

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (PH.D. CJ)

Overview

Program Information

The Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice is a comprehensive, hybrid program designed to guide students through an advanced, supervised course of study in criminology, crime and the criminal justice system. It also educates students on contemporary crime problems and the viability of potential policy and criminal justice agency responses to crime. There is a residency requirement to this program. The hybrid nature of the program requires students to attend classes in person at the TAMIU campus during the first semester. Subsequent semesters are completed synchronously online. Students taking less than 9 hours the first semester (part time) will need to return to campus for the remaining in person class the following fall semester.

The program takes one cohort of students each year. The application deadline is April 1. Classes begin in August.

Admission

Admission to the *Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice* degree program requires prospective students to meet specified standards provided by the Graduate School at TAMIU. Students seeking admission to the proposed PhD in Criminal Justice degree program *must* have completed a master’s degree before beginning coursework. International students seeking admission to the program must meet the TAMIU Graduate School’s requirements governing admission of international students. Applications with only a juris doctorate (J.D.) will be required to complete and pass with at least a “B” a master’s level statistics course. The PhD in Criminal Justice degree program faculty will review all applications and determine admissibility to the program. TAMIU’s proposed PhD in Criminal Justice degree program requires the following materials to be submitted by an applicant to the Graduate School at TAMIU:

1. Official Texas A&M International University online doctoral degree application and an application fee of \$35.00.
2. A master’s degree in criminal justice or a closely related field. Students with a Master’s degree in a discipline other than Criminal Justice/Criminology or closely related disciplines will be reviewed and determined on a case by case basis.
3. Official transcripts from each post-secondary school attended. If the applicant has completed a master’s degree, then a final official transcript must show evidence of degree completion. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required in the last 60 hours graduate/undergraduate coursework.
4. Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. Applicants with a completed J.D. may use an official LSAT report in lieu of the GRE if this was taken within the past five years and the applicant scored 155 or higher.
5. Two letters of recommendation from university faculty members familiar with the applicant’s academic work; if the applicant desires, a third letter of recommendation may be submitted from another person qualified to evaluate the applicant’s potential for doctoral study.

6. Applicants must submit a personal statement, limited to 1,000 words (12-point font, double spaced). An applicant will need to address the following questions in his/her personal statement: [1] What are your research interests and discuss some of your research experiences. [2] Which faculty member(s) in the PhD program would you most likely work with? Why? [3] What are your career goals and how do you see our PhD Program helping you to achieve those goals? [4] What personal assets (talent, skills, experiences, etc.) can you bring to our program? Note that only a few students will be admitted each year and applicants are unlikely to be successful if there is no suitable supervisor available within the program.

7. A resume or curriculum vita. Please limit this to no more than 10 pages.

8. A writing sample that illustrates the applicant’s ability to synthesize information and think critically. Examples of acceptable writing samples are a thesis, a peer-reviewed publication, or a technical report written by the applicant. For a multi-authored peer-reviewed publication, the applicant should be the first and/or the primary author.

9. International students must comply with all admission requirements set by the Graduate School at TAMIU, including TOEFL requirements (<https://www.tamiau.edu/admissions/Internat.shtml> (<https://www.tamiau.edu/admissions/Internat.shtml>)).

10. Upon acceptance, students are expected to complete the graduate school online orientation (<https://www.tamiau.edu/sole/orientation.shtml> (<https://www.tamiau.edu/sole/orientation.shtml>)).

Degree Plan

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Required Coursework		22
CRIJ 6101	Proseminar in Criminal Justice ¹	
CRIJ 6302	Advanced Research Methods CJ ¹	
CRIJ 6303	Advanced Statistics I ¹	
CRIJ 6340	Sem in Criminological Theory ¹	
CRIJ 6304	Adv Qualitative Methods	
CRIJ 6361	Program and Policy Evaluation	
CRIJ 6390	Teaching CJ Seminar	
CRIJ 6351	Criminal Law Procedure Law	
Electives		15
<i>Select five courses from the following:</i>		
CRIJ 6305	Advanced Statistics II	
CRIJ 6306	Advanced Mixed Methods	
CRIJ 6307	Seminar in Corrections	
CRIJ 6308	Contemporary CJ Issues	
CRIJ 6309	Seminar in Law Enforcement	
CRIJ 6311	Neighborhoods, Crime, & Maps	
CRIJ 6320	Homeland Security	
CRIJ 6321	Human Trafficking & Smuggling	
CRIJ 6325	Cybercrime	
CRIJ 6330	Immigration & Crime	
CRIJ 6335	Advanced Topics in Victimology	



CRIJ 6355	Intelligence Gathering	
CRIJ 6356	Terrorism	
CRIJ 6357	International Criminal Court	
CRIJ 6365	Criminal Justice Management	
CRIJ 6391	Special Topics in Crim Justice	
Research Portfolio		6
CRIJ 6396	Research Portfolio I	
CRIJ 6397	Research Portfolio II	
Dissertation		6
CRIJ 6398	Dissertation I	
CRIJ 6399	Dissertation II	
Total Semester Credit Hours		49

¹ Required courses to be taken in residence on the TAMU campus.