“The major in Culture and Deviance Studies is designed to provide students with a basic interdisciplinary understanding of deviance as a concept of difference and diversity within the framework of cross-cultural research and how deviance has been related to important social problems and institutional responses to treat and control them. This foundation is enhanced by a comprehensive and critical understanding of cultural variation and macro- and micro-social and historical contexts as these apply to human conflict.”

**Skills, Abilities and Objectives for Culture and Deviance Studies Majors:**
- Analyze and interpret culture
- Make empirical observations of human behavior
- Define formal and informal social controls
- Learn the ethnographic skills for professional research
- Develop the ability to clearly write/communicate research findings
- Engage in teamwork and cooperation
- Understand how organizations and systems work
- Conduct critical analyses of the findings

**Transferring Skills to Careers:**
The skills above prepare Culture and Deviance 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 Culture and Deviance* but gives a sample of careers graduates have chosen to pursue. The theoretical and methodical skills developed by *Culture and Deviance* majors are applicable to positions such as:

- Social Services Provider
- Probation and Parole Specialist
- Intervention Programmer
- Community Reintegration/Treatment Specialist
- Community Advocacy
- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Associate
- Social Systems Analysis
- Corrective Services Associate
- Victim Assistance Advocate
- Youth Programmer and Counselor
- Foreign Service Provider
- Cultural Anthropologist
- Research Analysis
- Nonprofit Program Manager
- Mediator
- Organizational Manager
- Social Science Researcher
- Drug and Alcohol Counselor

**Strategies for Professional Development:**
- Explore minors such as Human Services, Corrections, Dispute Resolution, Gender Studies, Criminology, Addiction Studies, Psychology and Sociology.

- Look for internship/volunteer experiences in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

- Develop and emphasize your transferable skills such as:
  - Cultural Insight
  - Critical Analysis
  - Communication
  - Research

- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in fields of interests.

- Get involved in student organizations such as the *Diverse Cultures United* and the *United Nation Association*.

- 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, continuing education, 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. is available in the Reference section of John Jay College’s Lloyd Sealy Library.

- American Anthropological Association
  http://www.aaanet.org

- National Association for the Practice of Anthropology
  http://www.practicinganthropology.org

- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
  http://www.acjs.org

- American Correctional Association
  http://www.aca.org

Additional Resources:

- Career Paths and Education/American Anthropological Association
  http://www.aaanet.org/profdev/careers/Careers.cfm

- Occupational Outlook Handbook – Anthropologists and Archeologists

- Occupational Outlook Handbook – Private Detectives and Investigators
  http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes339021.htm

- Onet Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists
  http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/21-1092.00

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