## CRIMINAL JUSTICE
### What can I do with this major?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOCIAL SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>Government agencies including Child Protective Services</td>
<td><strong>Pursue classes or training in topics such as victimology, social problems, diversity issues, or grieving.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>State and federal correction facilities</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with courses in psychology, sociology, or social work.</td>
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<td>Probation</td>
<td>County jails</td>
<td>To work with juveniles, gain experience working with youth through sports teams, as a summer camp counselor, in parks and recreation programs, or community/religious youth groups.</td>
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<td>Parole</td>
<td>Precinct station houses</td>
<td>Seek volunteer or internship positions in areas such as employment interviewing, social casework, substance abuse, and rehabilitation, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>Prison camps</td>
<td>Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds. Consider learning a second language for increased marketability.</td>
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<td>Program Development</td>
<td>Youth correction facilities</td>
<td>Maintain a blemish-free driving and criminal record.</td>
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<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Voluntary correction facilities</td>
<td>Gain firearms and self-defense training for some areas.</td>
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<td>Mentoring</td>
<td>Halfway houses and pre-release programs</td>
<td>Earn a master's degree in social work or counseling for therapy positions.</td>
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<td>Victim's Assistance</td>
<td>Reintegration programs</td>
<td>Obtain a master's degree in criminal justice or business for upper-level positions in facilities.</td>
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<td>Counseling</td>
<td>Alternative schools</td>
<td><strong>JUDICIARY AND LAW</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Casework</td>
<td>Juvenile detention centers</td>
<td>Government agencies including Departments of: Social Services</td>
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<td>Prevention Services</td>
<td>Juvenile group homes</td>
<td><strong>Court Reporting/Transcription Services</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>Women's and family shelters</td>
<td>Local, state, and federal courts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Domestic violence agencies</td>
<td>Government agencies including Departments of: Security</td>
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<td>Supervision</td>
<td>Immigration and naturalization services</td>
<td><strong>Court Clerkship</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Medical centers</td>
<td>Local, state, and federal courts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reporting</td>
<td>Other nonprofit organizations</td>
<td><strong>Legal Assistance</strong></td>
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<td>Grant Writing</td>
<td>Adult education providers</td>
<td>Public and private high schools</td>
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<td>Consulting</td>
<td>Public and private high schools</td>
<td><strong>Legal Research</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>Administration</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Legal Representation</strong></td>
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<td>Develop strong research, computer, and writing skills.</td>
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<td>Consider a double major or minor in the social sciences such as psychology, anthropology, sociology, or political science.</td>
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<td>Attend a postsecondary vocational or technical college that offers court reporting (CR) or paralegal (CLA) certification programs.</td>
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<td>Learn to use software packages for research positions.</td>
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<td>Seek opportunities to observe courtroom proceedings and become familiar with the legal system.</td>
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<td>Participate in mock trial groups.</td>
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JUDICIARY AND LAW CONTINUED

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Patrolling
Investigating
Probation
Parole
Security
Surveillance
Loss Prevention
Forensics

City/County Government Organizations including:
- Police departments
- Correction facilities
- County sheriff departments
- Liquor Control Commission
- Animal control offices

State Government Organizations including:
- State troopers
- Crime labs
- Penitentiaries

Federal Government Organizations including:
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
- Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- Department of Homeland Security
- Postal Service
- Federal Marshals
- Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Parks Service
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, Explosives
- Armed services
Prisons
Detention centers
Youth correction facilities
Airports and other transportation facilities
Crime laboratories
Colleges and universities
Banks and retail organizations

Maintain a high grade point average to gain admittance to law school. Research admissions requirements.
Obtain a law degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).

Obtain related training or certifications such as CPR, first aid, or EMT. Seek training in firearms and self-defense.
Volunteer to work in a police department or campus safety department.
Complete a formal police academy program upon graduation.
Develop strong interviewing, researching, writing, and computer skills.
Maintain a healthy and physically fit lifestyle.
Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds and develop multicultural competency.
Learn a second language.
Become familiar with the government application process.
Some federal law enforcement agencies look to hire candidates with military backgrounds.
For a career in Forensics:
- Complete an internship in a crime laboratory to gain experience in the forensic application of science.
- Obtain a double major in criminal justice and a hard science such as biology, chemistry, or biochemistry.
- Consider earning a master's degree in Forensic Science or related discipline for increased opportunities.

*See also "What Can I Do With A Major in Forensics"
## AREAS

### BUSINESS
- Private Security
- Consulting
- Installation
- Investigating
- Systems Integration
- Global Intelligence
- Private Investigation
- Internet Security
- Surveillance
- Loss Prevention
- Property Loss Management
- Program Development
- Staffing and Training

### EDUCATION
- Teaching
- Research

## EMPLOYERS

- Teaching: Colleges and universities
- Research: Colleges and universities
- Consulting: Insurance companies, Banks
- Installation: Private security companies, Software companies
- Investigating: Retail organizations, Hotels and resorts
- Systems Integration: Health care facilities, Transportation services
- Global Intelligence: Nuclear power plants, Manufacturers
- Private Investigation: Online companies, Other large corporations
- Internet Security: Local, state, and federal agencies, Private individuals
- Surveillance: Self-employed

## STRATEGIES

### BUSINESS
- Minor in business or computer science, and/or take related courses in computer science or computer systems.
- Gain experience in an area of interest through internships, jobs, or volunteer positions.
- Seek opportunities that include training in the hardware and software of security systems.
- Develop exceptional written and oral communication skills, along with the ability to present information to others.
- Pursue leadership opportunities in campus organizations to hone interpersonal skills.
- Attend firearm safety courses. Obtain first aid and CPR certification.
- Consider gaining military experience and training.
- Maintain current knowledge of computer languages and technology.
- Obtain a high GPA to ensure a greater number of graduate school opportunities.
- Earn a graduate degree in business or law for upper-level positions.

### EDUCATION
- Earn a graduate degree for post-secondary teaching opportunities.
- Serve as a tutor to other students.
- Develop strong written and oral communication skills and the ability to present materials well to others.
- Assist a professor with research.
- Take additional coursework related to research and statistics.
- Maintain a high GPA and secure strong recommendations from faculty.
- Network with others in your field through membership in professional associations and organizations.
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.
- 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 necessary for career opportunities in forensics.
- 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.
- Internet Security is a rapidly growing area with a wide variety of career opportunities. Supplement course work with computer science and technology courses to gain entry into this field.
- 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 a doctoral degree for university teaching positions.
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in fields of interest to learn more about opportunities.
- Be prepared to complete physical and psychological testing, fitness evaluations, and other evaluative tools for entry into law enforcement and related careers.
- Stay up to date on advancements in your field by reading professional journals and related literature, as well as by joining professional organizations and networking with others.