## 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>
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<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>County jails</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with courses in psychology, sociology, or social work.</td>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>Prison camps</td>
<td>Gain related experience in employment interviewing, social casework, substance abuse, and rehabilitation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Casework</td>
<td>Youth correction facilities</td>
<td>Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Medium-security correction facilities</td>
<td>Consider learning a second language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probations &amp; Parole</td>
<td>Voluntary correction facilities</td>
<td>Attend a postsecondary vocational or technical college that offers court reporting or paralegal certification programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victim Advocacy</td>
<td>Halfway houses and pre-release programs</td>
<td>Obtain a law degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reintegration programs</td>
<td>Learn to use software packages such as CD-ROM research databases.</td>
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<td>Alternative schools</td>
<td>Develop strong research, computer, and writing skills.</td>
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<td>Juvenile detention centers</td>
<td>Maintain a high grade point average to gain admittance to law school.</td>
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<td>Juvenile group homes</td>
<td>Participate in mock trial groups.</td>
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<td>Women’s and family shelters</td>
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<td>Domestic violence agencies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Immigration and naturalization services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other nonprofit organizations</td>
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</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. |

- 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.
- Maintain a blemish-free driving and criminal record.
- Learn to work well with people of diverse backgrounds.
- Consider learning a second language.
- 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.
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Patrolling</td>
<td>Police departments</td>
<td>Complete a formal police academy program upon graduation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investigating</td>
<td>Correction facilities</td>
<td>Maintain a healthy and physically fit lifestyle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forensics</td>
<td>County sheriff departments</td>
<td>Volunteer to work in a police department or campus safety department.</td>
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<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>
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<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>
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<td></td>
<td>State troopers</td>
<td>Consider earning a master’s degree in Forensic Science or related discipline.</td>
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<td>Crime labs</td>
<td>Become familiar with the government application process.</td>
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<td>Penitentiaries</td>
<td>Learn a second language.</td>
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<td>Federal Government Organizations including:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>U.S. Customs and Border Protection</td>
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<td>Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)</td>
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<td>Internal Revenue Service (IRS)</td>
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<td>Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)</td>
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<td>Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)</td>
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<td>Department of Homeland Security</td>
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<td>Postal Service</td>
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<td>Federal Marshals</td>
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<td>Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks</td>
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<td>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)</td>
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<td>National Parks Service</td>
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<td>Crime laboratories</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BUSINESS</strong></td>
<td>Insurance companies</td>
<td>Minor in business or computer science.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Security</td>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>Seek practicum/internship experiences that include training in the hardware and software of security systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consulting</td>
<td>Private security companies</td>
<td>Maintain good physical fitness.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investigating</td>
<td>Software companies</td>
<td>Develop exceptional written and oral communication skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Systems Integration</td>
<td>Hotels and resorts</td>
<td>Seek leadership opportunities and develop strong interpersonal skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Intelligence</td>
<td>Health care facilities</td>
<td>Attend firearm safety courses. Obtain first aid and CPR certification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Investigation</td>
<td>Transportation services</td>
<td>Gain military experience and training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Security</td>
<td>Nuclear power plants</td>
<td>Earn a graduate degree in business or law for upper-level positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loss and Prevention</td>
<td>Manufacturers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Online companies</td>
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<td>Other large corporations</td>
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**EDUCATION**

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

**Research**
- 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.
What can I do with this degree?
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Criminal Justice Links:

- Criminal Justice USA
- Police Employment
- Cop Net
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- U.S. Department of Justice
- Central Intelligence Agency
- The National Drug Enforcement Officers Association
- National Security Agency
- U.S. Department of State
- Department of Defense
- Careers in Law & Order
- Careers in Corrections
- The American Parole and Probation Association
- American Correctional Association
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Police and Detectives
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Private Detectives and Investigators
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Judges, Magistrates and Other Judicial Workers
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Paralegals
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Lawyers
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists

AREAS
SOCIAL SERVICES
- Corrections
- Counseling
- Juvenile Justice
- Casework
- Administration
- Probations & Parole
- Victim Advocacy
EMPLOYERS
State and federal correction facilities
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
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JUDICIARY AND LAW
Court Reporting
Legal Assistance
Legal Research
Administration

EMPLOYERS
Local, state, and federal courts
Law firms
Corporate legal departments
Public interest law organizations

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LAW ENFORCEMENT
Patrolling
Investigating
Forensics
Probation
Security

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State Government Organizations including: State troopers, Crime labs, Penitentiaries
Crime laboratories
Colleges and universities

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Consulting
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Systems Integration
Global Intelligence
Private Investigation
Internet Security
Loss and Prevention

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Banks
Private security companies
Software companies
Hotels and resorts
Health care facilities
Transportation services
Nuclear power plants
Manufacturers
Online companies
Other large corporations
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AREAS
EDUCATION
Teaching
Research

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Public and private high schools

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