The program prepares graduates to hold academic, public policy and administrative leadership roles within a rapidly changing criminal justice system.
Why choose Texas State?
Texas State’s location provides an ideal site for a doctoral program in criminal justice. Situated in the heart of Central Texas, the university is near the state criminal justice agencies for law enforcement, criminal courts and corrections with access to the managers and executives in these agencies.

The doctoral program is part of the School of Criminal Justice which houses a thriving student body. Eighteen full-time doctoral faculty members are involved in a wide range of research activities.

Course Work
Each student develops an appropriate degree plan to meet that individual’s career and academic goals. The degree plan will include a mix of theoretical, analytical and elective courses that will prepare students to work independently and in multidisciplinary teams. Doctoral students complete a minimum of 53 hours of courses and 12 hours of dissertation research. Most courses are offered in the evenings or on weekends for the convenience of working professionals. All students will be given the opportunity to initiate, complete, present and publish original research.
Department Mission

The goals of the doctoral program in criminal justice include preparing students to:

» assume leadership roles in academic, public policy and administrative positions in criminal justice
» identify ways for theory and research on crime, law and public policy to be used in the planning, development and implementation of public and private responses to crime
» balance research skills with theoretically informed policy analysis so as to address challenges in a rapidly changing criminal justice system

These goals are pursued in the context of a broad university curriculum that provides a foundation of knowledge necessary to function in a challenging world.
Faculty
Because of exceptionally diverse faculty and ongoing research, the School of Criminal Justice is able to offer courses in many areas of study, such as policing, corrections, law, juvenile crime, female offending, environmental criminology, criminological theory and management and organization. The School of Criminal Justice also offers a variety of specialized courses in crime analysis, statistics and quantitative data analysis and administers a number of institutes and centers, including the Center for Geospatial Intelligence and Investigation.

Career Options
Most Ph.D. graduates from the School of Criminal Justice at Texas State will become professors in colleges and universities or researchers in local, state or federal agencies.

Students already working in the criminal justice field, such as police officers, should experience job advancement.
Important Deadlines*

Admissions
Fall: March 15
Spring: No admission
Summer: No admission

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
The deadlines to apply for scholarship, fellowship and assistantship consideration may be earlier. View our web page for more details: gradcollege.txstate.edu/funding

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/cj-phd
As a student at Texas State University, I had the opportunity to learn from and work with faculty dedicated to both my success as a student and beyond graduation.

– Victoria Terranova, Assistant Professor at University of Northern Colorado