

CRIMINOLOGY

What is Criminology? (from <http://www.albright.edu/catalog/soc-criminology.html>)

The criminology major exposes students to the sociological perspective through study of the methodology of the field, basic theoretical paradigms, as well as the study of socialization, culture, deviance and conformity, social organization and societal development, complex organizations and the principles of stratification and other forms of social inequality. In addition, students study the social problem of crime and deviance within the context of other social problems, e.g., family dysfunction, poverty, education, racism, gender issues, and the sociology of work and occupations. Courses that concentrate on crime and delinquency are concerned with:

- The study of behaviors defined as criminally deviant in both American society and other developed and developing societies
- The traditional and contemporary theoretical explanations of both the process of defining criminal behavior and the social and interpersonal decisions and circumstances related to engaging in criminalized deviant behavior.

Students study the methodology of social research used in the study of these forms of deviance including secondary data analysis and empirical research construction and design. A course in parametric and nonparametric statistics provides students with additional analytic tools for use in collecting and studying aggregate as well as individual level data on crime and delinquency.

Entry-level Job Titles (from <http://uncw.edu/career/criminology.html>)

Airport Security Officer	Customs Agent	Litigation Manager
Alcohol/Drug Case Worker	Delinquency Counselor	U.S. Marshall
Bailiff	Deportation Officer	Mental Health Worker
Body Guard	Deputy Marshall	Naval Investigator
Border Patrol Agent	Detective	Non-Profit Organization
CIA Agent	Discrimination Investigator	Paralegal
Child Support Agency	Drug Enforcement Agent	Park Ranger
Community Service Cood.	Employ. Agency Recruiter	Parole/Probation Officer
Compliance Manager	Envir. Conservation Officer	Postal Service Investigator
Correctional Case Worker	FBI Agent	Pre-Trial Services Officer
Court Administrator	Fish & Game Warden	Private Security Officer
Court Clerk	Foster Care Worker	Probation & Parole Officer
Housing/Tenant Rep.	Industrial Security Specialist	Public Safety Officer
Juvenile Court Counselor	Law Clerk	Corrections Officer
SBI Agent	Social Worker	Loss Prevention Specialist

Secret Service Agent	Teacher	Victim Services Specialist
Sheriff	U.S. Customs Agent	Youth Advocate
Peace Corps/VISTA	Police Officer	

Jobs Requiring Additional Education or Experience (from <http://uncw.edu/career/criminology.html>)

Attorney	Criminologist	Law Librarian
Coroner	Corrections Facilities Mgr.	Police Detective
Welfare Counselor	Contracts Administrator	Penologist
Criminal Investigator	Substance Abuse Counselor	Private Investigator
Warden	Social Worker	

Related Major Skills (from <http://career.utk.edu/students/majors.asp>)

Analyze, synthesize and interpret information	Knowledge of social structures and change
Interpersonal communication (oral & written)	Interact well with diverse cultures/ groups
Knowledge of community resources	Resolve conflicts/ counseling
Ability to understand and improve human relationships	Work well under pressure
Insight into group dynamics	Ethics and moral values
Computer skills (data processing and analysis)	Interviewing skills
Written and presentation skills	Strong background in humanities, social science and natural science
Understanding societies' reaction to crimes	Broad understanding of criminal law and the criminal justice system
Considerations of gender and race	Ability to identify and analyze social problems and develop solutions
Quantitative skills	Knowledge of legal structures
Skills in research and scientific methodology	Supervision and management skills
Critical thinking	Understanding nature of crimes
Decision making	Patience

How do you get ready? (<http://uncw.edu/career/criminology.html>)

- Many transferable skills, such as analytical, organizational, research, interpersonal, computer, leadership, teamwork and oral/written communication, are associated with the sociology degree.
- Internships, part-time jobs, summer jobs and/or volunteer experiences are critical.
- An undergraduate degree is sufficient for many entry-level positions in business, industry and government. However, a graduate degree is likely to be more desirable in a competitive market.
- An undergraduate degree in sociology is great preparation for graduate or professional education in sociology, law, counseling, psychology, social work, medicine, education, college student personnel, higher education administration and other related fields. Research prerequisites for graduate or professional programs of interest.
- To enhance graduate or professional school opportunities, maintain a high grade point average, secure strong faculty recommendations, join student or professional organizations, and gain relevant experience outside the classroom through work, internship, volunteer and research opportunities.
- For human or social service positions, gain experience with a population of interest (i.e., children, college students, elderly adults) and develop multicultural sensitivity and understanding.
- 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 criminology 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.
- 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 about the future?

“Employment of forensic science technicians is projected to grow 6 percent from 2012 to 2022, slower than the average for all occupations. Scientific and technological advances are expected to increase the usefulness, availability, and reliability of objective forensic information used as evidence in trials. In addition, the use of forensic evidence in criminal proceedings is expected to expand. Popular media has increased the awareness of forensic evidence among potential jurors, and there is now an expectation that forensic evidence should contribute to many trials. More

forensic science technicians will be needed to provide timely forensics information to law enforcement agencies and courts.”

For a more detailed employment outlook of crime and justice occupations, refer to <http://www.bls.gov/ooh>

Available at Albright College Career Development’s Resource Library

- Great Jobs for Criminal Justice Majors, by Stephen Lambert
- Career Opportunities in Law and the Legal Industry, by Susan Echaore-McDavid
- Career Opportunities in Law Enforcement, Security, and Protective Services, by Susan Echaore- McDavid
- Careers for Courageous People and Other Adventurous Types, by Jan Goldberg
- Careers for High Energy People and Other Go-Getters, by Marjorie Eberts, Margaret Gisler, and Maria Gisler
- Careers for Introverts and Other Solitary Types, by Blythe Camenson
- Careers for Legal Eagles and Other Law-and-Order Types, by Blythe Camenson
- Careers for Mystery Buffs and Other Snoops and Sleuths, by Blythe Camenson
- Careers for Night Owls and Other Insomniacs, by Louise Miller
- Careers for Patriotic Types and Others Who Want to Serve Their Country, by Jan Goldberg
- Careers for Puzzle Solvers and Other Methodical Thinkers, by Jan Goldberg
- Careers in Criminology, by Marilyn Morgan
- Careers in Sociology, by W Richard Stephens, Jr.
- Opportunities in Fire Protection Services Careers, by Ronny J. Coleman
- Opportunities in Forensic Science Careers, by Blythe Camenson
- Opportunities in Government Careers, by Neale Baxter
- Opportunities in Law Careers, by Gary Munneke
- Opportunities in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Careers, by James Stinchcomb
- Opportunities in Paralegal Careers, by Alice Fins

Disclaimer

Links to Internet sites are provided for your convenience and do not constitute an endorsement by Albright College Experiential Learning and Career Development Center.

Law Enforcement Job Links

- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (Employment and Links), <http://www.calea.org>
- International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, <http://www.iadlest.org>
- Jobs4Police, <http://www.jobs4police.com>
- Officer, <http://www.officer.com>
- Official Directory of State Patrol and State Police, <http://www.statetroopersdirectory.com>

- Police Jobs, <http://www.policejobs.com>
- USACops, <http://www.usacops.com>

Court-Related Job Links

- American Bar Association Career Corner, <http://www.americanbar.org/careercenter.html>
- Association of Corporate Counsel, <http://jobs.acca.com/search/browse/>
- FindLaw, <http://careers.findlaw.com>
- Internet Legal Research Group, <http://www.ilrg.com/pre-law.html>
- LawJobs, <http://www.lawjobs.com>
- National Association for Law Placement, <http://www.nalp.org>
- National Bar Association, <http://www.nationalbar.org>
- National Federation of Paralegal Associations, <http://www.paralegals.org>

Correction-Related Job Links

- American Correctional Association, <http://www.aca.org>
- American Jail Association, <http://www.americanjail.org/>
- Corrections Connection, <http://www.corrections.com>
- Federal Bureau of Prisons, <http://www.bop.gov>
- National Institute of Corrections, <http://www.nicic.org>

Federal Job Links

- Federal Government Employment, <http://www.usajobs.gov/>
- Government Departments and Agencies, <https://www.usa.gov/federal-agencies/a>
- National Security Agency, <http://www.nsa.gov/careers>

Career Planning Links

- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, <http://www.acjs.org>
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences, <http://www.aafs.org>
- American Board of Criminalistics (Forensic Science), <http://www.criminalistics.com>

Professional Associations Links

- International Association of Crime Analysts, <http://www.iaca.net>
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service, <http://www.ncjrs.gov>
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, <http://www.acjs.org/>
- American Society of Criminology, <http://www.asc41.com/>
- Justice Studies Association <http://www.justicestudies.org/>
- Bureau of Justice Assistance Association List <http://www.ncirc.gov/organizations.cfm>