|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 340 | Police and Policing | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| SOC 341 | Sociology of Punishment | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| SOC 342 | Women, Crime, and Justice | 4 | F, Sp |
| SOC 343 | Juveniles and Justice | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 344 | Race and Justice | 4 | F, Sp |

Total Credit Hours: 26-28

Justice Studies M.A.

Learning Goals

**Admission Requirements**

1. A completed application form accompanied by a $50 nonrefundable application fee.

2. A bachelors degree, if not applying for the combined B.A./M.A. program.

3. Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate records.

4. Prior course work in research methods and quantitative analysis, PLUS at least four undergraduate courses in sociology, a major in a related field, or substantial work experience in a justice-related field.

5. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale in undergraduate course work.

6. An official report of scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test Test is required unless the B.A. degree earned is from Rhode Island College or the University of Rhode Island in the academic fields of political science, psychology, sociology, justice studies or criminal justice. This consideration applies to qualified students with an overall G.P.A.of 3.0.

7. Statement of professional goals including how the program will prepare the candidate for these goals.

8. Three letters of recommendation that address potential to succeed in a graduate program. Must include at least one letter from a professor in a social science course.

9. A plan of study approved by the advisor and appropriate dean.

10. An interview may be required.  
**B.A./M.A. Admissions Option**  
Students matriculated in the Rhode Island College undergraduate justice studies major may apply for a combined B.A./M.A. option. Such students will apply after completing 75 credits, including at least 20 credits in courses counted towards the Justice Studies major, and must have a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0. Application requirements include all of those listed above; however, the GRE may be waived for B.A./M.A. applicants. B.A./M.A. students are permitted to count 9 graduate credits towards their undergraduate requirements.

Course Requirements

Courses

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 501 | Professional Writing for Justice Services | 4 | F |
| SOC 504 | Advanced Quantitative Analysis | 4 | Sp |
| SOC 509 | Advanced Criminological Theory | 4 | F |

ONE COURSE from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 532 | Advanced Qualitative Methods | 4 | Sp |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 533 | Evaluation Research | 4 | F (odd years) |

Or another research methods course in a related discipline selected with department chair’s consent.

EIGHT ELECTIVE CREDITS from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 450 | Topics in Sociology | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 535 | Fieldwork in Sociology | 1-4 | As needed |
| SOC 536 | Current Legal Issues | 4 | Sp (even years) |
| SOC 551 | Topics in Criminology | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 552 | Topics in Stratification | 4 | Asneeded |
| SOC 553 | Topics in the Sociology of Law | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 554 | Topics in Social Problems | 4 | As needed |

Relevant 400-500 level courses from other departments will be considered with approval from advisor.

Choose A or B:

A. Thesis Plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 592 | Masters Thesis | 3 | As needed |

Subtotal: 30

SOC 592 is to be taken twice for a total of 6 credits.

B. Project Plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 593 | Final Project | 3 | As needed |
|  | FOUR ELECTIVE CREDITS selected from the list above. | 4 |  |

Subtotal: 31

**Soc 535 – Advanced Fieldwork in Sociology (1-4)**

Hands-on experience using sociology in the field as part of an experiential learning process, such as through service learning or applied research, under the supervision of an instructor.

Prerequisite: Graduate status and consent of Department Chair. Some fieldwork sites may have additional requirements.

Offered: As needed.

SOC 536 - Current Legal Issues (4)

An analysis of current legal issues facing the justice system, such as issues relating to criminal trials, punishment, family law, surveillance and civil rights.

Prerequisite: Graduate status or consent of department chair.

Offered: Spring (even years).

SOC 551 - Topics in Criminology (4)

Focus is on topics in the study of criminology. May be repeated once for credit with a change in topic.

Prerequisite: Graduate status or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

SOC 552 - Topics in Stratification (4)

Focus is on topics in the study of in the study of social stratification as impacting justice systems. May be repeated once for credit with a change in topic.

Prerequisite: Graduate status or consent of department chair.

Offered: Asneeded.

SOC 553 - Topics in the Sociology of Law (4)

Focus is on topics in the study of the sociology of law. May be repeated once for credit with a change in topic.

Prerequisite: Graduate status or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

SOC 554 - Topics in Social Problems (4)

Focus is on topics in the sociological study of social problems. May be repeated once for credit with a change in topic.

Prerequisite: Graduate status or consent of department chair.

Offered: As needed.

SOC 591 - Directed Readings (1)

Under the supervision of a faculty member, the student engages in intensive readings on a specific topic relevant to justice studies.

Prerequisite: Graduate status and SOC 501, SOC 504, SOC 509, and consent of the instructor and department chair.

Offered: As needed.

SOC 592 - Masters Thesis (3)

Students conduct a quantitative or qualitative empirical study. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6 credits.

Prerequisite: Graduate status and SOC 501, SOC 504, SOC 509, completion of 8 additional credits in the program, thesis committee approval, good standing (see Graduate Manual) and consent of department chair and dean.

Offered: As needed.

SOC 593 - Final Project (3)

Students undertake an applied research or evaluation project under the supervision of a faculty member.

Prerequisite: Graduate status and SOC 501, SOC 504, SOC 509, completion of 8 additional credits in the program, good standing (see Graduate Manual), and consent of department chair and dean.

Offered: As needed.