

Master of Science

Law and Justice

CWU at Kent

A University in Your Community

The need for personnel in human and protective services will grow at a rate above the state and national average, where an advanced degree is increasingly in demand. The benefits to obtaining a masters degree include career advancement, increased salary/pension, improved skill/professional abilities, increased retirement contribution and savings, and improved hiring possibilities. Beginning Fall 2011, CWU at Kent will offer the M.S. degree in Law and Justice.

This degree is designed to serve two distinct groups. The Advanced Professional Specialization (45 credits) is aimed at those already in law and justice careers who want to do hands-on research. The Basic Career Specialization (60 credits) is aimed at those wishing to start law and justice careers. To meet the needs of these divergent groups, a core set of classes will be required, focusing upon theory, research methods and legal liability, followed by courses tailored to the needs of these two distinct groups.

Students will learn about research methods and law and justice policies; develop critical thinking skills; and learn to assess/develop/recommend law and justice policy based upon current research.

BENEFITS TO CHOOSING CWU at KENT

With access and affordability as a core component of the program, students are able to earn their advanced degree in their community without having to relocate. Tuition is set at only \$389 per credit, making this affordable program highly competitive for those wishing to further their knowledge and advance their career.

With class scheduling centered around the working professional, we believe convenience and access are essential to student success. Courses are delivered either hybrid (have both online and face-to-face components) or completely online. Face-to-face classes are conveniently held in the early evenings and weekends to allow students to maintain employment and/or pursue an internship.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Review of applications will begin on February 28, 2011.

1. Complete the online application process at <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=cwugrad>. Alternatively, you can submit a paper application found at www.cwu.edu/~admissions/uploads/documents/graduate-application.pdf and submit it along with the \$50 application fee. Please note that online applications may be processed more quickly than paper applications.
2. Write a statement, approximately 500 words, of educational and professional objectives outlining your career goals and detailing any additional information that will help the admissions committee understand your education objectives and needs.
3. Obtain three letters of recommendation written by professors or others capable of assessing your potential for success in a graduate program.
4. Obtain official transcripts from all universities and colleges you have attended.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. A bachelor's degree in the social sciences from a recognized four-year college or university in the U.S. or the equivalent from an institution abroad, or a bachelor's degree and professional experience.
2. At least a 3.0 average GPA in all coursework attempted during the last 90 quarter (60 semester) hours of study.

CORE COURSES

LAJ 511 Theory and Practice.....	5
LAJ 535 Research Methods	5
LAJ 575 Legal Liability of Criminal Justice Professionals	5
LAJ 689 Master's Capstone.....	5
LAJ 700 Master's Thesis, Project Study and/or Portfolio	5

Choose one specialization:

Advanced Professional Specialization

Required Core.....	25
Select 10 credits from the following:.....	10
LAJ 515 Personnel Issues in Criminal Justice (5)	
LAJ 520 Constitutional Issues in Criminal Justice (5)	
LAJ 525 Race, Class, Gender and Administration of Justice (5)	
LAJ 530 History of Criminal Justice (5)	
LAJ 540 Law and Social Control (5)	
LAJ 545 Ethical Issues (5)	
LAJ 698* Special Topics (5)	
Approved 400-level or above elective courses.....	10
Total	45

Basic Career Specialization

Required Core.....	25
LAJ 590 Internship.....	5
Select 20 credits from the following:.....	20
LAJ 515 Personnel Issues in Criminal Justice (5)	
LAJ 520 Constitutional Issues in Criminal Justice (5)	
LAJ 525 Race, Class, Gender and Administration of Justice (5)	
LAJ 530 History of Criminal Justice (5)	
LAJ 540 Law and Social Control (5)	
LAJ 545 Ethical Issues (5)	
LAJ 698* Special Topics (5)	
Approved 400-level or above elective courses.....	10
Total	60

*May be repeated under different topics (e.g., terrorism, domestic violence, restorative justice) to a maximum of 10 credits.

For more information

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