The multidisciplinary criminal justice curriculum is designed to familiarize the student with the complex nature of the American criminal justice system. The study of criminal justice focuses upon the structure and functions of law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. Included is the analysis of the political, social, cultural, philosophical, and psychological forces that shape the policies, programs, and practices in the system. The liberal arts orientation of the program prepares the student for graduate level work in criminal justice or law and for careers in criminal justice at the Federal, state, and local levels. The University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire offers a comprehensive major in criminal justice.

Typical interests and values of criminal justice majors:
- An appreciation for the law and government
- Enjoys variety within the workplace
- Likes collecting and analyzing data
- Likes helping others

Knowledge and skills gained from studying criminal justice:

Knowledge:
The criminal justice program at UW-Eau Claire gives students a unique perspective on crime, delinquency, and the criminal justice system by combining course work and practical experience. The major is interdisciplinary in nature with courses in political science, psychology, sociology, social work, and philosophy. These courses will help prepare graduates for work in the criminal justice field including careers at the local, state, and federal law enforcement levels.

Skills:
- Data-gathering and data analysis
- Interpretive and report-writing
- Analytical strategies
- Problem-solving strategies
- Public speaking skills
- Extracting important information
- Negotiating and Persuading
- Developing evaluation strategies
- Delegating with respect
- Managing conflict and enforcing policies
- Accepting responsibility

Related student and professional organizations:

Student:
- Criminal Justice Association
- Amnesty International
- Model UN Club
- Pre-Law Club

Professional:
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)
- American Society of Criminology (ASC)
- Midwestern Criminal Justice Association (MCJA)
- Forensic Science Society
- American Board of Criminalistics

Career fields related to criminal justice:

Potential Employers:
Criminal justice majors can work in any entry-level position within the criminal justice field. They can work in a variety of settings at the local, state, or federal level in law enforcement, probation and parole, corrections, and juvenile justice. In addition, criminal justice majors may work in social services and the court system as well as in the private sector for various insurance companies and in loss prevention/asset protection. The criminal justice major can also be a good pre-law major.

Potential Job Titles:
- Immigration Inspector
- Legal Assistant
- Prison Warden
- Park Ranger
- Youth Counselor
- Claims Adjuster
- Police Officer
- I.R.S. Agent
- Prison Correctional Officer
- Probation Officer
- D.E.A. Agent
- Court Clerk
- Insurance Claims Agent
- Lawyer
Bailiff
CIA Agent
Compliance Manager
Court Administrator
Juvenile Court Counselor
Postal Service Inspector
Deportation Officer
Victim Assistance Coordinator
Discrimination Investigator

Border Patrol Agent
Child Support Agent
Correction Officer
Sheriff
Secret Service Agent
Criminologist
Criminal Investigator
Paralegal
Youth Advocate

Jobs You Might Also Consider...
Correctional Officer
Social Service Technician
Probation/Parole Officer
Private Investigator
Security Guard
Police Officer
Game Warden
Court Reporter
Forensic Scientist
Asset Protection

Sample entry level jobs held by UW-Eau Claire criminal justice majors:
- Police Officer, Oshkosh Police Department, Oshkosh, WI
- Legal Assistant, Ryberg and Happe, Eau Claire, WI
- Juvenile Intake Worker, Eau Claire County, Eau Claire, WI
- Loss Prevention, Festival Foods, Appleton, WI
- Surveillance Investigator, Treasure Island Resort & Casino, Welch, MN
- Security Guard, U.S. Government, Minneapolis, MN
- Auxiliary Night Counselor, Alpha Human Services, Minneapolis, MN

Learn more about criminal justice:
Department
- Contact UW-Eau Claire’s Criminal Justice Program, SSS 200A, 836-5744

Getting started at Career Services:
- Meet with a career counselor
- Take interest inventory and self-assessment tests
- Utilize Blugold Career Success Network, a database of UW-Eau Claire alumni & friends available for informational interviewing

- Utilize Blugold CareerLink, an online job search database specifically for UWEC students and alum

Resources at Career Services:
Yellow Section-
- Sigi 3 handouts:
  - Lawyer
  - Police Officer
  - Probation/Parole Officer
  - Corrections/Criminal Justice
- Book sections:
  - Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement

Orange Section-
- “The Internship Series: The Human Rights Internship Book”

Blue Section-
- Multiple resources to help you create a resume and cover letter for a career in criminal justice.

Opportunities to enhance skills in criminal justice:
Internships
Internships are a way to gain hands-on experience in a position that you may be considering as a potential career. Career Services can also assist students in locating internships. Contact the Criminal Justice Program faculty about enrolling in CRMJ 498 or POLS 498 to obtain academic credit for your internship.

Directed Studies or Independent Study Class
By participating in a directed studies or independent study class, students will be able to research an area that they find particularly interesting. Contact your adviser about enrolling in CRMJ 395, 399, or 499.

What you can do now:
- Job shadow a professional in your area of interest or conduct informational interviews
- Become a teacher assistant for a professor in the Criminal Justice Department
- Get a part time job or internship in the criminal justice field