

I'm not a robot



Criminology masters degree

Criminology is a multidisciplinary study of crime and its impact on society. It encompasses various aspects such as the causes, prevention, correction, and consequences of crime. With its roots dating back to the late 1800s, criminology has evolved into an ongoing effort to understand and address the complex issues surrounding criminal behavior. Mathematician Adolphe Quetelet discovered recurring patterns in crimes, including types of offenses, convictions, and demographics. He believed that societal factors were the root cause of criminal behavior. Italian physician Cesare Lombroso, known as the father of modern criminology, studied criminal characteristics to understand why people committed crimes. Initially, he concluded that criminality was inherited and linked certain physical traits to criminal behavior. However, his theories were later discredited by social scientists. Modern American criminology evolved in three phases from 1900 to 2000. The first phase, the "Golden Age of Research," focused on multiple factors contributing to crime. The second phase, the "Golden Age of Theory," was dominated by Robert K. Merton's strain theory, which linked criminal behavior to social pressure and unattainable goals. The third phase brought real-world testing of criminological theories using empirical methods. This led to fact-based theories on crime and criminals applied today. The formal teaching of criminology as a distinct discipline began in 1920 with Maurice Parmelee's textbook, while the first school of criminology was founded by August Vollmer at the University of California, Berkeley in 1950. Criminology encompasses the study of crime and criminal behavior, including causes, effectiveness of laws, and law enforcement functions. Criminology is a multidisciplinary field that employs both natural and social sciences to understand crime and develop effective solutions. Modern criminologists work at various institutions, including law enforcement, academia, and private research companies, to apply cutting-edge science and technology in addressing crime and punishment. They collaborate with legislative bodies to shape policies and develop strategies like community-oriented policing and predictive policing. The field has undergone significant changes over its four-century history, with shifting theories reflecting societal transformations. Early biological theories suggested that human characteristics such as genetics or mental disorders influence criminal behavior. Classical theory focused on humane punishment, positing that humans exercise free will and avoid behaviors causing them pain. Positivist theory rejected this premise, instead attributing crime to biological or psychological abnormalities. Cesare Lombroso's general theory introduced the concept of atavism, which proposed that criminals share physical features with apes and early humans. Since 1900, sociological research has led to the development of several theories, including cultural transmission theory, which suggests that criminal behavior is transmitted through generations via shared cultural beliefs. Strain theory, developed by Robert K. Merton, posits that certain societal strains increase the likelihood of crime. Social Disorganization Theory suggests that neighborhood characteristics influence criminal behavior, while Labeling Theory proposes that labeling can trigger criminal actions. Routine Activities Theory states that motivated criminals target vulnerable victims, and Broken Windows Theory posits that visible signs of crime create an environment conducive to further crimes. Various criminological theories have been developed over time, including Beccaria's concept of deterrence and Akers' social learning theory. These theories have implications for community corrections practice and education's impact on crime rates. We're seeking UK graduates with a First or Upper Second classification, or equivalent international qualifications. Our assessment considers your degree subject, grades, and institution standing. Explore our website for full entry requirements and application procedures. Join us at a top-ranked university in Criminology (The Guardian Ranking by Subject 2021) to develop intellectual, critical, and analytical skills. Study the complex interactions between politics, criminology, and criminal justice, and analyze the impact of public policy. This MA course prepares you for various career paths. Take advantage of our open days to discover more about our facilities and courses. For EU students, please visit our dedicated page for additional information. For entry in September 2025, tuition fees are as follows: * Full-time UK students: £14,000 per annum * International/EU students: £27,500 per annum (including administration and computational costs) * Part-time UK students: £7,000 per annum * International/EU students: £13,750 per annum Fees for entry are subject to yearly review and may increase annually. For general fees information, please visit our postgraduate fees page. International self-funded applicants will need to pay a deposit of £1,000 towards their tuition fees before receiving a confirmation of acceptance for studies (CAS). This deposit is refundable if immigration permission is refused. We also have a policy on additional costs, which outlines any unavoidable expenses that may arise during your programme. For more information, please visit our Policy on additional costs incurred by students on undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes (PDF document, 91KB). Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships Plan (CSFP) General Scholarship To view lists of courses in related subject areas, follow the links below. The University of Manchester is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS), which aims to help students succeed in Higher Education by ensuring they receive excellent information and guidance. While seeking to protect their interests, one may find additional information on the OfS website. For students at The University of Manchester, regulations and policies regarding student life can be found on our regulations website, including Degree Regulations and Complaints Procedure. Criminological theories often attempt to explain why people commit crimes. What makes one theory superior? How do we compare them? Unlike the natural and physical sciences, which mostly agree on their disciplines, criminology is interdisciplinary and many experts may not concur on what causes criminal behavior. For instance, research has shown that an individual's political beliefs can influence their set of beliefs about crime causes. To test our theories, we must apply scientific criteria. Akers and Sellers (2013) propose a set of criteria to judge criminological theories: logical consistency, scope, parsimony, testability, empirical validity, and usefulness. Logical consistency refers to the ability of a theory to make sense and be internally consistent. A theory's scope refers to its range of explanations, including whether it accounts for crimes committed by males and females, all ages, or specific types. Parsimony means simplicity, with fewer constructs or hypotheses. Testability ensures that a theory is open to possible falsification. Empirical validity arises from research supporting the theory, while usefulness stems from the theory's ability to guide policy-making. Your criminology expertise can guide you in selecting a program aligned with your goals from our diverse list. To ensure you're on the right track, consider whether the chosen program offers specializations and electives relevant to your interests. While internships are not typically required for master's students, some programs do provide opportunities to gain practical experience, often lasting a semester and taking place in settings that may mirror future workplaces. Our evaluation criteria for ranking universities include Major Focus, Major Demand, Educational Resources, Student Debt, and Accreditation. These factors help us identify the best institutions for criminology students pursuing a master's degree. To develop our Best Criminology Master's Degree Schools ranking, we considered numerous factors such as educational expenditures per student, student-to-instructor ratio, graduation rates, and accreditation status. Our methodology is detailed in our full ranking documentation. Since choosing the right university can be a life-altering decision, we've created various major-related rankings to aid students in making informed choices. Below, you'll find a list of the top 10 universities for pursuing a master's degree in criminology in the United States. These institutions offer excellent programs in criminology, with some notable statistics including: * University of California - Irvine: Offers a strong program with \$61,062 median starting salary and 149 annual graduates. * University of Maryland - College Park: A public university with a large student population offering a master's degree in criminology. * Lasell University: A private not-for-profit institution with a small student population and high early career earnings (\$83,538 above the standard college graduate). * Saint Joseph's University: A medium-sized private university with a strong program in criminology and average early career earnings of \$54,585. These rankings aim to provide students with valuable insights into the best universities for their master's degree in criminology. Obtenez des informations sur un master en criminologie de l'Université du Sud de la Floride - Campus principal Demander des informations Les barres sur les graphiques de répartition ci-dessus montrent la distribution des écoles de cette liste +/- une déviation standard par rapport à la moyenne. Le système intégré de données postsecondaires (IPEDS) du Centre national de statistiques de l'éducation (NCES), une branche du Département de l'éducation des États-Unis (DOE), sert de base aux autres données sur les collèges. D'autres données sur les collèges, y compris une grande partie des données sur les revenus des diplômés, proviennent du tableau de bord des collèges du Département de l'éducation des États-Unis. En savoir plus sur nos sources de données et nos méthodologies. Rapports populaires Classements des collèges Meilleur par emplacement Guides de diplôme par spécialité Programmes d'études supérieures Niveau de diplôme Programmes populaires 2023 Tous droits réservés. College Factual® est une marque déposée de Media Factual.