YOUR COURSES

CORE REQUIREMENTS
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Criminal Justice Theory
Policing
Corrections
Criminal Law
Criminal Justice Information, Communication & Ethics
Criminal Justice Research Methods
White Collar Crime
Diversity & the Criminal Justice System
Senior Seminar

Select three of the following:
Juvenile Justice
Criminal Investigation
Crime & Punishment in England 1550-1875
Trial Evidence
Criminal Procedure
Sex Offenders
Special Topics in Criminal Justice
Media & Crime
Internship
Law & Literature
Recent American History
20th Century American History of Race & Gender
Politics & Public Policy
Politics & Public Administration
State & Local Government

NOTE: Also available as a minor.

OVERVIEW

Mount Mercy University’s criminal justice major stands out for its top-notch reputation and long history as one of few schools in the Midwest to offer a four-year criminal justice program.

Mount Mercy’s accomplished faculty prepare future community leaders by blending classroom learning with practical experience through guest speakers, real-to-life situations, and internships. Students studying criminal justice will be ready for a career in corrections, criminal investigation, law enforcement, forensics, or criminology.

Students are introduced to evidence-based practices and are prepared to take on employer demands for critical thinkers, effective communicators, and ethical decision makers—all of which are vital to being competitive in today’s marketplace.

FAST FACTS

• Juniors and seniors are eligible for internship placement—allowing you to practice classroom knowledge in a real-world setting.
• Faculty are community leaders, who practice what they teach to ensure relevant material is taught in each course.
• MMU’s 25+ student clubs, including the Criminal Justice Club, encourage students to explore their individual interests.

96%
employment rate—
96% of alumni are employed or in graduate school within nine months of graduation.

“"The pursuit of excellence the teaching staff and administrators strived to instill in their students was immeasurable. It wasn’t one person or event. It was a lot of people who showed me the right path to take and led by example.”
—Jason Connell ’99
Search and Rescue Police Officer
Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department,
Las Vegas, NV

NOTE: Also available as a minor.

mtmercy.edu/criminal-justice

QUALIFIED STUDENTS
— Qualified Students —
may take up to 12 graduate credits towards their undergrad & future graduate degrees
WHAT CAN I DO WITH A CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJOR?

Graduates from Mount Mercy’s criminal justice program have followed a variety of paths, including:

- Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation
- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police
- Linn County Juvenile Detention Center
- Cedar Rapids Police Department
- Lawyer in Private Practice
- US Border Patrol
- Fish and Game Warden
- Crime Analyst
- Dispatcher
- Court Reporter
- Social Worker
- Domestic Violence Advocate
- Juvenile Rehabilitation Specialist
- Mediator
- Parole Officer

For those wishing to take their education and career to the next level, Mount Mercy offers a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice degree. Qualified undergraduate students may take up to 12 graduate credits that count toward both their undergraduate degree and future graduate degree.

INTERNSHIPS & EXPERIENCE

The program’s robust internship opportunities allow students to be placed in local, state, and federal law enforcement, regional prisons, community-based corrections, law offices, juvenile court and detention, and youth treatment programs.

Past MMU students have worked in:

- Local police & sheriff’s offices
- Iowa Department of Transportation—Motor Vehicle Enforcement
- U.S. Marshals Office
- Iowa Medical & Classification Center at Oakdale
- Anamosa State Penitentiary
- Local police & sheriff’s offices
- Iowa Department of Transportation—Motor Vehicle Enforcement
- U.S. Marshals Office
- Iowa Medical & Classification Center at Oakdale
- Anamosa State Penitentiary

- Sixth Judicial District Department of Corrections—residential, probation/parole
- Linn County Juvenile Detention Center
- State Public Defender’s Office—criminal investigator, attorney
- Private law firms
- U.S. Attorney’s Office
- Linn County Attorney’s Office
- U.S. Probation
- Tanager Place
- Four Oaks
- Child Protection Center
- 6th Judicial District Juvenile Court

YEAR ONE

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OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Transfer students must take a minimum of 15 semester hours in their criminal justice major or minor.
- A grade of C- or better is required for each course in the major and minor.
- A student may enroll in and complete a maximum of 6 semester hours for CJ 428 Internship, although only 3 semester hours may be counted toward the major.
- Majors should follow a sequence of completion in order: CJ 101 > CJ 299 > CJ 302 > CJ 410.
- CJ 101 must be completed before enrolling in other criminal justice courses.