ABOUT THE MASTER OF ARTS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE

The 33-credit MA in criminology and justice offers students a rigorous academic foundation in criminology and the skills to analyze crime-related data and research. Combining theory and practical application, the program enhances career advancement in a variety of professional arenas, including government departments, criminal justice agencies, legal settings, and non-profit organizations. Full-time students can complete the program within three semesters; part-time students require four to five semesters.

Participation in an introductory pro-seminar, coursework in criminological theory, and a three-course research methods series provides a solid grounding for all incoming students. Electives encompass major trends in global and organized crime, comparative criminology, punishment, and justice praxis, as well as analysis of contemporary topics including cyber crime, drugs, juveniles, and female offenders and victims.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A GRADUATE DEGREE IN CRIMINOLOGY?

The program works with students to develop the critical thinking and analytical skills necessary for further graduate study, research or teaching, policy research and practice, and employment in government/non-government agencies and the private sector.

Our graduates have pursued careers in a wide variety of areas related to crime and justice. Recent alumni hold positions at the US Department of Homeland Security, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Social Security Administration, and the New York City Department of Investigations, Department of Education, and Department of Juvenile Justice. The program also benefits research-oriented students, many of whom have continued their education in law school and doctoral programs in criminology and related social sciences.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

I would like to encourage both undergraduate students and alumni who are already working full time to consider what an MA in criminology and justice from St. John’s University can do for their careers. Our student body is a very diverse group. They come from as far away as Russia, the Dominican Republic and California and as close as Queens, NY. They have earned undergraduate degrees in physics, art history, computer science, criminal justice, and sociology. But all of our students share the desire to make a difference in the growing field of criminology. If you would like to set up an appointment to discuss how
a master’s degree in criminology and justice can help you achieve your goals, please feel free to contact me directly.

Robert Tillman, Ph.D.
Program Director
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Students are strongly encouraged to link their academic work with experiential learning through internships in the multitude of government and non-profit agencies based in New York City. Students have participated in internships at the United States Secret Service; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the offices of the Brooklyn and Queens district attorneys; the City of New York Department of Investigations; the Legal Aid Society of New York; the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York; and at various social service agencies. In addition to invaluable work experience that may be directly applicable in future employment, students can earn academic credit for their service. Current students also have the opportunity to informally network with alumni at the annual Criminology Connections meeting.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

St. John’s University awards a limited number of graduate assistantships and fellowships each year to qualified graduate students. Assistants and fellows are generally appointed to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology where they work 15–18 hours per week in support of faculty research. Assistantships provide tuition remission—and, in some cases, a stipend—for a maximum of 15 credits. Please see the Graduate Bulletin for further information.

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS

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Graduate Bulletin
www.stjohns.edu/academics/graduate/bulletin

A combined bachelor’s and master’s degree option is available for this program. For more information, please visit:
www.stjohns.edu/liberalarts/combined.