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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOCIAL SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>Government agencies including Child Protective Services, State and federal correction facilities, County jails, Precinct station houses, Prison camps, Youth 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, Medical centers, Other nonprofit organizations, Adult education providers, Public and private high schools</td>
<td>Pursue classes or training in topics such as victimology, social problems, diversity issues, or grieving. Supplement curriculum with courses in psychology, sociology, or social work. 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. Seek volunteer or internship positions in areas such as employment interviewing, social casework, substance abuse, and rehabilitation, etc. Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds. Consider learning a second language for increased marketability. Maintain a blemish-free driving and criminal record. Gain firearms and self-defense training for some areas. Earn a master’s degree in social work or counseling for therapy positions. Obtain a master's degree in criminal justice or business for upper-level positions in facilities management or administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JUDICIARY AND LAW</strong></td>
<td>Local, state, and federal courts, Government agencies including Departments of: Social Services, Justice, Treasury, Defense, Law firms, Corporate legal departments, Public interest law organizations, Self-employed</td>
<td>Develop strong research, computer, and writing skills. 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 (CR) or paralegal (CLA) certification programs. Learn to use software packages for research positions. Seek opportunities to observe courtroom proceedings and become familiar with the legal system. Participate in mock trial groups.</td>
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- Corrections
- Probation
- Parole
- Juvenile Justice
- Program Development
- Outreach
- Mentoring
- Victim’s Assistance
- Counseling
- Casework
- Prevention Services
- Advocacy
- Administration
- Supervision
- Assessment
- Reporting
- Grant Writing
- Consulting

- Court Reporting/Transcription Services
- Court Clerkship
- Security
- Legal Assistance
- Legal Research
- Administration
- Legal Representation

- Local, state, and federal courts
- Government agencies including Departments of: Social Services, Justice, Treasury, Defense
- Law firms
- Corporate legal departments
- Public interest law organizations
- Self-employed
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Security</td>
<td>Insurance companies</td>
<td>Minor in business or computer science, and/or take related courses in computer science or computer systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consulting</td>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>Gain experience in an area of interest through internships, jobs, or volunteer positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Installation</td>
<td>Private security companies</td>
<td>Seek opportunities that include training in the hardware and software of security systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investigating</td>
<td>Software companies</td>
<td>Develop exceptional written and oral communication skills, along with the ability to present information to others.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Systems Integration</td>
<td>Retail organizations</td>
<td>Pursue leadership opportunities in campus organizations to hone interpersonal skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Intelligence</td>
<td>Hotels and resorts</td>
<td>Attend firearm safety courses. Obtain first aid and CPR certification.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Investigation</td>
<td>Health care facilities</td>
<td>Consider gaining military experience and training.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internet Security</td>
<td>Transportation services</td>
<td>Maintain current knowledge of computer languages and technology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveillance</td>
<td>Nuclear power plants</td>
<td>Obtain a high gpa to ensure a greater number of graduate school opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loss Prevention</td>
<td>Manufacturers</td>
<td>Earn a graduate degree in business or law for upper-level positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property Loss Management</td>
<td>Online companies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Development</td>
<td>Other large corporations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staffing and Training</td>
<td>Local, state, and federal agencies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Private individuals</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Self-employed</td>
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### EDUCATION

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<tr>
<th>Teaching</th>
<th>Colleges and universities</th>
<th>Earn a graduate degree for post-secondary teaching opportunities.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
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<td>Serve as a tutor to other students.</td>
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<td>Develop strong written and oral communication skills and the ability to present materials well to others.</td>
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<td>Assist a professor with research.</td>
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<td>Take additional coursework related to research and statistics.</td>
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<td>Maintain a high gpa and secure strong recommendations from faculty.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Network with others in your field through membership in professional associations and organizations.</td>
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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 doctoratal 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.