

JUSTICE STUDIES (M.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/justice-studies/program/ma/justice-studies>

Description

The Master of Arts degree program in Justice Studies (MAJS) provides a broad understanding of justice, crime, and law. It provides tools for reasoned appraisal of how the justice system works and what policies underlie it. The program familiarizes students with legal and justice ideas, justice institutions, and legal processes. It draws on a variety of disciplines, subjects, and research methodologies for its core knowledge. Our students work closely with faculty with established reputations as scholars, teachers, and practitioners.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

The master of arts in justice studies requires that students complete a minimum of ten courses (37 credit hours) in justice studies.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
JUST 802	Law and Society	4
JUST 803	Professionalism in Justice Studies	1
JUST 807	Applied Research Methods	4
JUST 830	Theories of Justice	4
SOC 901	Sociological Methods I: Intermediate Social Statistics ¹	4
Select one course from the following:		4
SOC 815	Criminological Theory	
SOC 820	Sociology of Drug Use	
SOC 921	Crime and Conflict	
JUST 865	Special Topics	
Concluding Experience		
Select one of the following options:		8
Option A:		
JUST 850	Capstone Preparation: Internship/Thesis (4 credits)	
JUST 897	Culminating Project (4 credits)	
Option B:		
JUST 899	Masters Thesis (8 credits)	
Electives		
Select two elective courses from the approved course list below.		8
Total Credits		37

Code	Title	Credits
Approved Electives		
EDUC 967	School Law	4
EDUC 968	Collective Bargaining in Public Education	4
HDFS 876	Children, Adolescents and the Law	4
HDFS 894	Families and the Law	4
JUST 801	Graduate Seminar in Justice Studies ²	4
PA 818	Non-Profit Management	3
PSYC 954	Advanced Seminar in Social Psychology (must be approved by Justice Studies)	4
SW 870	Intimate Partner Violence	3
SW 897	Special Topics in Social Work and Social Welfare (must be approved by Justice Studies)	2 or 3
SW 979	Social Work and the Law	3
SOC 820	Sociology of Drug Use	4

¹ Prerequisite: Statistics course.

² Course may be repeated for different topics for a maximum of 8 credits.

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall		Credits
JUST 803	Professionalism in Justice Studies	1
JUST 830	Theories of Justice	4
SOC 901	Sociological Methods I: Intermediate Social Statistics	4
SOC 820 or SOC 921	Sociology of Drug Use or Crime and Conflict	4
Credits		13

Spring

JUST 802	Law and Society	4
JUST 807	Applied Research Methods	4
Select one of the following options:		8
JUST 850 & JUST 897	Capstone Preparation: Internship/Thesis and Culminating Project	
or		
JUST 899	Masters Thesis	
Credits		16

Second Year

Fall		
Elective course		4
Elective course		4
Credits		8
Total Credits		37

Accelerated Master's

This graduate program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis in articulation with certain undergraduate degree programs.

General Accelerated Master's policy, note that some programs have additional requirements (e.g. higher grade expectations) compared to the policy.

Please see the [Graduate School website](#) and contact the department directly for more information.

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate critical thinking and analysis of justice studies concepts and literature.
- Effectively communicate Justice Studies concepts and research.
- Present and interpret quantitative and qualitative data.

- Demonstrate the technical skills and ethical skills that are appropriate for a practitioner (internship/project option) or researcher (thesis option) working in the justice field.