



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

MAJOR FACT SHEET



The criminal justice curriculum for the major is designed to prepare students for careers in many professions related to crime and justice. Courses focus on law, corrections, policing, and criminology to instruct students about the complexities associated with the criminal justice process and crime analysis. Students can learn outside the classroom through criminal justice internships at a variety of criminal justice agencies. Coursework focuses on criminological theory, research methodology, statistical analysis and law.

ANNUAL STARTING SALARY

UWO Graduate*
\$46,449

National**
\$45,403

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- **Criminal Justice Association** – aims to broaden the knowledge in the field of Criminal Justice. Students learn about career choices and make connections with professionals from various aspects of the criminal justice system.
- **Alpha Phi Sigma** – recognizes academic excellence of undergraduates in the criminal justice major/minor. It is the only Criminal Justice Honor Society accredited by the Association of College Honor Societies.

FEATURED EMPLOYERS

Appleton Police Department, Madison Police Department, State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections



CLASSES

- Intro to Criminal Law
- Theoretical Criminology
- Criminal Investigation
- Homeland Security & Terrorism; Drugs & Crime; Organized Crime; Juvenile Justice System

CHARACTERISTICS

- Patience
- Integrity
- Empathy
- Courage
- Discernment

COMMON JOB TITLES

- Police Officer
- Correctional Officer
- Community Service Officer

OTHER INFORMATION

- In Wisconsin, you must be certified through the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Training and Standards to work in local law enforcement.
- **Do not get arrested for any offense.** Most criminal justice agencies conduct extensive background checks on new employees. Convictions for traffic violations, misdemeanors, as well as felonies may prevent you from entering the profession you are studying to master. Should you find yourself in such circumstances, your adviser may have suggestions about useful next steps.
- Criminal Justice is one of the top 10 majors at UW Oshkosh whose graduates pursue graduate school.

* Salary data from UWO 2021-2022 First Destination Outcomes report

** Salary data from NACE Class of 2021 Report