

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/). Course substitutions must be petitioned and approved in advance by the Chair/Co-Chair, with input from the student's adviser.

Degree Requirements

Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

The 30-credit program of study emphasizes social science perspectives to the study of criminal justice. The degree consists of core courses (18 credits) and allows students to choose from among several electives.

Total required credits for the M.P.S.: 30 credits. At least 18 credits must be completed at the 500 level or 800 level, with at least 6 credits at the 500 level.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CJPA 501	Criminal Justice Institutions	3
CJPA 502	Theories of Crime	3
CJPA 803	Applied Research Methods	3
CRIMJ 503	Advanced Statistics in Criminal Justice	3
CJPA 820	Criminal Procedure	3
CJPA 865	Criminal Justice Ethics in a Diverse Society	3
Electives		
Select 9 elective credits ¹		9
Culminating Experience		
CJPA 808	Capstone Project in Criminal Justice Policy and Administration	3
Total Credits		30

¹ Students will have the opportunity to tailor their program of study to their interests by choosing from a list of elective courses. The elective courses will be chosen in consultation with the student's advisor. The list of approved elective courses is maintained by the graduate program office.

The capstone course provides students with an opportunity to apply their knowledge from their courses to a project. The choice of project topic and exact form will be mutually determined by faculty mentors and the student. For example, the capstone experience could be an academic research project, an evidence-based policy evaluation, or the development of a program. The student will work with a faculty mentor/adviser on a capstone project that will be written up as a capstone report. Students are expected to utilize theories, literature, and methods acquired during other courses in the M.P.S. in Criminal Justice Policy and Administration. The report will be formally presented to peers in the M.P.S. and faculty members at the end of the semester. The capstone report must be approved by the faculty mentor/adviser as meeting the course requirements.

Course Substitutions

Substitutions for the above prescribed courses, either with resident-education courses, alternate online courses, or courses from other institutions, will be considered on a case-by-case basis subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<http://>