

MASTER OF SCIENCE CRIMINAL JUSTICE



The Master of Science in Criminal Justice is designed for students who wish to obtain careers in justice system policy formulation and to effectively serve as administrators to U.S. justice system agencies. As a student in the program, you will make substantive connections between the study and practice of criminal justice education with opportunities to immerse yourself in the applied nature of the field while also conducting high quality research.

The program is anchored by two core study areas: criminology, which examines the nature and causes of crime, and justice system management, which focuses on modern administrative theory, legal issues in personnel administration, and management of criminal justice agencies. You'll learn from faculty who are actively involved in research and public safety projects across the region—from serving as research partners for police-directed public safety projects like the Shannon-Project with the City of New Bedford to working with the Project Safe Neighborhoods and the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovations grant programs, our faculty are vital resources to the local justice community.

The Master of Science (M.S.) in Criminal Justice program:

- Is available full-time, part-time and online
- Is taught by expert faculty who bring current experience to the classroom
- Provides opportunities for research and collaboration with RWU's School of Justice Studies, a dynamic learning environment that encompasses all aspects of the justice system
- Can be completed in one year as part of a 4+1 opportunity including graduate courses senior year

Credits 36

Time to Completion

One-to-Two and a Half Years

CAMPUS LOCATION

Bristol, Rhode Island and Online

Who It's For

Recent graduates in criminal justice, psychology, or related fields, or working professionals interested in mid- and upper-level roles in the justice system

Course Load

Full-time or Part-time

Key Features

On-ground and online delivery, one-year completion option, dual M.S./J.D. degree option available

Application Deadline

August 1 for Fall

December 15 for Spring

Roger Williams
University
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

CURRICULUM

Required Courses: 18 credits

CJS 501 Criminal Justice System Overview
CJS 503 Survey of Research Methods
CJS 505 Legal Issues in the U.S. Justice System
CJS 509 Crime and Public Policy
CJS 511 Criminological Theory
CJS 513 Analysis of Criminal Justice Data

Thesis Option: Up to 6 credits

CJS 605 Thesis

Electives: Up to 18 credits

CJS 515 Psychological Factors in Crime Causation
CJS 517 Correctional Systems and Practices
CJS 519 The Juvenile Justice System
CJS 521 Drugs in Society
CJS 523 Organized Criminal Enterprises
CJS 524 Homeland Security
CJS 527 Violence and the Family
CJS 530 Women and Crime
CJS 531 Witnesses, Suspects & Investigative Interviewing
CJS 534 Youth Gangs
CJS 542 Digital Forensics I

For a full list of elective options, please visit grad.rwu.edu.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications to the program are due by August 1 for fall admission and December 15 for spring admission. To be considered for admission to the Master of Science in Criminal Justice degree program, applicants must hold an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

To apply, applicants must submit the following items to the Office of Graduate Admission:

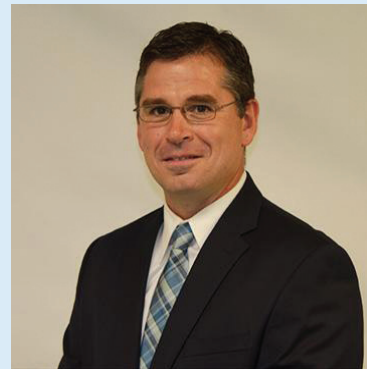
1. Completed application form accompanied by a \$50 application fee
2. Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework
3. Letter of Intent (two double-spaced pages maximum) describing your interest in Criminal Justice, relevant past experiences and career goals
4. Two (2) letters of recommendation attesting to your potential to succeed in graduate school
5. If your first language is not English, an official report of TOEFL or IELTS results

Note: Applicants with an overall GPA below 3.0 (B) are strongly encouraged to take either the GRE or MAT; applicants for the Joint M.S./J.D. must apply separately to the School of Law, and must submit an LSAT score.

To read more about the application process and how to submit your materials, please visit grad.rwu.edu/apply.

A REAL WORLD EDUCATION

RWU Faculty Member Helps Combat Opioid Crisis in Massachusetts



Dr. Sean Varano, Professor of Criminal Justice and Director of the M.S. Criminal Justice program at RWU, is an expert in policing and develops ways that police can effectively respond to community needs. Varano made national headlines in August 2017 for his work assisting Massachusetts police in the development of a database for tracking and responding to opioid overdoses in real-time.

“The fact that we are able to track this and give police, policy makers and public health officials information about the prevalence of fatal and non-fatal overdoses on a real-time basis is a tremendous public health tool,” Varano said.

The goal of the database is not to increase opioid-related arrests, but instead to focus on intervention and prevention strategies. Varano said that police can now provide outreach visits with specialists to connect opioid users with the resources necessary for treatment.