Lamar University
Master of Science in Criminal Justice
Course Descriptions

CRIJ 5310 – Criminal Justice System and Policy
A critical review and analysis of the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations in the prevention, control, and punishment of crime and delinquency. An emphasis is placed on policy analysis and recommendations for change.

CRIJ 5320 – Theoretical Foundations of Crime Control
A comprehensive overview of various theoretical approaches to the understanding of crime and delinquency, including selected biological, psychological, sociological, legal and/or political theories.

CRIJ 5330 – Planning and Evaluation
An in-depth examination of information gathering and analysis; planning and evaluation. Emphasis on the analytical tools useful in criminal justice agencies. Prerequisite: an undergraduate course in research methods, an undergraduate course in statistics, and competence in the use of personal computers.

CRIJ 5331 – Quantitative Methods in Criminology
Research design and analysis of criminal justice information, data collection methods, and application of statistical techniques common to criminology, and the presentation of research findings to policy makers.

CRIJ 5340 – Special Studies in Applied Criminology
Includes an analysis of contemporary issues in the understanding, prevention, and control of crime and delinquency both domestically and globally. A student may repeat the course for credit as an elective when the area of study varies.
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**CRIJ 5345 – Criminal Justice Leadership**

Includes an analysis of contemporary issues in the understanding, prevention, and control of crime and delinquency both domestically and globally. A student may repeat the course for credit as an elective when the area of study varies.

**CRIJ 5601 – Applied Project in Criminology – 6 hours**

A major practical project integrating the student's course work, previous experiences and professional goals.

*Pre-requisite: Approval of graduate advisor*

**CRIJ 5302 – Independent Study**

*Pre-requisite: Approval of graduate advisor.*

**CRIJ 5390-5391 – Thesis**

Prerequisite: Approval of graduate advisor. Must complete both for required 6 credits.