for Fall admission
  – September 1st for Spring admission
The Graduate School

http://graduateschool.utsa.edu/

- Scholarship opportunities
- Financial aid/loan information
- Graduate Student Success Events and Workshops
- Graduate Student Association
- Online Workshops and Resources
- Academic and Professional Skill Development
- Thesis Formatting and Deadlines
Graduate Assistantships (GAs)

• Provide students with the opportunity to work with 1-2 professors on research and/or help with undergraduate course grading
• Pay is $10.00 per hour
• May work up to 19 hours per week
• Must be in good academic standing
• Maintain a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled in 6 credit hours (2 graduate classes) per semester.
• If interested, please contact Courtney Rottgering (courtney.rottgering@utsa.edu) for an application once you have been accepted to graduate school.
For questions, please contact:
Dr. Marie Tillyer
Graduate Advisor of Record
Graduate Program Committee Chair
Marie.Tillyer@utsa.edu