

# Master of Criminal Justice

## Focused Coursework Option – 36 Total Credits

Fall 2007 - Present

Core Courses	Semester Taken	Course Grade
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### Analysis: Methods & Policy Sequence (6 credits)

*Take one of the following three courses:*

- CJ 501 – Research Methods in Criminal Justice, 3 credits, or
- CJ 503 – Seminar in Criminal Justice Research Methods, 3 credits, or
- CJ 555 – Feminist Research Methods, 3 credits

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*Take one of the following three courses:*

- CJ 510 – Advanced Criminal Justice Administrative Systems, 3 credits, or
- CJ 541 – Seminar in Criminal Justice Policy Analysis and Planning, 3 credits, or
- CJ 542 – Seminar in Applied Criminal Justice Analysis, 3 credits

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### Theory: Criminology, Diversity & Ethics (9 credits)

*Take both of the following two courses:*

- CJ 511 – Nature of Crime, 3 credits, and
- CJ 525 – Issues in Ethics, Law and Criminal Justice, 3 credits

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*Take one of the following two courses:*

- CJ 514 – Race, Crime and Justice, 3 credits, or
- CJ 521 – Law & Social Control, 3 credits

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**CJ Electives - Total Credits Required = 12**

*No more than three (3) credits of Directed Readings (CJ 591), Internship (CJ 593), or Independent Research (CJ 592) may be used as CJ electives.*

	<b>Semester Taken</b>	<b>Course Grade</b>
Course: _____	_____	_____
Course: _____	_____	_____
Course: _____	_____	_____
Course: _____	_____	_____

**General Electives/Minor - Total Credits Required = 9;**

These credits may be selected entirely from the Criminal Justice curriculum or may be selected from the graduate curriculum of any other department at NMSU.

*No more than three (3) credits of Directed Readings (CJ 591), Internship (CJ 593), or Independent Research (CJ 592) may be used as general electives.*

*A minor is optional and is earned by completing nine credit hours in any one department outside of Criminal Justice that offers a minor at the graduate level. Information about the availability and requirements of a specific minor can be obtained by inquiring with the academic department where you are interested in pursuing a minor.*

	<b>Semester Taken</b>	<b>Course Grade</b>
Course: _____	_____	_____
Course: _____	_____	_____
Course: _____	_____	_____

**Minor Designation (Optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

## Comprehensive Examination

Students choosing the ***focused coursework*** option are required to pass a formal written comprehensive examination. Only those students who have completed all five of the required core courses are eligible to take the written comprehensive examination.

The comprehensive examination is given electronically once each semester. The comprehensive examination is typically scheduled during October and March.

The comprehensive examination has two components reflecting the primary areas of the core curriculum; **Analysis and Theory**. Each student must write a passing answer to the provided examination component from each core curriculum area in order to pass the comprehensive examination.

Each semester the date and time of the comprehensive examination is posted in various areas within the Department of Criminal Justice and on the student listserv, and announced in graduate classes. All students taking the examination at a scheduled date will answer the same component questions. Student answers to the questions are blind-graded by two professors for each exam component. Exams are graded as either (1) pass with distinction; (2) pass; (3) not pass.

A student receiving a grade of ***not pass*** on any component of the examination is required to retake that component of the examination. A student receiving a grade of ***not pass*** two times on the same component must meet with a panel of faculty members for an oral examination over the exam component that was not passed. If after the oral examination the student's performance does not receive a ***passing*** grade, that student will be required to wait until the next regularly scheduled comprehensive examination to retake the exam component receiving a ***not pass*** grade.

As a point of reference, a ***passing*** grade requires a "B" or better effort. An effort of "C" or lower is considered ***not passing***.