Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology

57 units

Course Requirements

Course #	Course Title	Units
Core Requirements		
CJS 510	Legal Research and Reasoning	3
CJS 520	Advanced Criminal Law	3
CJS 530	Theories and Perspectives of Criminal Behavior	3
CJS 560	Criminal Investigation	3
FPY 500	Statistical Analysis I	3
FPY 501	Statistical Analysis II	3
FPY 505	Forensic Research Methods I	3
FPY 506	Forensic Research Methods II	3
FPY 510	Biological Bases of Behavior	3
FPY 520	Criminal Profiling	3
FPY 530	Advanced Social Psychology	3
FPY 535	Advanced Psychopathology and Criminality	3
FPY 540	Psychology, Law and Ethics	3
FPY 560	Forensic Practicum I	3
FPY 565	Forensic Practicum II	3
FPY 570	Thesis I: Literature Review and Research Proposal	3
FPY 575	Thesis II: Methodology/Results/Discussion	3
FPY 595	Special Topics	3
PSY 510	Human Growth and Development	3
Total Units Required		**57**

CJS 510 Legal Research and Reasoning (3)
This course provides an introduction to legal research methods, including state and federal reported cases, digests, annotated codes, state and federal administrative regulations, and computerized legal research, as well as an introduction to the writing of case briefs and memoranda. This course is also an advanced examination of aspects of evidence acquisition, evaluation, and preservation with special consideration of the legal context including its use in the trial process. This course is designed to provide additional insights concerning the proper use of evidence and its admissibility.

CJS 520 Advanced Criminal Law (3)
Graduate level course on the nature of criminal law; philosophical and historical development; major definitions and concepts; classification of crime; elements of crimes and penalties using California and federal statutes as illustrations; defenses to criminal responsibility; criminal responsibility.

CJS 530 Theories and Perspectives of Criminal Behavior (3)
A study in the traditional and theoretical schools of criminology. Theories relating to individual abnormality and theories relating to cultural influences are examined. Theories of the causes of delinquency and data on delinquent behavior including gangs, minor and major criminal actions and methods of correction are also covered.

CJS 560 Criminal Investigation (3)
This course will examine elements of criminal investigation, including crime scene preservation, evidence collection and interviewing. To bring these two topics (investigation and report writing) together, students will also be exposed to various concepts of criminal law, search and seizure and police procedures.

FPY 500 Statistical Analysis I (3)
This course introduces graduate students to Univariate, and Bivariate Statistical Analysis. This course will review linear correlations, reliability analyses, independent t-tests, dependent t-test, one-way ANOVA, factorial ANOVA, linear regression, and chi-squares statistics. *Pre-requisite: BEH 383 or equivalent.*

FPY 501 Statistical Analysis II (3)
This course introduces graduate students to multivariate statistics, overview of univariate and bivariate statistics, screening of data including issues of normality, linearity, homoscedasticity, multiple regression, canonical correlations, analysis of covariance, multiple analysis of variance and covariance, profile analysis, logistic regression, principle components and factor analysis, and introduction to structural equation modeling.
Pre-requisite: FPY 500.

FPY 505 Forensic Research Methods I (3)
This course examines the nature of the research process emphasizing the formulation of investigative questions and testable hypotheses. This course reviews qualitative methods of data collection, data analysis and report writing. Within a small group setting, students and professors will design and implement field research from topic selection to publication submission.
Pre-requisite: BEH 385 or equivalent.

FPY 506 Forensic Research Methods II (3)
This course examines the nature of the research process emphasizing the formulation of investigative questions and testable hypotheses. This course reviews quantitative methods of data collection, data analysis and report writing. Within a small group setting, students and professors will design and implement field research from topic selection to publication submission.
Pre-requisite: FPY 501 and 505.

FPY 510 Biological Bases of Behavior (3)
This course examines the biological bases of behavior and learning through the lifespan, including the fundamentals of neuroanatomy, brain development, neuropsychology, neurophysiology, neurochemistry, psychopharmacology and temperament.

FPY 520 Criminal Profiling (3)
This course is meant to teach graduate students the fundamentals of reconstructing the serial offenders' motives and intent through examination of psychological evidence left by perpetrators at crime scenes. This course incorporates a multifaceted approach to psychological profiling utilizing criminal investigative skills, social psychological principles, and advanced research methodology.

FPY 530 Advanced Social Psychology (3)
Survey of theory, method, and research results in areas of social psychology, such as attitude formation and change, social perception/ cognition, impression formation, social influence, interpersonal attraction and relationships, aggression and pro-social behavior, and group dynamics. Application in areas such as criminal behavior, legal settings, or neurobehavioral psychology will also be included.

FPY 535 Advanced Psychopathology & Criminality (3)
Nature and causes of reactions to social, biological and psychological stress and maladaptive developments with an emphasis on psychopathy and criminality.

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FPY 540 Psychology, Law and Ethics (3)
This course covers relevant laws and ethical issues affecting forensic psychologists practicing in California. It is designed to instill a broad understanding of the issues/areas within the field of forensic psychology. This broad understanding will include the areas of psychology, law, criminal justice, and forensic mental health. Students will be given the opportunity to gain this basic knowledge and will be expected to critically analyze theories, policies, research, and practices within the field of forensic psychology.

FPY 560 Forensic Practicum I (3)
This course will serve as a supplement to the student's academic and field placement experience. Within a small group setting, students and professors will discuss issues and linkages between their academic work and field placement experience. This may best be described as a weekly, small group supervision process allowing students to concretize theoretical models utilized within the culture of forensic practice.

FPY 565 Forensic Practicum II (3)
A continuation of Forensic Practicum I.

FPY 570 Thesis I: Literature Review and Research Proposal (3)
This course will introduce the student to the style and organization of the thesis requirement. Sections of the thesis to be developed will be the Abstract (a brief summary of both the problem or question and results); Introduction (a definition or description of the problems or question and a statement of the study's purpose and rationale); Methodology (information regarding the subject's mechanics and procedures of the project). *Pre-requisite: FPY 505.*

FPY 575 Thesis II: Methodology/Results/Discussion (3)
A continuation of FPY 570. Sections of the thesis to be developed will be Methodology (information regarding the subject's mechanics and procedures of the project); Results (this may include tables, figures, statistical analysis, or qualitative narrative outcomes); Discussion (this section will include a cogent and critical analysis of the implications of the findings, as well as any conclusions which may be drawn); References (this will reflect a careful review of the literature specific to the subject being studied); Appendices (this may include items such as letters, measurements, or other written materials used or analyzed in the study). *Pre-requisite: FPY 570.*

FPY 595 Special Topics (3)
This course is designed to be an in-dept seminar on a selected topic within Forensic Psychology.

PSY 510 Human Growth and Development (3)
A study of the developmental cycle of the human organism from a cognitive, psychological, sociological, and moral perspective. Emphasis is placed on theories and research related to child development.