

Master in Criminal Justice - Minor in Faith-Based Restorative Justice and Advocacy

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 69 (including 15 credit hours for minor)



Program Description

The Master in Criminal Justice at HBI University is designed for students seeking expertise in law enforcement, corrections, forensic science, and the judicial system. This program integrates criminology, public policy, and ethical justice leadership to prepare graduates for careers in law enforcement, the court system, corrections, and advocacy organizations.

The Minor in Faith-Based Restorative Justice and Advocacy offers a specialized focus on integrating faith-driven reconciliation, criminal justice reform, and social advocacy. Students will explore faith-based rehabilitation programs, restorative justice practices, and ethical frameworks for criminal justice leadership.

This 69-credit hour program includes 30 credit hours of foundational criminal justice courses, 24 credit hours of core forensic science and legal training, 15 credit hours in Faith-Based Restorative Justice and Advocacy, elective coursework, a supervised practicum, and a research-based master's thesis or capstone project.

Admissions Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in criminal justice, law, sociology, or a related field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty or professionals in law enforcement, criminal justice, or advocacy
- Statement of purpose outlining career goals in criminal justice and faith-based advocacy
- Resume with relevant experience in law enforcement, corrections, or nonprofit justice initiatives
- Interview with faculty committee (if required)

Practicum Requirement

Students must complete a 300-hour supervised practicum in law enforcement agencies, correctional facilities, advocacy organizations, or faith-based criminal justice initiatives. Practicum placements include restorative justice programs, prison ministry projects, and nonprofit legal aid services.

Master's Thesis / Capstone Project

Students must complete either a research-based master's thesis on criminal justice reform, restorative justice practices, or faith-driven legal advocacy, or develop a capstone project implementing a rehabilitation or reintegration initiative for incarcerated individuals.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Analyze crime trends, public safety policies, and the role of faith in criminal justice reform.
- Develop faith-based interventions for rehabilitation, reentry, and victim restoration.
- Apply ethical and restorative justice frameworks to law enforcement and legal systems.
- Advocate for social justice and policy reforms that align with faith-based values.
- Lead community-based crime prevention and victim advocacy programs.

Career Outcomes & Potential Salary

- Criminal Justice Reform Advocate – \$70,000 - \$150,000
- Restorative Justice Program Director – \$75,000 - \$160,000
- Correctional Program Administrator – \$80,000 - \$170,000
- Law Enforcement Leadership & Ethics Consultant – \$85,000 - \$175,000
- Faith-Based Legal Aid & Advocacy Coordinator – \$90,000 - \$185,000

Advocacy and Professional Development

Students are encouraged to join organizations such as:

- National Association of Community and Restorative Justice (NACRJ)
- Christian Legal Society
- International Prison Fellowship
- Faith-Based Criminal Justice Reform Network

Participation in criminal justice reform summits, law enforcement ethics workshops, and faith-driven legal advocacy programs is highly recommended.

Course Breakdown (Total: 69 Credit Hours)

A. Foundational Criminal Justice Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CRJ-101	Criminology & Theories of Crime	3
CRJ-102	Criminal Law & Judicial Systems	3
CRJ-103	Policing & Law Enforcement Strategies	3
CRJ-104	Corrections & Rehabilitation	3
CRJ-105	Criminal Investigations & Forensic Science	3
CRJ-106	Ethics in Criminal Justice & Faith-Based Perspectives	3
CRJ-107	Crime Prevention & Community Policing	3
CRJ-108	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
CRJ-109	Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention	3
CRJ-110	Sentencing & Penal Reform	3

B. Core Forensic Science and Legal Training (24 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CRJ-201	Investigative Techniques & Crime Scene Analysis	3
CRJ-202	Criminal Profiling & Behavioral Analysis	3
CRJ-203	White-Collar Crime & Financial Fraud Investigations	3
CRJ-204	Crisis Negotiation & Conflict Resolution	3

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CRJ-205	The Role of Faith in Criminal Justice Reform	3
CRJ-206	Human Rights & Criminal Law	3
CRJ-207	Crisis Intervention & Victim Advocacy	3
CRJ-208	Supervised Criminal Justice Practicum	3

C. Faith-Based Restorative Justice and Advocacy Minor (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FBRJ-301	Theology of Justice & Reconciliation	3
FBRJ-302	Restorative Justice Practices & Faith-Based Approaches	3
FBRJ-303	Prison Ministry & Rehabilitation Programs	3
FBRJ-304	Social Justice & Faith-Based Legal Advocacy	3
FBRJ-305	Community Healing & Trauma-Informed Justice	3

D. Electives (9 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELEC-2901	International Criminal Justice & Human Rights	3
ELEC-2902	Faith-Based Mediation & Conflict Resolution	3
ELEC-2903	Cybercrime & Digital Forensic Investigations	3

