

DEMYSTIFYING THE RESIDENCY AND APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT



Embarking on a doctoral program often raises many questions about residencies and applied research projects. At Tiffin University, we prioritize ensuring our students fully understand the degree program requirements before starting classes. To demystify the residency and applied project requirements for our Doctor of Criminal Justice (DCJ), we've compiled the following information to provide clear answers to your questions.

RESIDENCY DETAILS AND REQUIREMENTS

What is a residency?

- A residency is a three-day gathering of DCJ students on the Tiffin University campus in Tiffin, Ohio.
- DCJ faculty will attend these conferences and assist in conference activities.
- Keynote speakers include leading authors, researchers, activists, and leaders within the criminal justice and higher education fields.
- Doctoral students are required to attend two three-day residency events prior to graduation.
- Fast Fact - TU's residency requirements are significantly less than other programs.

Residency requirements

- Residencies occur one weekend per year, typically in February or March.
- Students will meet Friday evening and Saturday, and travel home on Sunday.
- Students will be responsible for travel-related costs for residencies.

Potential residency activities

- Advanced academic database research strategies
- Strategies for coursework and program completion
- Specific qualitative or quantitative research seminars
- Conference presentation and scholarly publishing training
- Research interest breakout sessions with faculty
- Networking events with doctoral students from other programs

APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT DETAILS AND REQUIREMENTS

What Is the Applied Research Project?

The Applied Research Project provides DCJ students with an opportunity to design and implement a practical, research-driven initiative addressing actual challenges in the field of criminal justice. This project allows students to demonstrate their ability to integrate academic knowledge with professional practice, culminating in a tangible contribution to the discipline. While the Applied Research Project Chair and Committee offer strong support and guidance during the process, the project itself is independently carried out by students.

A hallmark of Tiffin University's DCJ program is the scaffolded support structure. Students receive comprehensive guidance from their Applied Research Project Committee throughout the proposal development and implementation phases. This approach ensures students are well-prepared to independently complete their projects and achieve program goals.

APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT COURSES AND PROCESS

The Applied Research Project (ARP) is the culminating experience of the DCJ program. This project combines practical experience with academic theory, empowering students to create meaningful solutions that make a tangible impact in their field.

ARP895: Applied Research Project Proposal Development

In this course, students identify a challenge within a criminal justice organization and develop a rigorous research proposal to address it. By integrating practical experience with academic theory, students craft innovative solutions that bridge the gap between policy and practice, preparing them for the implementation phase.

ARP896: Applied Research Project and Completion

Building on their proposal, students implement their research project, applying empirical methods to analyze and address the identified issue. This course emphasizes creating actionable policy recommendations and innovative solutions, culminating in a formal oral defense demonstrating their expertise and impact in the field.

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