Master of Social Science (Criminal Justice Administration)

Frequently Asked Questions 2013

The Master of Social Science (Criminal Justice Administration) (MC137) has a strong vocational focus. If you are already working in the criminal justice industry, the Masters program will provide you with the opportunity to develop your professional knowledge and skills in your particular field and extend your career opportunities in the justice field.

If you are new to the criminal justice industry, but interested in the justice sector as a career path, the Masters program will equip you with the skills and knowledge to begin a new career as well as provide you with the opportunity to develop the skills required to work as managers and leaders in your new field.

For more information, visit www.rmit.edu.au/justice/postgraduate/criminaljustice

What is the duration of the program?

The Master of Social Science (Criminal Justice Administration) is 1.5 years full time. The Graduate Diploma is 1 year full time and the Graduate Certificate is generally 1 year part time (depending on availability of courses).

I don’t have an undergraduate degree. Can I still apply?

If you work in the criminal justice industry, you may still meet the entry requirements. Visit www.rmit.edu.au/justice/postgraduate/criminaljustice to view the entry requirements.

I haven’t studied criminal justice before. Will that matter?

No. This program is designed so that students with no previous knowledge of criminal justice can complete it. The Graduate Certificate (incorporated into the Master of Social Science (Criminal Justice Administration)) contains foundational subjects, designed to give you that knowledge.

The program encompasses a wide range of areas, designed to give you the skills and knowledge needed to work in the industry. For instance, you will learn about policy, contemporary justice issues and theories, different criminal justice systems, and will be able to select a stream of study, such as law, youth justice, and policing.

What will I learn about?

Yes. The majority of courses in MC137 are offered in the evenings. There are also online and intensive courses available.

Can I work and study?

Yes. Our program structure gives you the flexibility to specialise in a field. You can complete 4 electives under the master by coursework.

What if I am interested in a specific area of criminal justice? Can I specialise in an area?

If you choose to complete the program by Minor Thesis, you will have the opportunity to develop a thesis. There are also elective choices at both Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma levels.

Will I have the opportunity to complete an internship?

Yes. Administration Study is a core course, in the master by coursework. The placement is minimum 20 days, maximum 50 days. You can complete it in an organisation of your choice; however, some organisations may have extra requirements or special considerations.

What if I already work in the industry? Do I still have to complete the placement?

Yes, however, there is some flexibility in how you complete the placement. For instance, you could be seconded to a different area within your organization.

Are there Commonwealth Support Places (CSP) available?

No. There are currently no Commonwealth Supported Places available; however, you might be eligible for FEE-HELP which allows you to defer your fees.

What if I wanted to apply mid-year?

We have two intakes a year: commencing (start of the year) and mid-year.

If I have done previous study, can I claim credit?

If you have completed, or partially completed, a program at postgraduate level, you may be eligible for credit transfer. If you work in the industry, you may be eligible for Recognition of Prior Learning.

This program will prepare you to work in organisations such as the Department of Human Services, Department of Justice, law enforcement, non-government organisations and the courts.

What are the career outcomes?

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