## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

### What can I do with this degree?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOCIAL SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>State and federal correction facilities</td>
<td>Seek courses or training in topics such as victimology, social problems, diversity issues, or grieving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>County jails</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with courses in psychology, sociology, or social work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling</td>
<td>Precinct station houses</td>
<td>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).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>Prison camps</td>
<td>Gain related experience in employment interviewing, social casework, substance abuse, and rehabilitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casework</td>
<td>Youth correction facilities</td>
<td>Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Medium-security correction facilities</td>
<td>Consider learning a second language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projections &amp; Parole</td>
<td>Voluntary correction facilities</td>
<td>Maintain a blemish-free driving and criminal record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim Advocacy</td>
<td>Halfway houses and pre-release programs</td>
<td>Gain firearms and self-defense training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reintegration programs</td>
<td>Earn a master’s degree in social work or counseling for therapy positions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alternative schools</td>
<td>Obtain a masters degree in criminal justice or business for upper-level positions in facilities management or administration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juvenile detention centers</td>
<td>Consider a double major or minor in the social sciences such as psychology, anthropology, sociology, or political science.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juvenile group homes</td>
<td>Attend a postsecondary vocational or technical college that offers court reporting or paralegal certification programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women’s and family shelters</td>
<td>Obtain a law degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Domestic violence agencies</td>
<td>Learn to use software packages such as CD-ROM research databases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Immigration and naturalization services</td>
<td>Develop strong research, computer, and writing skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>Maintain a high grade point average to gain admittance to law school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Participate in mock trial groups.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **JUDICIARY AND LAW** | Local, state, and federal courts | Consider a double major or minor in the social sciences such as psychology, anthropology, sociology, or political science. |
| Court Reporting | Law firms | Attend a postsecondary vocational or technical college that offers court reporting or paralegal certification programs. |
| Legal Assistance | Corporate legal departments | Obtain a law degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA). |
| Legal Research | Public interest law organizations | Learn to use software packages such as CD-ROM research databases. |
| Administration | | Develop strong research, computer, and writing skills. |
| | | Maintain a high grade point average to gain admittance to law school. |
| | | Participate in mock trial groups. |
### LAW ENFORCEMENT
- **Patrolling**
- **Investigating**
- **Forensics**
- **Probation**
- **Security**

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

#### 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

Crime laboratories

**Strategies**
- Obtain related training or certifications such as CPR, first aid, or EMT.
- Complete a formal police academy program upon graduation.
- Maintain a healthy and physically fit lifestyle.
- Volunteer to work in a police department or campus safety department.
- 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 (biology, chemistry, or biochemistry) if interested in a career in forensics.
- Consider earning a master's degree in Forensic Science or related discipline.
- Become familiar with the government application process.
- Learn a second language.

### BUSINESS
- **Private Security**
- **Consulting**
- **Investigating**
- **Systems Integration**
- **Global Intelligence**
- **Private Investigation**
- **Internet Security**
- **Loss and Prevention**

#### Insurance companies
- Banks
- Private security companies
- Software companies
- Hotels and resorts
- Health care facilities
- Transportation services
- Nuclear power plants
- Manufacturers
- Online companies
- Other large corporations

**Strategies**
- Minor in business or computer science.
- Seek practicum/internship experiences that include training in the hardware and software of security systems.
- Maintain good physical fitness.
- Develop exceptional written and oral communication skills.
- Seek leadership opportunities and develop strong interpersonal skills.
- Attend firearm safety courses. Obtain first aid and CPR certification.
- Gain military experience and training.
- Earn a graduate degree in business or law for upper-level positions.
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.