



What can I do with a major in **Sociology/Criminology** from Valparaiso University?

Description of major:

Criminology is an advanced, theoretical field of study. It can be defined as the scientific study of the nature and extent of crime, the causes of crime (etiology), and social and governmental reactions to crime. The discipline of criminology draws heavily on sociological theories, insights and research methods to address the problem of crime.

Relevant skills developed with a **CRIMINOLOGY** major:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Understanding society's reactions to crimes
- ◆ Ethics and moral values
- ◆ Considerations of gender and social class
- ◆ Strong background in humanities, social science, & natural science
- ◆ Skills in research and scientific methodology
- ◆ Broad understanding of criminal law and the criminal justice system
- ◆ Critical thinking
- ◆ Ability to identify and analyze social problems and develop solutions
- ◆ Decision-making
- ◆ Interviewing
- ◆ Knowledge of legal structures
- ◆ Awareness of societal concerns and population dynamics

Sample work activities for graduates in **CRIMINOLOGY** (some may require an advanced degree)

- Administrator
- Advocate
- Animal Treatment Investigator
- Bailiff
- Campus Security Officer
- Case Worker
- City Manager
- Community Planner
- Consultant
- Counselor
- Court Advocate
- Crime Lab Technician
- Criminal Investigator
- Criminologist
- Conservation and Wildlife Officer
- Customs Inspector
- Demographer
- Deportation Officer
- Director, Volunteer Services
- Educator
- Foreign Service Worker
- Human Services Worker
- Immigration Inspector
- Juvenile Probation Officer
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Lawyer
- Law Enforcement Administrator
- Legislative Aide
- Market Research Analyst
- Officer, Foreign Service
- Peace Corps Volunteer
- Paralegal
- Park Ranger
- Police Officer
- Postal Service Investigator
- Policy Advisor
- Probation Officer
- Psychologist
- Public Administrator
- Public Relations Officer
- Research Aide
- Safety Inspector
- Security Officer
- Social Worker
- Sociologist
- Survey Worker
- Teacher – secondary education
- Urban Planner
- Victim Services Specialist
- Youth Worker

Potential hiring institutions for CRIMINOLOGY majors:

- ◆ Advocacy groups
- ◆ Alternative Schools
- ◆ Child welfare organizations
- ◆ Children's Protective Services
- ◆ City/County Government Organizations
- ◆ Colleges and Universities
- ◆ Corporations/businesses
- ◆ Correctional facilities
- ◆ County Health Departments
- ◆ County Jails
- ◆ Court systems
- ◆ Crime Laboratories
- ◆ Department of Social Services
- ◆ Domestic Violence Agency
- ◆ Elementary & secondary schools
- ◆ Government agencies – local, state & federal (other than listed)
- ◆ Group Homes
- ◆ Halfway Houses
- ◆ Human rights organizations
- ◆ Insurance companies
- ◆ International aid organizations
- ◆ Labor unions
- ◆ Law enforcement agencies
- ◆ Law firms
- ◆ Legal aid agencies
- ◆ Probation departments
- ◆ Public Welfare settings
- ◆ Security companies
- ◆ Social Security Administration
- ◆ Social service agencies
- ◆ University student services
- ◆ Women's and Family Shelters
- ◆ Youth Services Bureau
- ◆ Youth Correctional Facilities
- ◆ and others!

Areas of further education for CRIMINOLOGY majors:

- Adult Education
- Advertising & Public Relations
- Business Administration
- Child Clinical Psychology
- City & Regional Planning
- College Student Personnel
- Communication
- Conflict Resolution & Mediation/Peace Studies
- Criminal Justice
- Criminology, Law and Society
- Cultural & Area Studies
- Cultural Transformation and Justice
- Demography & Population Studies
- Economic Justice
- Education
- Ethics
- Geography
- Higher Education and Student Affairs
- Human Resources Development
- Human Resources Management
- Human Services
- Humanities
- Industrial & Labor Relations
- Information Studies
- International Affairs
- International Business
- International Development
- Law
- Legal & Justice Studies
- Liberal Studies
- Marketing Research
- Nonprofit Management
- Philanthropic Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology and Social Behavior
- Public Health
- Public Policy & Administration
- Quantitative Analysis
- Religion/Theology
- Rural Planning & Studies
- Rural Sociology
- Social Psychology
- Social Justice Law and Policy
- Social Sciences Education
- Social Ecology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Sustainable Development
- Urban Studies
- and others!

Sources of additional information for CRIMINOLOGY majors:

- ◆ VU Department of Sociology: <http://www.valpo.edu/socio/>
- ◆ VU Majors & Areas of Study: <http://www.valpo.edu/cas/departments/sociology.html>
- ◆ Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- ◆ 911 Hot Jobs: Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS position listings, online bookstore, forums, online practice tests and more. <http://www.911hotjobs.com/>

- ◆ Academy of Criminal Justice Studies: an international association established in 1963 to foster professional and scholarly activities in the field of criminal justice. ACJS promotes criminal justice education, research, and policy analysis within the discipline of criminal justice for both educators and practitioners. <http://www.acjs.org/>
- ◆ America's Job Bank: a partnership between the US Department of Labor and the state operated public Employment Service for public and private sector jobs. <http://www.ajb.dni.us/>
- ◆ American Society of Criminology: The Employment Exchange provides a web-based listing service whereby employers can advertise position openings, and ASC members can publicize their availability for employment. <http://www.asc41.com/employment.htm>
- ◆ American Society for Law Enforcement Training: Jobs, news, training & certification. <http://www.aslet.org>
- ◆ American Sociological Association: a non-profit membership association dedicated to advancing sociology as a scientific discipline and profession serving the public good. Site includes a Students section with career and employment information. <http://asanet.org/>
- ◆ Association for Community Organization and Social Administration: a membership organization for community organizers, planners, activists, administrators, policy practice specialists, students, and professors. <http://www.acosa.org>
- ◆ Careers in Government: Job opportunities with local, state & federal agencies. <http://www.careersingovernment.com>
- ◆ Federal Bureau of Investigation: FBI website with employment opportunities and listings. <http://www.fbi.gov>
- ◆ Employment MegaSite for Careers in Criminal Justice: <http://faculty.ncwc.edu/toconnor/employ.htm>
- ◆ GovernmentJobs.Com: devoted to helping individuals find the jobs they are seeking in the public sector. <http://www.govtjobs.com/>
- ◆ H-Net Job Guide: covers positions in History, the Humanities, and Social Sciences, as well as listings in rhetoric, composition. <http://www.matrix.msu.edu/jobs/>
- ◆ Internet Legal Resource Guide: A categorized index of more than 4000 select web sites to serve as a comprehensive resource of the information available on the Internet concerning law and the legal profession, with an emphasis on the United States of America. Contains a section for Pre-Law students as well as a section on Law School Rankings. <http://www.ilrg.com/>
- ◆ Law Enforcement Jobs: Job listings with law enforcement agencies. <http://www.lawenforcementjob.com/>
- ◆ Moving Ideas: Dedicated to explaining and popularizing complex policy ideas to a broader audience. Includes jobs & internships. <http://www.movingideas.org>
- ◆ Opportunity NOCs: connects you with a full range of employment and human-resources-related information and services. <http://www.opportunitynocs.org/>
- ◆ SocialService.Com: is a great place for social workers and other social service professionals to start looking for a social service or social work job, whether in mental health, substance abuse, children and youth, medical social work, criminal justice, domestic violence, counseling, community organizing and outreach, homelessness or a variety of other areas. <http://www.socialservice.com>
- ◆ US Department of Homeland Security: Learn more about this newly created and expansive department of the US Government. <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>
- ◆ USAJobs: The U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information provided by the United States Office of Personnel Management. <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>

VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alternatives To The Peace Corps: A Directory Of Third World And US Volunteer Opportunities</i> • <i>Book Of U.S. Government Jobs: Where They Are, What's Available, And How To Get One</i> • <i>Career Opportunities In Education</i> • <i>Career Opportunities In Law And The Legal Industry</i> • <i>Career Opportunities In Law Enforcement, Security, And Protective Services</i> • <i>Career Opportunities In Politics, Government & Activism</i> • <i>Careers In Sociology</i> • <i>Civil Service Career Starter</i> • <i>Directory Of Graduate Programs In Human Resource Management</i> • <i>Education For Action: Undergraduate And Graduate Programs That Focus On Social</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Change</i> • <i>Embarking Upon A Career With An Undergraduate Degree In Sociology</i> • <i>Essays That Worked For Law Schools: 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Law Schools</i> • <i>Essays That Worked, For Business Schools: 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Business Schools</i> • <i>Graduate Programs In Education</i> • <i>Graduate Programs In Humanities</i> • <i>Graduate Programs In Psychology</i> • <i>Graduate Programs In Social Sciences</i> • <i>Great Jobs For Criminal Justice Majors</i> • <i>Guide To Homeland Security Careers</i> • <i>Guide To Selecting And Applying To Master Of Social Work Programs</i> |
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- *Harvard Business School Guide To Careers In The Nonprofit Sector*
- *Harvard College Guide To Careers In Government & Politics*
- *Human Care Services Directory Of Metropolitan Chicago*
- *Jobs And Careers With Nonprofit Organizations: Profitable Opportunities With Nonprofits*
- *Law Schools*
- *Opportunities In Gerontology And Aging Services Careers*
- *Opportunities In Government Careers*
- *Opportunities In Homecare Services Careers*
- *Opportunities In Human Resource Management Careers*
- *Opportunities In Law Careers*
- *Opportunities In Psychology Careers*
- *Opportunities In Social Science Careers*
- *Opportunities In Social Work Careers*
- *Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Business School*
- *Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Law School*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law & Social Work*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences*
- *Real Resumes For Human Resources & Personnel Jobs*
- *Real Resumes For Social Work & Counseling Jobs*
- *Resumes For Business Management Careers*
- *Resumes For Social Service Careers*
- *and others!*

For more information about majoring in SOCIOLOGY, contact:

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For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at Career.Center@valpo.edu
