

# Criminal Justice

## college to career major map



Career Development Center

	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR	4TH OR FINAL YEAR	
<b>Academics</b>	<p>Start taking LASC courses as well as foundational and core <b>Criminal Justice</b> courses.</p> <p>Need a little help in your classes? <b>Look into tutoring with the Academic Support Center.</b></p>	<p>Take a deeper dive into the discipline of <b>Criminal Justice</b> and begin considering a minor such as <b>Juvenile Justice</b> or a certificate in <b>Law Enforcement Skills</b>.</p>	<p>In addition to working with your advisor to get your access code, schedule an appointment with them to ensure you're on track for graduation.</p> <p>Take inventory of your professional goals and decide if your future will need to include graduate school. If so, take the necessary exams and keep track of application timelines.</p>	<p>Consider completing an <b>internship</b>. Students often work with local police departments, social service agencies, probation officers, district courts, and other agencies to earn internship credits for their degree.</p> <p>Ensure you submit your application for graduation on time.</p>	<p><b>Where can you go?</b></p> <p>A degree in <b>Criminal Justice</b> can take your career in many directions. Most students choose to enter the workforce right after graduation while others continue their education after a few years in the workforce. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for a career as a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corrections worker</li> <li>• Homeless outreach specialist</li> <li>• Law enforcement officer</li> <li>• Probation officer</li> <li>• Juvenile corrections</li> <li>• Restorative justice practitioner</li> <li>• Victim advocate</li> </ul> <p><b>What skills will you need?</b></p> <p>To be successful in the world of <b>Criminal Justice</b> you will need the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• decision making</li> <li>• detail orientated</li> <li>• interpersonal</li> <li>• negotiation</li> <li>• physical strength</li> <li>• self-discipline</li> </ul> <p>Thankfully, through coursework, on-campus involvement, part-time employment, and internships, you will be prepared for life post-graduation.</p>
<b>On-Campus Experience</b>	<p>Sign up to participate in the <b>Criminal Justice, Sociology &amp; Gerontology Learning Community</b>.</p> <p>Join a major-specific student organization such as the <b>Criminal Justice Association</b>.</p> <p>Participate in <b>Student Life Pathways</b> to continue growing your skills/knowledge outside of the classroom. We recommend starting with the Community Life Pathway.</p>	<p>Find an on-campus or part-time job in the community. Visit <b>DragonJobs powered by Handshake</b> to see positions are open.</p> <p>Continue working on your <b>Student Life Pathways</b>. Try working your way through the Personal Wellness and the Equity and Inclusion paths.</p>	<p>Begin your leadership journey by applying for a student leadership position or run for an officer position in the <b>Criminal Justice Association</b>. Find available leadership positions on <b>DragonJobs</b> in early spring.</p> <p>We suggest focusing on the <b>Professional Success and Contribution and Influence Student Life Pathways</b>. These will help connect you to potential employers and develop skills for success post graduation.</p>	<p>Assess what experiences or skills are areas of growth for you and fill in gaps with volunteering, organizations, or part-time employment.</p> <p>Finish up your <b>pathways</b> and be sure to add your accomplishments to your LinkedIn and resume.</p>	
<b>Connect to the Community &amp; World</b>	<p>Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations such as <b>Boys and Girls Club of the RRV, Youthworks, or Big Brothers Big Sisters</b>.</p>	<p>Join <b>LinkedIn</b> to begin building your professional network and online presence. Think of your profile as a virtual resume and make sure to update it regularly to reflect new jobs, research, coursework, volunteering, involvement, and skills.</p>	<p>Consider participating in a <b>study abroad experience</b>. See how Restorative Justice works in Norway or Ireland, among other destinations. Contact Dr. Geraldine Hendrix-Sloan for more information.</p>	<p>Join professional organizations such as the <b>American Society of Criminology</b> to gain access to research, continuing education opportunities, and job boards.</p> <p>Get involved in a community organization such as the <b>Young Professionals Network</b> to continue building your professional network.</p>	
<b>Understand Your Career</b>	<p>Explore your interests, skills, and values and learn about the career readiness competencies by taking the <b>FOCUS 2</b>, an online assessment free for all MSUM students.</p> <p>Schedule an appointment with the <b>Career Development Center</b> to review your FOCUS 2 results and to begin building your resume.</p>	<p>Start researching potential career paths on <b>O*Net</b> or the <b>Occupational Outlook Handbook</b>. Here, you will be able to find valuable information such as typical tasks associated with the profession, skills, and knowledge needed, education and licensures needed, wages and employment trends, professional organizations, and related occupations. We suggest you search for careers such as <b>Correctional Officer</b>.</p>	<p><b>Attend professional development-related events</b> on-campus, and connect with faculty to learn more about the field and gain insights on how to be successful in your job search.</p> <p>Find an internship or part-time job with a local or regional organization to learn the ins and outs of your chosen career. Before applying, schedule an appointment with the <b>Career Development Center</b> to help you prepare.</p>	<p>Network relentlessly! Attend the spring Career Fairs to get connected to employers looking to hire soon-to-be grads. Check <b>DragonCentral</b> for more information.</p> <p><b>Schedule appointments with a Career Coach</b> to go over your professional documents and to prepare for upcoming interviews. And remember, once a dragon always a dragon. You have access to these services for life.</p>	

This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences and constraints are different. Schedule an appointment with a Career Coach to discuss your individual goals and to create a personalized map. *This page is interactive. Click on the color coded phrases to be taken to a correlating website.*