## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

### What can I do with this major?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **SOCIAL SERVICES** | State and federal correction facilities  
Corrections  
County jails  
Precinct station houses  
Prison camps  
Youth correction facilities  
Medium-security correction facilities  
Voluntary correction facilities  
Halfway houses and pre-release programs  
Reintegration programs  
Alternative schools  
Juvenile detention centers  
Juvenile group homes  
Women’s and family shelters  
Domestic violence agencies  
Immigration and naturalization services  
Other nonprofit organizations | Seek courses or training in topics such as victimology, social problems, diversity issues, or grieving.  
Supplement curriculum with courses in psychology, sociology, or social work.  
Gain experience working with a juvenile population in any capacity (i.e., sports teams, summer camp counselor, parks and recreation programs, and community/religious youth groups).  
Gain related experience in employment interviewing, social casework, substance abuse, and rehabilitation.  
Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds.  
Consider learning a second language.  
Maintain a blemish-free driving and criminal record.  
Gain firearms and self-defense training.  
Earn a master’s degree in social work or counseling for therapy positions.  
Obtain a masters degree in criminal justice or business for upper-level positions in facilities management or administration. | |
| **JUDICIARY AND LAW** | Local, state, and federal courts  
Law firms  
Corporate legal departments  
Public interest law organizations | Consider a double major or minor in the social sciences such as psychology, anthropology, sociology, or political science.  
Attend a postsecondary vocational or technical college that offers court reporting or paralegal certification programs.  
Obtain a law degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).  
Learn to use software packages such as CD-ROM research databases.  
Develop strong research, computer, and writing skills.  
Maintain a high grade point average to gain admittance to law school.  
Participate in mock trial groups. | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAW ENFORCEMENT</strong></td>
<td>City/County Government Organizations including:</td>
<td>Obtain related training or certifications such as CPR, first aid, or EMT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrolling</td>
<td>Police departments</td>
<td>Complete a formal police academy program upon graduation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigating</td>
<td>Correction facilities</td>
<td>Maintain a healthy and physically fit lifestyle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forensics</td>
<td>County sheriff departments</td>
<td>Volunteer to work in a police department or campus safety department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Liquor Control Commission</td>
<td>Complete an internship in a crime laboratory to gain experience in the forensic application of science.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>State Government Organizations including:</td>
<td>Obtain a double major in criminal justice and a hard science (biology, chemistry, or biochemistry) if interested in a career in forensics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State troopers</td>
<td>Consider earning a master's degree in Forensic Science or related discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crime labs</td>
<td>Become familiar with the government application process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Penitentiaries</td>
<td>Learn a second language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal Government Organizations including:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U.S. Customs and Border Protection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internal Revenue Service (IRS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Homeland Security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Postal Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal Marshals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Parks Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crime laboratories</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUSINESS</strong></td>
<td>Insurance companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Banks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Private security companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting</td>
<td>Software companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigating</td>
<td>Hotels and resorts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems</td>
<td>Health care facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration</td>
<td>Transportation services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>Nuclear power plants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intelligence</td>
<td>Manufacturers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Online companies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigation</td>
<td>Other large corporations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### AREAS

**EDUCATION**
- Teaching
  - Colleges and universities
  - Adult education providers
  - Public and private high schools
- Research

### EMPLOYERS
- Colleges and universities
- Adult education providers
- Public and private high schools

### STRATEGIES
- Earn a graduate degree for post-secondary teaching opportunities.
- Get a teaching certificate for elementary or secondary education. Gain a dual certification for increased opportunities.
- Serve as a tutor to other students.
- Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
- Assist a professor with research.
- Take additional coursework related to research and statistics.

### GENERAL INFORMATION
- Many criminal justice professions require candidates to possess strong oral and written communication skills and good computer skills. The ability to speak a second language is also desirable.
- Develop good listening skills and the ability to work well with a wide range of diverse populations.
- Most entry-level positions for criminal justice majors reside with law enforcement and social service organizations.
- Be willing to start in an entry-level job in order to prepare for more advanced career opportunities.
- Obtain experience through volunteer, practicum, or internship opportunities.
- Supplement program of study with courses in business, psychology, anthropology, or sociology. Course work related to the hard sciences (biology, chemistry, or biochemistry) is preferred for career opportunities in forensics.
- Depending upon one's career goals, earn a master's degree in disciplines such as criminal justice, forensic science, social work, counseling, or business to obtain positions involving therapy, higher levels of administration, forensics, or research. Earn the doctorate degree for university teaching positions.
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in fields of interest to learn more about opportunities.
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
  o American Criminal Justice Association
  o The American Parole and Probation Association
  o American Correctional Association
  o The National Drug Enforcement Officers Association
  o Association for Criminal Justice Research
  o Academy for Criminal Justice Sciences

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK INFORMATION
  o Police and Detectives
  o Private Detectives and Investigators
  o Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists
  o Correctional Officers
  o Security Guards
  o Judges, Magistrates and Other Judicial Workers
  o Lawyers
  o Paralegals
  o State and Local Government Industry Guide
  o Federal Government Industry Guide
  o Social Assistance Industry Guide

MISCELLANEOUS CAREER INFORMATION
  o Law related jobs with the Federal Government
  o Law Enforcement Jobs with the Federal Government
  o *Criminal Justice USA
*Criminal Justice Career Center
*Cop Net
*Careers in Law & Order
*Federal Bureau of Investigation
*U.S. Department of Justice
*Central Intelligence Agency
*National Security Agency
*U.S. Department of State
*Department of Defense

**JOB POSTINGS**
- Careers in Corrections
- Police Employment

* = Recommended Sites