

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (M.S.) - LEGAL STUDIES

Important: This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2025 through summer 2026. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses ¹		
CJUS 500	Criminal Justice Integration	3
CJUS 520	Administration of Justice Organizations	3
CJUS 530	Human Resource Management in Criminal Justice Organizations	3
CJUS 550	Topics and Trends in Criminal Justice	3
CJUS 601	Criminal Justice Program Evaluation	3
CJUS 610	Leadership, Ethics and Policing	3
Total Hours		18

¹ Public Safety Professionals who graduate from a National or Regional Command College and who have received graduate credit from a regionally accredited sponsoring university, and who have not previously used such credit for a degree, may transfer up to 12 hours of graduate credit associated with the Command College to the Master of Science in Criminal Justice as Experiential-Learning credit

Code	Title	Hours
Legal Studies Cognate		
JURI 520	Constitutional Law	3
JURI 540	Criminal Law	3
JURI 575	Criminal Procedure	3
JURI 600	Foundations of Law	3
Total Hours		12

Code	Title	Hours
Thesis or Elective Courses ^{1,2}		
CJUS 688	Thesis Proposal	3
CJUS 689	Thesis Research ³	3
CJUS 690	Thesis Defense ⁴	0
Total Hours		6

¹ Students may take two elective courses ³ instead of CJUS 688, CJUS 689, and CJUS 690

² Choose from the following courses: Any 500-600 level course offered by the Helms School of Government. Other 500-600 level courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis

³ While CJUS 689 may be taken more than once, only one enrollment in the course will be permitted to count toward degree requirements

⁴ Any thesis student who is not ready for enrollment in CJUS 690 after completing CJUS 689 may be required, as determined by the student's thesis chair, to repeat CJUS 689 until deemed ready for enrollment in CJUS 690

Graduation Requirements

- Complete 36 hours
- A maximum of 50% of the program hours may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level
- 3.0 GPA
- No more than two grades of C may be applied to the degree (includes grades of C+ & C-)
- No grade of D or below may be applied to the degree (includes grades of D+ & D-)
- Degree must be completed within 5 years
- Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

Program Offered in Online Format

Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Semester		
CJUS 500	Criminal Justice Integration	3
CJUS 520	Administration of Justice Organizations	3
JURI 520	Constitutional Law	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
CJUS 530	Human Resource Management in Criminal Justice Organizations	3
CJUS 550	Topics and Trends in Criminal Justice	3
CJUS 601	Criminal Justice Program Evaluation ¹	3
Hours		9
Third Semester		
CJUS 610	Leadership, Ethics and Policing ¹	3
JURI 540	Criminal Law	3
JURI 575	Criminal Procedure	3
Hours		9
Fourth Semester		
CJUS 688	Thesis Proposal	3
CJUS 689	Thesis Research ^{2,3,4}	3
CJUS 690	Thesis Defense ^{3,4}	0
JURI 545	Healthcare Compliance	3
Hours		9
Total Hours		36

¹ May register for CJUS 601 and CJUS 610 after successfully completing 12 hours of graduate level CJUS courses.

² While CJUS 689 may be taken more than once, only one enrollment in the course will be permitted to count toward degree requirements.

³ Any student who is not ready for enrollment in CJUS 690 after completing CJUS 689 may be required, as determined by the student's thesis chair, to repeat CJUS 689 until deemed ready for enrollment in CJUS 690.

⁴ Students may take two elective courses ⁵ instead of CJUS 688, CJUS 689, and CJUS 690.

⁵ Choose from the following courses: Any 500-600 level course offered by the Helms School of Government. Other 500-600 level courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis.