The master of arts program in criminal justice promotes study for those seeking career opportunities or advancement in justice-related fields as well as those seeking preparation for doctoral study.

The graduate program builds on the multidisciplinary strength of the faculty. The program emphasizes a comprehensive understanding of crime and the justice system, including contemporary issues affecting it, and the analytic skills required to conduct and to apply research and to assess public policy. Faculty members from Rutgers–Camden’s Graduate School and School of Law provide the program with a wide array of justice-related electives.

The department also offers a dual M.A./M.P.A. degree with the Department of Public Policy and Administration.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Online application (gradstudy.rutgers.edu/apply/overview)
- A transcript showing the completion of a B.A. or B.S. degree
- Complete an undergraduate course in statistics and another in research methods. This requirement can be fulfilled after admission. Prior coursework or experience in criminal justice is also recommended.
- Three letters of recommendation (academic reference preferred)
- A statement of purpose
- Submit a brief resume if one’s work experience is relevant to the application
- GRE scores (the LSAT or GMAT exams may be substituted in place of the application)
- The GRE requirement is waived for applicants who received their baccalaureate degree 10 or more years prior to application.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Graduate School offers competitive funding opportunities in the form of fellowships, scholarships, and tuition remission awards. These awards are determined by the graduate department’s admissions committee and do not require an additional application.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

30 total credits

- Criminal justice core courses (nine credits)
- Criminal justice elective courses (21 credits from approved courses)
- Comprehensive exams or an independent research project

DUAL M.A./M.P.A. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

48 total credits

- Criminal justice core courses (nine credits)
- Criminal justice elective courses (12 credits from approved courses)
- Public management core courses (12 credits)
- Public management electives (15 credits from approved courses)
- Comprehensive exams in criminal justice or an independent research project
FACULTY AND RESEARCH AREA

• Stephanie Bush-Baskette (Ph.D., Rutgers–Newark) instructor | theories of crime and delinquency, ethics and policy in criminal justice

• Gail Caputo (Ph.D., Rutgers–Newark) associate professor | intermediate sanctions, with a particular focus on shoplifters and community service sentencing

• Stacia Gilliard-Matthews (Ph.D., Arizona State University) assistant professor | race, gender, and class inequalities in society and police behavior and discretion

• Drew Humphries (D. Criminology, University of California, Berkeley) professor | crime, social control, media, women, and drugs

• Michelle Meloy (Ph.D., University of Delaware) associate professor | gender and crime, sexual victimization and sex offenders, and criminal justice policy

• Jane A. Siegel (Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania) associate professor | long-term consequences of mass incarceration and sexual abuse

• Louis Tuthill (Ph.D., University of California, Riverside) assistant professor | violent crime across various domains and locations

Website: sociology.camden.rutgers.edu/graduate-program-criminal-justice

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