ABOUT THE 4+1 PROGRAM.
Criminal justice majors can now complete a four-year bachelor’s degree and then earn a master’s degree in administration of justice (AOJ) in just one year when enrolled in the 4+1 program. Between a student's junior and senior year, they will complete four graduate-level courses (12 credits) that fulfills both undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. Students will then complete 21 graduate credits during the fifth year, with three courses in the fall, one course during J-Term and three more in the spring. In total, students earn 121 undergraduate credits and 33 graduate credits. This is a full-time program.

WHY CRIMINAL JUSTICE?
The criminal justice major offers concentrations in law enforcement, juvenile justice, corrections and pre-law. Students take a broad spectrum of courses that are designed to provide a basic understanding of the criminal justice system, theorize why people commit crime, investigate and analyze crimes, review judicial processes and constitutional safeguards, and examine the effectiveness of correctional systems and policies. Students will be prepared to work with victims and offenders, juvenile and adults, and others related to the criminal justice system.

WHY ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE?
The Administration of Justice (AOJ) degree is broadly focused for students who plan to work as criminal justice or social service practitioners. By following a curriculum focused on the integration of criminological theory, criminal and juvenile justice policy, and applied research, this program provides a solid foundation for students seeking administrative positions in the criminal justice system and related fields. With an advanced degree, students will develop further as an educated, sensitive and ethical leader who aims to make a difference.

BENEFITS OF THE 4+1.
- Students gain added practical experience that those who hold bachelor’s degrees don’t possess. This includes unique hands-on opportunities through independent study, an optional master's thesis and/or a graduate internship.
- On average, a professional with a master’s degree earns $936* more each month than a professional with a bachelor degree. That translates to $11,232 more annually.
- Students in the 4+1 program will earn their master’s degree sooner than most professionals, saving both time and money. Earning your degree in one year also means entering the job market sooner with the potential for an additional year of salary and experience, as well as seniority over professionals who spend six years in school.

LEARN MORE.
For more information, including eligibility for this program, visit mercyhurst.edu/aoj.

*Data provided by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.