



## New Program Report

**Date Submitted:**

12/03/2020

**Institution**

Missouri Southern State University

**Site Information**

**Implementation Date:**

8/1/2021 12:00:00 AM

**Added Site(s):**

**Selected Site(s):**

Missouri Southern State University, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, MO, 64801-1595

**CIP Information**

**CIP Code:**

450101

**CIP Description:**

A program that focuses on the general study of human social behavior and social institutions using any of the methodologies common to the social sciences and/or history, or an undifferentiated program of study in the social sciences.

**CIP Program Title:**

Social Sciences, General

**Institution Program Title:**

Justice Studies

**Degree Level/Type**

**Degree Level:**

Master Degree

**Degree Type:**

Master of Science

**Options Added:**

**Collaborative Program:**

N

**Mode of Delivery**

**Current Mode of Delivery**

Classroom

Online

**Student Preparation**



## New Program Report

Special Admissions Procedure or Student Qualifications required:

**REGULAR ADMISSION:** A conferred bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university, AND has an undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; OR a combined score of 300 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE; AND meets specific departmental requirements.

**PROVISIONAL ADMISSION:** A student who holds a bachelor’s degree but does not meet course prerequisites; OR is a senior in their last semester seeking admission for a subsequent semester.

Specific Population Characteristics to be served:

Target audience includes individuals currently employed & seeking a graduate degree for professional advancement & students seeking advanced education in the areas of law enforcement, social services, human services, or legal study

### Faculty Characteristics

Special Requirements for Assignment of Teaching for this Degree/Certificate:

All full-time and part-time faculty will meet HLC standards for faculty qualifications.

Estimate Percentage of Credit Hours that will be assigned to full time faculty:

100% Full-time faculty

Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation:

Standard faculty teaching, service, and scholarship requirements; student mentoring for capstone experiences

### Student Enrollment Projections Year One-Five

<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Full Time: 4</b>	<b>Part Time: 2</b>	
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Full Time: 6</b>	<b>Part Time: 3</b>	
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Full Time: 8</b>	<b>Part Time: 4</b>	<b>Number of Graduates: 8</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Full Time: 10</b>	<b>Part Time: 6</b>	
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Full Time: 12</b>	<b>Part Time: 6</b>	<b>Number of Graduates: 12</b>

### Percentage Statement:

n/a

### Program Accreditation

Institutional Plans for Accreditation:

No specialized accreditation will be sought.

### Program Structure

#### Total Credits:

36

#### Residency Requirements:

24 credit hours must be earned at MSSU / 12 credit hours may be transferred in for credit

#### General Education Total Credits:

0



## New Program Report

**Major Requirements Total Credits:**

12

**Course(s) Added**

COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	COURSE TITLE
JS 503 or JS 504	3	Criminal Justice Research Methods or Social Science Research Methods
JS 600 or JS 610	6	Thesis or Service Project & Process Paper
JS 505 or JS 506	3	Statistical Analysis or Social Science Statistics

**Free Elective Credits:**

24

**Internship or other Capstone Experience:**

Students choose thesis or non-thesis track; non-thesis track requires a service project & process paper

**Assurances**

I certify that the program is clearly within the institution's CBHE-approved mission. The proposed new program must be consistent with the institutional mission, as well as the principal planning priorities of the public institution, as set forth in the public institution's approved plan or plan update.

I certify that the program will be offered within the proposing institution's main campus, CBHE-approved service region or CBHE-approved off-site location.

I certify that the program will not unnecessarily duplicate an existing program within the geographically applicable area.

I certify that the program will build upon existing programs and faculty expertise.

I certify that the program can be launched with minimal expense and falls within the institution's current operating budget.

I certify that the institution has conducted research on the feasibility of the proposal and it is likely the program will be successful. Institutions' decision to implement a program shall be based upon demand and/or need for the program in terms of meeting present and future needs of the locale, state, and nation based upon societal needs, and/or student needs.

**Contact Information**

First and Last Name: WENDY  
MCGRANE

Email: [mcgrane-w@mssu.edu](mailto:mcgrane-w@mssu.edu)

Phone: 417-625-9801

**MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**School Curriculum Oversight Committee/Academic Policies Committee**

**Proposal for a NEW MAJOR or CERTIFICATE**

1. School: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: Justice Studies Date: 10/13/2020

2. Title: Master of Science in Justice Studies Course #: \_\_\_\_\_

CIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

3. New Major or Certificate: New Major or New Option: \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date first offered: \_\_\_\_\_ .

Attach information for items 5-12 as needed.

5. Describe the need for this new major including evidence of student demand for the program and market or societal need for the skills being developed.

See attached information

6. Is the major interdisciplinary? Yes X, No \_\_\_\_. If so, has it been approved by all departments concerned? Yes X, No \_\_\_\_. If Interdisciplinary, how will coordination between the departments be accomplished?

The Master of Science in Justice Studies program will be administered by a committee with representation from multiple departments.

7. Are there similar programs offered at other Missouri institutions? Yes \_\_\_\_, No X. If so, how is this program unique or different from existing programs?

See attached information

8. Describe the curriculum requirements for the major.

See attached information

9. What are the student learning objectives for the program?

See attached information

10. How will the objectives be assessed?

See attached information

11. If this major is approved –

a. Will additional staff be needed? Yes \_\_\_\_, No X. If yes, describe.



Attached information:

**5.) Describe the need for this new major including evidence of student demand for the program and market or societal need for the skills being developed.**

Higher education is changing and Missouri Southern State University has the opportunity to stay ahead of the curve, through the creation of innovative graduate programs to meet the changing needs of both traditional and non-traditional students alike. The U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey School Enrollment Supplement indicated that from October 2011 to October 2018, the total number of people enrolled at all levels of school declined by 2.2 million to 76.8 million people. However, during that same frame, the number of students enrolling in graduate and professional school increased by 307,000 to 4 million. Further, between 2018 and 2029, postbaccalaureate enrollment is projected to increase by 3 percent (from 3.0 million to 3.1 million students).

There are many benefits to students who continue their education post baccalaureate. In today's increasingly competitive job market, the benefits of a master's degree can help students differentiate themselves and remain valuable employees. A master's degree will help students gain specialized knowledge to help build on their current abilities, gain new skills, increase professional networking, advance in their current career path or transition to an entirely new field, and increase earning potential. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs requiring a master's degree are projected to increase by 18 percent from 2012 to 2022. Those with postbaccalaureate degrees average 35% higher salaries than bachelor's degree holders.

However, traditional discipline specific programs may not meet the needs of today's graduate students. The Guardian has reported that the "higher education sector needs to find new structures that demonstrate we're set up in the most effective ways to wrestle with real problems." To address these real problems the most effective solution is "designing courses that are cross-disciplinary, where one discipline learns from the perspective of another, or interdisciplinary, where the disciplines are integrated, allows for more context-specific programmes [sic] that better suit industry and prepare students for jobs, opening doors rather than closing them." The Master of Science in Justice Studies is this type of innovative program, which is designed to prepare students to be job-ready and to be able to address the real-life issues facing our country today. The Master of Science in Justice Studies is an interdisciplinary partnership between multiple departments, schools, and colleges at Missouri Southern State University designed to allow students, from all disciplinary backgrounds, the opportunity to explore and gain a deeper understanding of the multiple facets of what we call "Justice." Students in this program will synthesize advanced scholarly knowledge from diverse yet interrelated fields, critique historical and theoretical concepts related to the understanding and application of justice, and master disciplinary and interdisciplinary skills essential to both scholarly and profession settings. This new degree offering is unique not only to the region, but to the country as well, and at little to no additional cost to Missouri Southern State University will provide a competitive edge against other universities in terms of recruitment and retention.

**7.) Are there similar programs offered at other Missouri institutions? Yes\_\_\_\_, No\_\_X\_\_.**  
**If so, how is this program unique or different from existing programs?**

## 8.) Describe the curriculum requirements for the major.

### Master of Science in Justice Studies:

#### Program Description and Mission Statement:

The Masters of Science in Justice Studies is an interdisciplinary partnership between multiple departments, schools, and colleges at Missouri Southern State University designed to allow students, from all disciplinary backgrounds, the opportunity to explore and gain a deeper understanding of the multiple facets of what we call "Justice." Students in this program will synthesize advanced scholarly knowledge from diverse yet interrelated fields, critique historical and theoretical concepts related to the understanding and application of justice, and master disciplinary and interdisciplinary skills essential to both scholarly and professional settings.

#### Requirements:

All students will be required to meet standard graduate school requirements as determined by the Graduate Council.

#### 36 Credit Hours:

- 6 Hours Core Courses
- 24 Hours Elective Courses
- 6 Hours to complete capstone with Thesis or Non-Thesis option(s)

#### Core: 6 Hours

- Research Methods: Sequence before Statistics
  - CJ 0305/ JS 0503 – Criminal Justice Research Methods
  - or
  - PSC 0340/ JS 0504 - Social Science Research Methods
- Statistics: Sequence After Research Methods
  - JS 0505 – Statistical Analysis
  - or
  - PSC 0350/ JS 0506 - Social Science Statistics

#### Electives: 24 Hours – Students must take electives from at least 2 different disciplines

- JS 409/ JS 509 - Inequalities in America
- CJ 0301/ JS 0511 - International Justice Systems
- CJ 0430/ JS 0513 - Family Violence
- CJ 0432/ JS 0514 - Ethics in Criminal Justice
- CJ 0440/ JS 0515 - Victimology
- CJ 0316/ JS 0516 - Homeland Security
- CJ 0417/ JS 0517 - Serial Murders
- COMM 0410/ JS 0520 - Crisis Communications
- JS 0521 - Crime & Criminal Justice Policy (CJ)
- JS 0522 - Seminar in Corrections (CJ)
- JS 0523 - Restorative Justice (CJ)
- HIST 0320/ JS 0540 - The Civil Rights Era
- PSC 0310/ JS 0550 - Judicial Politics and Process
- PSC 0364/ JS 0551 - War and International Security
- PSC 0342/ JS 0552 - Public Policy

- PSC 0432/ JS 0553 - Constitutional Law II & Civil Liberties
- PSC 0435/ JS 0554 - Philosophy of Law
- PSC 0366/ JS 0555 - International Politics and Cyber Security
- PSC 0309/ JS 0556 – Law and Society
- SW 0300/ JS 0570 - Social Welfare Policies and Services
- SW 0475/ JS 571 - Social justice Practice
- SOC 0302/ JS 0580 - Cults in the U.S
- SOC 0311/ JS 0581 - Social Stratification
- SOC 0312/ JS 0582 - Juvenile Delinquency
- SOC 0391/ JS 0584 - Penology and Corrections
- SOC 04XX/ CJ 04XX/ JS 0585 - Seminar in Race, Class, Gender, and Crime
- KINE/HIST 0488 /JS 0588 - Wellness and Justice: A lion Co-op Experimental Learning Course
- JS 0699 - Independent Study

Capstone: 6 Hours Students must choose either the Thesis on Non-Thesis Track

- Thesis JS 0600  
or
- Service Project and Process Paper in Justice Studies JS 0610

**9.) What are the student learning objectives for the program? & 10.) How will the objectives be assessed?**

Goal 1: Students will demonstrate a set of decision-making skills relevant for work settings.

Objective 1.1: Students will apply legal concepts (criminal, civil, and/or Constitutional) to social problems in work-settings.

Measure 1.1: Completion of non-thesis track capstone course; Exams and/or writing assignments in all Justice Studies courses will measure this objective as it is fundamental to each course in this degree.

Objective 1.2: Students will apply disciplinary and interdisciplinary knowledge and theory when describing the complex nature of the process and application of justice in society.

Measure 1.2: Exams and/or writing assignments in all Justice Studies courses will measure this objective as it is fundamental to each course in this degree.

Goal 2: Students will demonstrate the ability to apply the scientific method through investigating research questions.

Objective 2.1: The student must demonstrate knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies.

Measure 2.1: 80% completion rate of the core courses of research methods and statistics.

Objective 2.2: The student must demonstrate an ability to conduct analytical research.

Measure 2.2: 85% pass rate of capstone option.

Goal 3: Students will demonstrate effective writing.

Objective 3.1: Students will demonstrate effective writing through the interpretation and synthesis of scholarly academic literature.

Measure 3.1: The Masters of Science in Justice Studies will utilize a base rubric, which can be adapted to discipline specific writing requirements to assess student writing assignments.



## Masters of Science in Justice Studies Program Memo

The proposed Masters of Science in Justice Studies is an interdisciplinary partnership between multiple departments, schools, and colleges at Missouri Southern State University designed to allow students, from all disciplinary backgrounds, the opportunity to explore and gain a deeper understanding of the multiple facets of what we call “Justice.” Students in this program will synthesize advanced scholarly knowledge from diverse yet interrelated fields, critique historical and theoretical concepts related to the understanding and application of justice, and master disciplinary and interdisciplinary skills essential to both scholarly and professional settings.

### Requirements:

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### 36 Credit Hours:

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### Core: 6 Hours

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- PSC 0310/ JS 0550 - Judicial Politics and Process
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- JS 0699 - Independent Study

Capstone: 6 Hours Students must choose either the Thesis on Non-Thesis Track

- Thesis JS 0600

or

- Service Project and Process Paper in Justice Studies JS 0610

Please, see included documentation,

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Mikh Gunderman, Ph.D.  
Assistant professor of Criminal Justice  
Missouri Southern State University

## Relevant occupations that would benefit from a Masters in Justice Studies (this describes the position and national outlooks)

O\*net (<https://www.onetonline.org/>) identifies these occupations as being consistent with graduate training in justice studies.

23-1023.00	Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates		
25-1111.00	Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Teachers, Postsecondary	Bright Outlook	Bright Outlook
23-1021.00	Administrative Law Judges, Adjudicators, and Hearing Officers		
21-1011.00	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	Bright Outlook	
21-1023.00	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	Bright Outlook	
21-1029.00	Social Workers		
23-1011.00	Lawyers		
23-1012.00	Judicial Law Clerks		
25-1112.00	Law Teachers, Postsecondary	Bright Outlook	
25-1194.00	Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary		
25-2032.00	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Secondary School		
33-3021.06	Intelligence Analysts		
33-3031.00	Fish and Game Wardens	Green Occupation	Green
43-5031.00	Police, Fire, and Ambulance Dispatcher Center/Managers		
33-1012.00	First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives		
33-3021.05	Immigration and Customs Inspectors		
33-3052.00	Transit and Railroad Police		
33-2021.02	Fire Investigators		
23-1021.00	Administrative Law Judges, Adjudicators, and Hearing Officers		
33-3021.01	Police Detectives		
23-1023.00	Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates		
33-3021.03	Criminal Investigators and Special Agents		
13-1041.01	Environmental Compliance Inspectors		
33-2021.01	Fire Inspectors		

Source: [https://meric.mo.gov/Southwest Missouri Projections \(October 2020\)](https://meric.mo.gov/Southwest Missouri Projections (October 2020))

Occupation Title	Employment - Current	Employment - Projected	Career Grade	Average Wage	Annual Growth Rate	Annual Growth	Annual Exits	Annual Transfers	Total Annual Openings
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	354	371	B	\$36,790	0.47%	2	11	25	38
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	493	515	B	\$39,046	0.44%	2	12	23	37
Court, municipal, and license clerks	356	363	C+	\$30,117	0.19%	1	16	17	34
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	244	273	B+	\$50,895	1.13%	3	8	18	29
Insurance Claims and Policy Processing	258	271	C+	\$30,639	0.49%	1	10	16	27
Human resources specialists	255	254	C+	\$49,293	-0.04%	0	7	19	26
Healthcare Social Workers	200	214	B	\$48,075	0.68%	1	6	14	21
First-Line Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	158	174	B	\$34,298	0.97%	2	7	9	18
Police, fire, and ambulance dispatchers	167	175	C+	\$32,131	0.47%	1	6	10	17
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	130	153	B	\$39,028	1.64%	2	4	10	16
Compliance Officers	162	167	B	\$51,451	0.30%	0	5	10	15
Lawyers	186	192	B+	\$96,422	0.32%	1	4	5	10
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	65	73	B	\$38,664	1.17%	1	2	5	8
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	98	110	B	\$55,895	1.16%	1	2	5	8
Social and community service managers	75	82	B+	\$57,854	0.90%	1	2	4	7
Rehabilitation Counselors	53	54	C	\$37,663	0.19%	0	2	4	6
Legislators	55	57	C	\$20,028	0.36%	0	1	3	4
Occupational health and safety specialists	104	98	C+	\$60,262	-0.59%	-1	2	3	4
First-Line Supervisors of Fire Fighting and Prevention Workers	47	49	C+	\$45,111	0.42%	0	1	2	3
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	41	40	B	\$72,183	-0.25%	0	1	2	3
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	34	35	B	\$61,167	0.29%	0	1	1	2