

PROPOSED PROGRAM SUMMARY

Institution: University of Kentucky
Program Name: Criminal Justice
Degree Destination: Master of Science

CIP Code: 43.0100

Credit Hours: 30

Implementation Date: 1/16/2024

Program Description

The proposed program will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the integration of theory, policy, and research within leadership and administrative roles in criminal justice systems. The curriculum will cultivate critical thinking in examining the synthesis of social and legal systems, structures, and institutions in implementing and evaluating outcomes.

Connection to Other Programs

The University of Kentucky understands that multiple criminal justice academic programs are already offered in Kentucky and seeks to partner with existing programs. Partnership opportunities include co-developed research and policy centers, utilizing visiting scholar models, and joint credential offerings.

Student Demand

Gray Associates data shows that student demand for the program is at the 99th percentile in the regional market. The proposed program is projected to have a high volume of completions based on regional, state, and national completion trends in enrollment.

Initial estimates of enrollment are:

Year 1 – 10

Year 2 – 24

Year 3 – 34

Year 4 – 43

Year 5 – 52

Employment Demand

Similar to the proposed baccalaureate program in the same field, this program was proposed in response to conversations with criminal justice professionals and recent Kentucky legislation. Lightcast analytics indicates over 17,000 jobs are open in the criminal justice field in Kentucky and over 1.8 million nationwide. Upon graduation, students will be prepared for these openings with careers as frontline staff and administrators in public and private criminal justice settings including advocacy, probation and parole, prosecution and enforcement, correctional facilities, and court systems.

Budget

The program will be funded based on financial allocation models adopted by the institution. Funds generated from these allocations will be reinvested in the program. The College of Social Work has previously performed well in these allocation models, and this performance is expected to continue with the proposed program. Additional faculty will be needed for this program and will be paid for by revenue generated.

Projected Revenue over Next Five Years (\$): \$ 2,050,853.00

Projected Expenses over Next Five Years (\$): \$ 2,028,228.00