Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice

The online Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Kent State University is designed to challenge experienced and aspiring professionals who want to expand their scope of knowledge and move into career and leadership positions.

Demand for criminology and criminal justice professionals continues to grow. Whether you are in policing, corrections, victim advocacy or global security or wanting to move from your profession into one of these fields, the challenges you face are increasingly complex, requiring collaboration across multiple stakeholders.

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

This program prepares you as a next-generation leader in this complex, global and interconnected field. You will choose a focus area from four advancing fields – Policing, Corrections, Global Security or Victimology. And you'll complete core courses with peers from across these disciplines, with an integrated curriculum that prepares you to see and work across these disciplinary boundaries.

Kent State's online Master's in Criminology and Criminal Justice is designed for working professionals and students seeking graduate education.

The program is 33 credits in length, consisting of 11 three-credit courses.

- Each course is seven weeks in length, with two courses taken sequentially each semester. This allows you to focus on one course at a time while still completing your program in two years.
- To keep class sizes small and maximize collaboration, multiple sections of each course are offered.

WHY CHOOSE KENT STATE'S ONLINE MASTER'S IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE?

- Enroll in a newly envisioned program designed to prepare next-generation leaders with both breadth and depth of knowledge and skills
- Choose from four high-demand concentrations – Policing, Corrections, Global Security and Victimology
- Learn from dedicated full-time faculty genuinely invested in seeing their students succeed
- Experience a flexible online program structure created to fit the lives of full-time working professionals
- Graduate in less than two years
- Submit your application with no GRE requirement for admission into the program

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WHAT YOU’LL LEARN
Our online Master’s in Criminology and Criminal Justice delivers both the breadth and depth you’ll need as a public service leader. You will complete core courses with professionals from diverse backgrounds with a multidisciplinary curriculum that prepares you to collaborate across boundaries.

PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS
• Three core “breadth” courses (9 credits)
• One required course from each of our four concentration areas (12 credits)
• Three additional courses from your chosen concentration (9 credits)
• One required capstone project (3 credits)

Courses are delivered through our course management system, Blackboard Learn. Course content consists of text, narrated PowerPoint presentations, video and audio, live chats, discussion groups or other learning enhancements.

CONCENTRATION AREAS
CORRECTIONS
The Corrections concentration is designed for those pursuing career advancement or seeking expanded knowledge in professional areas including the areas of probation, parole, institutional corrections or treatment. The program provides a strong foundation in correctional theory and practice pertinent to both institutional and community settings, including an awareness of contemporary challenges and emerging trends in the field.

GLOBAL SECURITY
The Global Security concentration focuses on issues related to global security, U.S. national security policy and strategy, as well as transnational issues and the concerns of other countries or regions. It provides students with a strong foundation to confront the ever-changing, fast-paced and challenging international security environment. With an emphasis on traditional and emerging transnational security threats, students are prepared for analytical, operational and leadership careers in global security in the public and private sectors. The goal is to produce a new generation of analysts, policymakers and scholars knowledgeable about the wide range of international and national security problems and foreign policy issues of the 21st century.
POLICING
The purpose of the Policing concentration is three-fold:

1. To examine the historical ideas of police service and the lessons that can be learned from those ideas.
2. To learn about the research that has challenged traditional ideas and the implications of that research for revision.
3. To analyze the implications of contemporary research to guide new innovations in policies, management, strategies and tactics of police service delivery.

VICTIMOLOGY
The concentration in Victimology provides specialized knowledge about the scientific study of crime victims, their treatment within the criminal and juvenile justice systems, the legal rights of victims and victim assistance and restorative justice programs. This concentration will prepare students to develop and lead initiatives that help prevent victimization, to engage in victimological research and evaluation and to respond to victims in culturally appropriate ways.

FACULTY
Kent State University's Criminology and Criminal Justice faculty in the Department of Sociology have diverse backgrounds that include police and police administration, juvenile justice, victimology and global security.

It is this breadth of experience that feeds the program's focus on multidisciplinary leadership in the field of criminology and criminal justice. All faculty are full-time, with doctoral degrees and extensive professional experience, ensuring the highest quality educational experience.