Master of Science in Criminal Justice Curriculum (33 credit hours)

Foundation Courses (9 credit hours)
- Criminal Justice Processes and Institutions
- The Nature of Crime
- Criminal Justice Policy Analysis

Research in Practice Courses (6 credit hours)
- Research Methods in Criminal Justice
- Data and Statistical Analysis in Criminal Justice

Substantive Issues Courses (15*-18 credit hours)
- The Organization & Management of Justice
- Workshop in Criminal Justice
- Seminar in Contemporary Policing
- Seminar in Contemporary Juvenile Justice
- Seminar in Contemporary Corrections
- Intermediate Punishments in the Community
- Seminar in Criminal Justice Legal Issues
- Seminar in Court Administration
- Issues in Justice Administration
- Race, Gender & Diversity Issues in Criminal Justice
- Seminar in Criminal Justice Ethics
- Crime Analysis
- Topics in Criminal Justice
- Independent Study
- Thesis Research
- Other courses as approved by the Graduate Coordinator

*Students opting to write a Thesis complete 15 credit hours of substantive issues courses.

Plans for Degree Completion

Portfolio Option
Students compile an electronic portfolio consisting of papers and/or projects that are integrated across specific courses. A reflection paper discussing the contents of the portfolio’s significance and application relative to the degree program and practical considerations is also required.

Thesis Option
The thesis option is a major project of original research, conducted under the supervision of the student's major advisor. Students electing this option must register for no fewer than three, or more than six, credit hours of thesis research as part of their degree program.

Comprehensive Exam Option
This option is designed to allow full time students to complete their degree within a 12-month school year or within two years if attending part time. Student mastery of the degree will be assessed through responses to a one-day comprehensive exam.

For more information, contact the Graduate Coordinator at mscj@bgsu.edu or call 419-372-9542.