

2012-2013 LONG SIGNATURE SHEET

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UNC CHARLOTTE

Proposal Number: CJUS 5-3-13

Revisions
RECEIVED
10/07/13

Proposal Title: Program Revision of the M.S. in Criminal Justice

Originating Department: Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

TYPE OF PROPOSAL: UNDERGRADUATE _____ GRADUATE X UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE _____
(Separate proposals sent to UCCC and Grad. Council)

DATE RECEIVED	DATE CONSIDERED	DATE FORWARDED	ACTION	SIGNATURES
6-25-13	6-26-13		Approved	<u>DEPARTMENT CHAIR</u> <i>Beth Byrnes</i> [print name here:] Beth Byrnes
			Approved	<u>COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> <i>OSCAR LAMSEN</i> [print name here:] OSCAR LAMSEN
	10/11/13	10/11/13	Approved	<u>COLLEGE FACULTY CHAIR (if applicable)</u> <i>Michael Turner</i> [print name here:] Michael Turner
		10/17/13	Approved	<u>COLLEGE DEAN</u> <i>C. Brody</i> [print name here:] C. BRODY
			Approved	<u>GENERAL EDUCATION</u> (if applicable; for General Education courses) [print name here:]
			Approved	<u>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE & CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> (for undergraduate courses only)
	12-3-13	12-20-13	Approved	<u>GRADUATE COUNCIL CHAIR</u> (for graduate courses only) <i>Alan R. Freitag</i> ALAN R. FREITAG
12/20/13				<u>FACULTY GOVERNANCE ASSISTANT</u> (Faculty Council approval on Consent Calendar) <i>Marta J. W.</i>
				<u>FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u> (if decision is appealed)

University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Revised Graduate M.S. Degree in Criminal Justice
Course and Curriculum Proposal from the Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology

Program Revision of the M.S. in Criminal Justice & Criminology

II. Content of Proposals

A. Proposal Summary

1. Summary

The Criminal Justice and Criminology Department proposes to revise the M.S. in Criminal Justice from its current 36 hours to a 31 hour M.S. degree in Criminal Justice. This is a 5-credit reduction. The revision includes changing two 4-hour courses (CJUS 6102, Research Methods I; CJUS 6103, Research Methods II) to two 3-hour courses and dropping one additional 3-credit elective from the curriculum.

B. Justification

1. Identify the need addressed by the proposal and explain how the proposed action meets the need.

In Fall semester of 2012, our department began looking carefully at the Master's degree requirements in leading criminology and criminal justice programs around the United States (Table 1) and at programs in the Carolinas (Table 2). Through this process, we learned that most of these programs now require less than 36 credit hours (30 hours is the most common requirement). Note that while several of the programs within the Carolinas require more than 30 hours, many offer online courses, arguably making their heavier credit requirement less burdensome to students.

Although our department continues to discuss the merits and pitfalls of online graduate education, at least for the immediate future we will continue to offer a traditional brick-and-mortar Master's program with a high faculty-to-student ratio, and one in which students have meaningful opportunities to collaborate with faculty in research. At the same time, we believe it is in our program's best interest to align the program's required credit hours to that of similar degree programs across the country. We are therefore proposing to reduce our required credits hours to 31 instead of 36. We plan to accomplish the reduction in credit hours by eliminating 1 of the elective courses and by modifying our two required research methods courses to carry 3 semester credits instead of the current 4 semester credits.

2. Discuss prerequisites/corequisites for course(s) including class standing, admission to the major, GPA, or other factors that would affect a student's ability to register.

CJUS 6102 (Research Methods I) continues to be a pre-requisite for CJUS 6103 (Research Methods II). There are no other pre- or co-requisites in the program.

3. Demonstrate that course numbering is consistent with the level of academic advancement of students for whom it is intended.

No Changes.

4. In general, how will this proposal improve the scope, quality, and/or efficiency of programs and/or instruction?

We believe the proposed changes will (1) make our program more efficient, (2) make our program more comparable to other nationally prominent graduate programs in criminology and/or criminal justice, and in turn (3) make our program more attractive to applicants both inside and outside North Carolina, leading to increased enrollments. We do not anticipate the scope or quality of the program will be adversely affected by the proposed changes.

5. If course(s) has been offered previously under special topics numbers, give details of experience including number of times taught and enrollment figures.

Not Applicable.

C. Impact

1. What group(s) of students will be served by this proposal?

We expect that both new and existing students will be served. New students will be asked to complete 3-hour sections of research methods to culminate in a 31 hour degree. Existing students who have already completed the 4-hour sections of research methods will be able to complete the degree in as little as 34 hours.

2. What effect will this proposal have on existing courses and curricula?

- A. When and how often will added course(s) be taught?

There are no additional courses.

- B. How will the content and/or frequency of offering of other courses be affected?

We will have to offer elective and directed independent study opportunities in the summer. We do not expect to offer any core courses during the summer, however.

C. What is the anticipated enrollment in course(s) added (for credit and auditors)?

No courses are being added.

D. How will enrollment in other courses be affected? How did you determine this?

We will not have to offer as many courses because the proposed change is an overall reduction of 5 credit hours for the M.S. degree.

E. Identify other areas of catalog copy that would be affected including within other departments and colleges.

None expected.

III. Resources Required to Support Proposal

A. Personnel: Specify requirements for new faculty, part-time teaching, student assistants, and/or increased load on present faculty. List by name qualified faculty members interested in teaching the course(s).

None.

B. Physical Facility: Is adequate space available for this course?

Yes.

C. Equipment and Supplies: Has funding been allocated for any special equipment or supplies needed?

Not Applicable.

D. Computer: Specify any computer usage (beyond Moodle) required by students and/or faculty, and include an assessment of the adequacy of software/computing resources available for the course(s).

None.

E. Audio-Visual: If there are requirements for audio-visual facilities beyond the standard classroom podiums, please list those here.

None.

F. Other Resources: Specify and estimate cost of other new/added resources required, e.g., travel, communication, printing, and binding.

None.

G. Source of Funding: Indicate source(s) of funding for new/additional resources required to support this proposal.

Not Applicable.

IV. Consultation with the Library and other Departments or Units

A. Library Consultation

See Attachment.

B. Consultation with other Departments or Units

Not Applicable.

V. Initiation, Attachments, and Consideration of the Proposal

A. Originating Unit: Briefly summarize action on the proposal in the originating unit including information on voting and dissenting opinions.

The department faculty voted on the concept for this change (unanimous vote in favor) on April 5th, 2013. The department faculty voted on this proposal (unanimous vote in favor) on May 3rd, 2013. There are no dissenting opinions.

B. Credit Hour

Not applicable.

- C. Attachments (see below).
 - 1. Figures and Tables
 - 2. Consultation
 - 3. Course Outline/Syllabus: no new courses being added
 - 4. Proposed Catalog Copy
 - 5. Academic Plan of Study: graduate program (not applicable)
 - 6. Student Learning Outcomes: no changes
 - 7. Textbook costs

1. Figures and Tables

Table 1: Hours Required for Master's Degree in Prominent National Programs

Table 2: Hours Required for Master's Degree in NC/SC Programs

Table 1. Hours Required for Master's in Prominent National Programs

National Programs	Minimum Hours
University of Cincinnati	30
University of Maryland	30
Florida State University	33
University at Albany (SUNY)	30
Michigan State University	30
Arizona State University	30
Rutgers, State University of New Jersey	30
George Mason University	30
Georgia State University	36
University of Nebraska at Omaha	30
University of South Florida	33
University of Texas at Dallas	36
Northeastern University	32
John Jay College	30

Table 2. Hours Required for Master's Degree in NC/SC Programs

NC/SC Universities	Minimum Hours
UNC Charlotte	36
UNC Greensboro (Sociology)	30
Appalachian State University	36
NC Central University	30
Fayetteville State University	33
East Carolina University	36
UNC Wilmington (Sociology)	34
Methodist University (Fayetteville)	36
University of South Carolina	30
Charleston Southern University	36
The Citadel (Social Science)	36

2. Consultation

We are attaching the consultation on Library Holdings. No other departments are involved.

3. Course Outline/Syllabus

We are not creating any additional courses.

4. Proposed Catalog Copy

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Master of Science (M.S.) in Criminal Justice degree program is designed to promote broad based study of the phenomenon of crime and to enhance career opportunities in the field of criminal justice. The program utilizes the social and behavioral sciences in an interdisciplinary approach to study law, crime, and social deviance, and to examine critically the systems created in response to deviance and crime. The objectives of the program are to: (1) provide present and future criminal justice personnel with the educational background necessary to function effectively in the dynamic field of criminal justice; (2) familiarize students with the nature, methods, and functions of research, and with the existing body of knowledge on criminal justice; (3) provide the criminal justice system with qualified candidates for careers in the field; and (4) prepare students for entrance into doctoral programs. Career opportunities available in the criminal justice system include law enforcement, corrections, administration, planning and analysis, juvenile justice, and college instruction. There are also private sector careers available, including private security and loss prevention. Students may enroll in the program on either a full-time or part-time basis. Many classes are scheduled in the evening to accommodate the part-time student. Full-time students can complete the program over a 12 month period.

Additional Admission Requirements

Admission to the Criminal Justice graduate program is open to students with bachelor's degrees in any discipline who meet the general requirements for admission to the Graduate School. Preference is given to applicants who have a grade point average of at least 3.0, a satisfactory score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (above 300 on the combined verbal and quantitative sections), a personal statement describing their interest in attaining the degree, and three strong recommendation letters from those who are able to attest to your academic ability.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of ~~36~~31 semester hours is required. All students must complete each of the following six core courses with a grade of B or above:

- CJUS 6100 Criminal Justice Policy (3)
- CJUS 6101 The Nature and Theory of Crime (3)
- CJUS 6102 Research in Criminal Justice I (~~4~~3)
- CJUS 6103 Research in Criminal Justice II (~~4~~3)
- CJUS 6104 Criminal Justice and Social Control (3)
- CJUS 6105 Criminal Justice Seminar (1)

A maximum of ~~12~~9 hours may be taken outside the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, and a maximum of six hours with grades of B or above may be transferred from another institution. Transfer courses must be consistent with the program and will be accepted at the discretion of the department. At least ~~30~~24 semester hours must be taken in residence. To complete the program, students have the option of taking a comprehensive examination or writing a thesis.

Assistantships

The Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology offers graduate assistantships which are awarded primarily on the basis of academic merit.

Financial Aid

In addition to the graduate assistantships, the department offers, as available, research assistantships and grant-funded opportunities for students. In addition, a few scholarships are available each year.

Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive examination is offered each Fall and Spring semester as well as in the Summer. Anyone who has successfully completed all of the core courses with a grade of B or above and two electives is eligible to take the examination. The comprehensive examination may be taken no more than two times.

COURSES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY (CJUS)

CJUS 5000. Topics in Criminal Justice and Criminology. (3) Specialized topics in criminal justice and criminology. *May be repeated for credit. (Fall, Spring)*

CJUS 5101. Drugs, Crime and the Criminal Justice System. (3) Provides an overview of the current state of drug use in this country and throughout the world and examines the nature and extent of drug use, the history of drug use/ abuse, contemporary drug use patterns, licit and illicit drug dealing and trafficking, crime and violence associated with drug use and drug markets, drug control strategies at the local, state, national and international level, treatment level, treatment options and alternatives, drug policy issues, legalization debates, and prevention strategies. *(On demand)*

CJUS 5103. International Criminal Justice. (3) Examination of the patterns and trends in international crime such as terrorism, transnational organized crime, and trafficking in people and a review of how the legal traditions of common law, civil law, Islamic law and socialist legal systems are structured and function criminal justice systems of the United States and other nations. *(On demand)*

CJUS 5160. Victims and the Criminal Justice System. (3) Relationship between victims of crime and the criminal justice system. Specific topics include an analysis of the characteristics of crime victims, victim reporting patterns, treatment of victims by the various segments of the criminal justice system, victim assistance programs, and the issue of compensation and/or restitution for victims of crime. *(On demand)*

CJUS 5161. Violence and the Violent Offender. (3) Issues surrounding violence in today's society and their impact on offenders involved in homicide, child and domestic abuse, and other forms of violence. Examination of myths about violence, victim-offender characteristics and relationships, and theories of violence. *(On demand)*

CJUS 5162. Sexual Assault. (3) Comprehensive and critical examination of sexual exploitation in the United States. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6000. Topics in Criminal Justice. (3-6) Specialized criminal justice topics. *May be repeated for credit. (On demand)*

CJUS 6100. Criminal Justice Policy. (3) Examination of the criminal justice subsystems (law enforcement, courts, corrections) with particular focus on the development of policy and the effectiveness of current policies aimed at reducing crime. *(Spring)*

CJUS 6101. The Nature and Theory of Crime. (3) Definitions and patterns of criminal behavior. Major theoretical perspectives on crime, including historical, philosophical, individual, community-oriented and societal approaches. *(Spring)*

| **CJUS 6102. Research in Criminal Justice I. (43)** Introduction to research methodology and statistics with emphasis on applications to criminal justice settings. Topics to be covered include problem selection, theory, hypothesis formulation, research design, sampling, measurement, and proposal writing. *(Fall)*

| **CJUS 6103. Research in Criminal Justice II. (43)** Prerequisite: CJUS 6102. Advanced research methodology with emphasis on conducting, presenting and evaluating research in criminal justice settings. Topics to be covered include data collection, data input, data analysis, and interpretation. *(Spring)*

CJUS 6104. Criminal Justice and Social Control. (3) Examines how the law functions as a powerful tool of social control in our society. Particular emphasis is given to understanding the constitutional limitations placed on the construction of law, the elements of criminal offenses, and criminal defenses. *(Fall)*

CJUS 6105. Criminal Justice Seminar. (1) An introduction to the criminal justice faculty, their research areas of expertise, and the type of projects with which they are currently involved. *(Fall)*

CJUS 6120. Criminal Justice Management and Decision-Making. (3) Application of generic principles of management and supervision to operational problems confronted by criminal justice agencies with particular attention to decision-making and discretion in criminal justice settings. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6130. Law Enforcement Systems. (3) Consideration of the elements of law enforcement agencies as subsystems of the total criminal justice system. Comparisons of law enforcement systems in other countries are also considered. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6131. Police Problems and Practices. (3) Research on current issues in law enforcement with emphasis on the legal, social, and institutional contexts in which they occur. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6132. Legal Issues in Law Enforcement. (3) Law applicable to the functions of police administrators and line police officers including constitutional, statutory, judicial, and administrative law governing search and seizure, arrest, interrogation, use of force, jurisdiction, civil and criminal liability of administrators and officers, and the rights of officers and suspects. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6140. Prosecution and Adjudication Processes. (3) Functions and powers of prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges and juries including plea bargaining and court procedure. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6150. Corrections. (3) Functions of correctional agencies, principles of punishment and a historical analysis of correctional institutions and programs including prisons, jails, probation and parole systems. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6151. Correctional Strategies: Rehabilitation and Reintegration. (3) Efforts to change offender behavior and to facilitate the development of offender-community linkages. Institutional classification and treatment strategies, pre-release and temporary release programs, innovative uses of probation and parole systems, community residential programs and new dispositional models; e.g., sentencing to community service and restitution. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6152. Legal Issues in Corrections. (3) Major legal issues pertaining to corrections, including sentencing, probation, restitution, prisons, parole, pardon and restoration of rights with emphasis on legal

issues often confronted by correctional administrators and probation and parole personnel. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6160. Juvenile Justice Systems. (3) The process by which specific behaviors are identified as delinquent and the responses of the juvenile justice system to such behaviors. Laws dealing with the juvenile justice system, the historical development of the system, and the effectiveness of innovative responses to delinquency. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6170. Program Planning and Evaluation in Criminal Justice. (3) Applied research as a foundation for criminal justice planning and evaluation. Emphasis on the interrelationship of planning and evaluation within program management. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6800. Directed Individual Study in Criminal Justice. (1-6) Supervised investigation of a criminal justice problem of special interest to the student. *May be repeated for credit one time with permission of student's major professor or academic committee. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

CJUS 6901. Thesis I. (3) Students work on developing a research proposal of a significant criminal justice topic approved by the student's thesis committee. The final proposal includes an extensive literature review and a detailed discussion of the research plan. *Graded on a Pass/Unsatisfactory basis. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

CJUS 6902. Thesis II. (1-3) Prerequisite: CJUS 6901. Students conduct independent research developed in CJUS 6901, successfully defend the research in an oral defense meeting, and have the final written thesis approved by the graduate school. *Graded on a Pass/Unsatisfactory basis for a total of 3 semester hours to be taken in one or more than one semester. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

CJUS 6903. The Applied Research Project. (3) Prerequisite: must pass the qualifying examination, have a research project and human subjects approval, where necessary. Students develop a major paper on a topic of criminal justice importance. It is designed to be completed within one semester. This project is typically designed for research in agencies within the community and must be successfully defended in an oral defense meeting. It is geared towards the terminal Master's student and not appropriate for those seeking the doctorate. *Graded on a Pass/Unsatisfactory basis. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

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A minimum of 31 semester hours is required. All students must complete each of the following six core courses with a grade of B or above:

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- CJUS 6103 Research in Criminal Justice II (3)
- CJUS 6104 Criminal Justice and Social Control (3)
- CJUS 6105 Criminal Justice Seminar (1)

A maximum of 9 hours may be taken outside the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, and a maximum of six hours with grades of B or above may be transferred from another institution. Transfer courses must be consistent with the program and will be accepted at the discretion of the department. At least 24 semester hours must be taken in residence. To complete the program, students have the option of taking a comprehensive examination or writing a thesis.

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CJUS 6170. Program Planning and Evaluation in Criminal Justice. (3) Applied research as a foundation for criminal justice planning and evaluation. Emphasis on the interrelationship of planning and evaluation within program management. *(On demand)*

CJUS 6800. Directed Individual Study in Criminal Justice. (1-6) Supervised investigation of a criminal justice problem of special interest to the student. *May be repeated for credit one time with permission of student's major professor or academic committee. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

CJUS 6901. Thesis I. (3) Students work on developing a research proposal of a significant criminal justice topic approved by the student's thesis committee. The final proposal includes an extensive literature review and a detailed discussion of the research plan. *Graded on a Pass/Unsatisfactory basis. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

CJUS 6902. Thesis II. (1-3) Prerequisite: CJUS 6901. Students conduct independent research developed in CJUS 6901, successfully defend the research in an oral defense meeting, and have the final written thesis approved by the graduate school. *Graded on a Pass/Unsatisfactory basis for a total of 3 semester hours to be taken in one or more than one semester. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

CJUS 6903. The Applied Research Project. (3) Prerequisite: must pass the qualifying examination, have a research project and human subjects approval, where necessary. Students develop a major paper on a topic of criminal justice importance. It is designed to be completed within one semester. This project is typically designed for research in agencies within the community and must be successfully defended in an oral defense meeting. It is geared towards the terminal Master's student and not appropriate for those seeking the doctorate. *Graded on a Pass/Unsatisfactory basis. (Fall, Spring, Summer)*

For a new course or revisions to an existing course, check all the statements that apply:

CJUS 6102: Research in Criminal Justice I

This course changes from 4 hours to 3 hours. The course description stays the same.

1. This course will be cross-listed with another course: No
2. There are prerequisites for this course: No
3. There are corequisites for this course: No
4. This course is repeatable for credit: No
5. This course will increase/decrease the number of credit hours currently offered: Yes.
6. This proposal results in the deletion of an existing course(s) from the degree program and/or catalog: No

CJUS 6103: Research in Criminal Justice II

This course changes from 4 hours to 3 hours. The course description stays the same.

1. This course will be cross-listed with another course: No
2. There are prerequisites for this course: Yes
3. There are corequisites for this course: No
4. This course is repeatable for credit: No
5. This course will increase/decrease the number of credit hours currently offered: Yes.
6. This proposal results in the deletion of an existing course(s) from the degree program and/or catalog: No

5. Academic Plan of Study (Not applicable since this proposal refers to a graduate program).

6. Student Learning Outcomes

Not applicable as there will be no change in our expected student learning outcomes.

7. Textbook Costs: Individual instructors consider the applicability of electronic textbooks, textbook rentals, or the buyback program as appropriate for their courses. We do not have a systemic assessment of this issue to report.