

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN VICTIM SERVICES MANAGEMENT

The Master of Science in Victim Services Management is designed to prepare graduates to work in various areas of victim services<sup>1</sup>, including but not limited to, direct service provision, organizational management, and social policy development. This degree will benefit persons with or without previous employment experience. However, the ideal candidate will have had professional experience in the field of victim services. Courses are sequenced so that students can complete the degree in two years.

<sup>1</sup> Select courses meet National Advocate Credentialing Program (NACP) standards.

**Additional information:** Reference the Program Landing Page (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/graduate/victim-services-management/>) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

Applications to the Master of Science in Victim Services Management Degree Program are reviewed on a rolling basis, with a Fall semester priority deadline of August 1st. The Spring semester priority deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup>. The application deadline for Summer is May 15<sup>th</sup>. A review of each student's application file will be completed with admission offered on a competitive basis. Please submit all documents to the University Office of Graduate Admissions. Admission considerations include:

1. Graduate Application (<http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply-texas.html>)
2. Application fee (<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-studies/application-fee.html>)
3. An undergraduate degree from an accredited institution in an allied field.
4. Unofficial transcripts of all academic work previously undertaken.\*
5. A cumulative undergraduate degree grade point average of 2.5 or 2.8 for the final 60 baccalaureate credits.
6. **International students ONLY:** Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 79 (internet-based) is required.

\*Applicants may submit unofficial transcripts for review by the admission committee. However, under university policy, admissions decisions are contingent upon receipt of official transcripts.

A holistic review of each student's application file will be completed with admission offered on a competitive basis.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Master of Science in Victim Services Management</b>		
<b>Required Courses</b>		
CRIJ 5330	Critical Analysis Of Justice Administration	3
CRIJ 6334	Research Methods and Quantitative Analysis	3
CRIJ 6392	Program Evaluation In Criminal Justice	3
VCST 5364	Seminar in Victimology <sup>1</sup>	3
VCST 5365	Seminar in Crime Victim Services and Management	3
VCST 5366	Advocacy and Case Management <sup>1</sup>	3
VCST 5385	Non-Profit Grant Writing	3
VCST 6338	Coordinating Victim Services <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Prescribed Electives</b>		
Select four of the following:		12
CRIJ 5367	Gender and Criminal Justice	
CRIJ 6394 or VCST 6394	Special Topics-Criminal Justice (Violence Against Women or Human Resources Mgt.) Special Topics in Victim Studies	
VCST 5368	Human Sex Trafficking	
VCST 5370	Elder Abuse and Victimization <sup>1</sup>	
VCST 5371	Interpersonal Violence	
VCST 5383	Family Violence <sup>1</sup>	
VCST 5384	Child Abuse and Neglect <sup>1</sup>	
VCST 6330	Neurobiology of Trauma	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> National Advocate Credentialing Program (NACP)-approved course.

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<sup>2</sup> A grade of B or better in VCST 6338 is required for graduation.

**Note:** A one year accelerated Master of Science in Victim Services Management Program is available for students. In order to complete a one-year program, students would enroll in four courses per semester over three semesters (i.e Fall, Spring, Summer or Spring, Summer, Fall).

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) marketable skills initiative is part of the state's **60x30TX plan** and was designed to help students articulate their skills to employers. Marketable skills are those skills valued by employers and/or graduate programs that can be applied in a variety of work or education settings and may include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas.

The MS in Victim Services Management is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Grant writing.
- Interpersonal communication.
- Leadership knowledge, skills, and abilities.
- Problem solving.
- Program development and evaluation.