The master’s program in criminology and criminal justice at Northeastern University concentrates both on the problem of crime as a form of deviant behavior and on the criminal justice and private security systems that deal with it. The program emphasizes a systems approach to criminal justice, stressing policy development and analysis, as well as the impact these policies have on the individuals and organizations charged with delivering justice in a fair and equitable manner. Broad in concept and scope, it encompasses such related disciplines as law, sociology, political science, psychology, criminology, and public administration.

The master’s program is comprised of required courses encompassing both substantive and technical skills. Additionally, students choose elective courses from offerings within the graduate program in criminal justice or in other graduate programs in the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. The course offerings afford students the flexibility to customize their own programs, which may include an internship, directed study, or master’s thesis.

Faculty members in the graduate program represent several different academic disciplines, and teaching activities vary in nature depending on the instructors’ specific objectives. The faculty’s specialized interests help make possible a broad range of program offerings, including courses on the criminal justice process, victimology, security management, criminal law, juvenile justice, law and psychology, and terrorism.

Briefly stated, the graduate program endeavors to:

• Assist in developing criminal justice and private security leaders capable of assuming responsibility for policy planning and administration
• Offer students an opportunity to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct applied research while assisting them in developing the ability to apply this research in a variety of criminal justice settings
• Provide an opportunity for a solid educational foundation for those who wish to pursue more advanced graduate study beyond the Master of Science degree

Graduate study in criminology and criminal justice may be pursued on either a full- or part-time basis. All candidates for the Master of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice degree must successfully complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit in course work.

Program Requirements
Complete all courses and requirements listed below unless otherwise indicated.

Core Requirement
A cumulative 3.000 GPA is required for the core requirement.

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<tr>
<th>Criminology and Criminal Justice</th>
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<td>CRIM 7200 Criminology            3</td>
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<td>CRIM 7202 The Criminal Justice Process 3</td>
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Options
Complete one of the following options:

**COURSE WORK OPTION**

**Additional Courses**
Complete 18 semester hours in the following range: CRIM 5000 to CRIM 7989

**THESIS OPTION**

**Thesis**
CRIM 7990 Thesis 6

**Additional Courses**
Complete 12 semester hours in the following range: CRIM 5000 to CRIM 7989

**Program Credit/GPA Requirements**
30 total semester hours required
Minimum 3.000 GPA required