Criminal Justice

**Careers**

- Administration*
- Casework
- Corrections
- Consulting
- Counseling
- Court Reporting
- Forensics
- Global Intelligence*
- Homeland Security
- Internet Security
- Investigation
- Juvenile Justice
- Legal Assistance
- Legal Research
- Loss & Prevention
- Patrolling
- Private Investigation
- Private Security
- Probations & Parole
- Security
- Social Work
- Systems Integration
- Victim Advocacy

*may require graduate studies

**Strategies for Success**

- Possess strong oral and written communication skills as well as strong computer skills.
- Learn to speak a second language.
- Develop good listening skills and the ability to work well with diverse populations.
- Keep a clean record so a background check can be easily passed.
- Obtain certifications that show the ability to work in the industry, such as CPR, concealed carry, etc.
- Obtain certifications such as CPR and concealed carry that show commitment to and an ability to work in the industry.
- Gain experience in crisis or high pressure situations; consider volunteering as an EMT or with a fire department to learn how to be efficient in high stakes environments.
- Consider whether a military career is a good fit; a military background is an advantage for many criminal justice leadership positions.
- Follow local, national, and global news.
- Go on a ride-along with an officer in the area if considering police work.
- Supplement program of study with courses in business, psychology, anthropology, or sociology. Coursework related to the hard sciences (biology, chemistry, or biochemistry) is preferred for career opportunities in forensics.
- Consider earning a master’s degree in disciplines such as criminal justice, forensic science, social work, counseling, or business to obtain positions involving therapy, higher levels of administration, forensics, or research.

The Holland Code system is designed to connect individuals with the career field that best fits their personality. The system scores the test taker on six separate scales: Realistic (R), Investigative (I), Artistic (A), Social (S), Enterprising (E), and Conventional (C). The two or three highest scores represent an individuals’ strongest attributes. Here are a few examples of positions associated with this major:

- Police Captain (ERS)
- Counselor (SIA/SAE)
- Probation Officer/Parole Officer (SIE)
- Legal Secretary (CE)
- Emergency Management Director (SE)
- Social Worker (SEC)
- Forensic Science Technician (IRC)

The FOCUS 2 Career Assessment utilizes these Holland Codes and is a free resource to Liberty students. Customized with Liberty’s majors, assessment results are matched to career options and majors offered at Liberty. To access this free resource visit Liberty.edu/Focus2.

On-Campus and Local Resources

- Pursue volunteer/Christian service opportunities with Youth in Crisis or with Social Issues and Civic Organizations.
- Consider joining the Criminal Justice Club and the Criminal Justice Honor Society, if eligible: Liberty.edu/Academics/HelmsSchoolofGovernment.
- Think about joining the Pre-Law Society and/or the Strategic Intelligence Club if they fit your career interests: Liberty.edu/Academics/HelmsSchoolofGovernment.
- Go on a ride-along with the Lynchburg Police Department or the Liberty University Police Department: Liberty.edu/Administration/LUPD.
- Stay educated on your local news: WSET.com.

Online Resources

- Visit the website of the following organizations:
  - American Correctional Association
  - Careers in Corrections
  - Careers in Law & Order
  - Central Intelligence Agency
  - Cop Net
  - Criminal Justice USA
  - Department of Defense
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Helms School of Government Internship Opportunities
  - Police Employment
  - U.S. Department of Justice
  - U.S. Department of State
  - National Security Agency
  - Occupational Outlook Handbook
  - The Washington Fellowship
    Consider spending a semester doing an internship with The Washington Fellowship. Potential criminal justice placements include the following: the C.I.A., the Heritage Foundation, N.R.A., the Arlington Police Department, and much more. To learn more visit: Liberty.edu/Washington.

Sample Resumes

For a variety of sample resumes visit the Liberty University Career Center.