

## **CRIMINOLOGY (BA):**

<http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/637.php>

“Criminology is the study of crimes, criminals, crime victims and theories explaining illegal and/or deviant behavior, the social reactions to crime, the effectiveness of anti-crime policies and the broader political terrain of social control. The major contains courses in sociology, other social science disciplines and the humanities. Students who are planning to attend graduate or professional schools and students who are currently working in criminal justice or other public service fields as well as those planning to do so in the future will find this major of interest.”

### **Skills, Abilities and Objectives for Criminology Majors:**

- Analyze, evaluate, interpret and synthesize ideas
- Interpret data
- Question and test conventional wisdom relating to crime
- Develop and test hypotheses
- Plan and develop independent research projects
- Conduct critical analyses of the findings
- Engage critically in public debate
- Test alternative viewpoints
- Apply theoretical approaches
- Conduct field studies and assess results
- Make empirical observations of human behavior

### **Transferring Skills to Careers:**

The skills above prepare Criminology majors for a range of professional degrees and career options. ***The list below does not include all possible professional paths available to students who major in Criminology*** but gives a sample of careers Criminology graduates have chosen to pursue. The development and evaluation skills developed by *Criminology* majors are applicable to positions such as:

- Policy Researcher
- Victim Assistance Advocacy Associate
- Probation and Parole Associate
- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Specialist
- Correctional Administrator
- Community Organizer
- Law Enforcer
- Nonprofit Administrator
- Insurance Fraud Investigation and Prevention Specialist
- Criminal Investigator
- Judicial/Courts Associate
- Private Investigator
- Research and Policy Studies
- Intervention Programmer
- Retail Investigator
- Youth Programmer and Counselor

### **Strategies for Professional Development:**

- Explore minors such as Dispute Resolution, Human Services, Public Administration, Humanities and Justice, and Law.
- Look for internship/volunteer experiences in the public, private, and non-profit sectors
- Develop and emphasize your transferable skills such as:
  - Research and Analysis
  - Problem Solving
  - Communication
  - Strategic Thinking
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in fields of interest.
- Get involved in student organizations such as the **JJ Writers**.
- Consider pursuing a master’s degree in a related career field.

### **Professional Associations/Organizations:**

A professional association is an organization formed to promote and support the development, growth and work efforts of individuals in a particular career field. Membership benefits include networking, mentoring programs, meetings/conferences and exclusive access to information regarding career opportunities.

There is often a fee for joining professional organizations; however, most associations offer discounts to students, including graduate school students, recent graduates, and young professionals. All or a portion of associations' fees are tax deductible. To learn more about professional associations, see the *National Trade and Professional Associations Directory*, the *American Society of Association Executives* or *Encyclopedia of Associations: Volume I- National Organizations of the U.S.* Each is available in the Reference section of John Jay College's Lloyd Sealy Library.

- **American Society of Criminology**  
<http://www.asc41.com>
- **Corrections Connection Network**  
<http://www.corrections.com/aca/index.html>
- **Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences**  
<http://www.acjs.org/>
- **Society for Research in Psychopathology**  
<http://www.psychopathology.org>
- **Federal Criminal Investigators Association**  
<http://www.fedcia.org>

### **Additional Resources:**

- **Careers in Criminology**  
<http://pattyinglishms.hubpages.com/hub/Careers-in-Criminology>
- **Onet Summary Report for Sociologists**  
<http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/19-3041.00>
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook – Detectives and Criminal Investigators**  
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes333021.htm>
- **Onet Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists**  
<http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/21-1092.00>

**For more information on this major, please visit:**

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**[http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/departments/sociology/about\\_criminology.php](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/departments/sociology/about_criminology.php)**

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**<http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/4032.php>**