



Criminal Justice

If you have a heart for justice and desire to help heal communities wounded by crime, then study criminal justice at Northwestern. You'll learn what the criminal justice system does well—and not so well. You'll be equipped to empathize, act and pursue restorative justice wherever God calls you.

Seek justice

As a criminal justice major or minor, you'll be prepared for a career in law enforcement, the courts, the corrections system or a similar arena. You'll learn to think critically about the criminal justice system, understanding where it succeeds in reforming and restoring and where it fails both victims and offenders. As a criminal justice student, you will learn:

- An understanding of criminal justice system **processes** and how they affect—and are affected by—individuals and groups
- CJ system **institutions, structures and cultures** and their influences on the experiences of victims and offenders
- **Evidence-based CJ practices** that increase opportunities for reform and restoration
- Effective design, implementation, analysis and reporting of **quantitative research**
- The impact of **racial, gender and socio-economic diversity** on citizen's experiences with criminal justice—and law enforcement officers' ability to deliver it
- **Criminological theory** and application
- **Integration of faith** with your criminal justice career

Faculty

Study with our sociology and criminal justice faculty members who will share real-world experiences from their study of and their roles in the criminal justice system. Discover and be inspired by their commitment to integrating faith with the pursuit of restorative justice for victims, offenders and whole communities.

Internships

Take your learning to the streets—to police stations, courtrooms and correctional institutions—anywhere you can learn from and serve people who are victimized, marginalized and in need of justice, compassion and advocacy. Northwestern's Career Development professionals will help you find a placement that matches your justice passions and professional goals. Recent students have interned with local police and with the Iowa State Patrol. Students also have the opportunity to intern with urban criminal justice agencies through off-campus programs:

Chicago Semester

Study and intern in the Windy City. You'll also take classes on Christian social values and urban culture.

Denver Urban Semester

Focus on social justice and community development while interning at a nonprofit that serves people on society's margins.

Graduates

Northwestern criminal justice graduates have careers as police officers, sheriffs, lawyers, probation and parole officers, and directors of residential treatment facilities. They have been accepted to law schools and graduate schools such as the University of Virginia.

To learn more about our professors and students, and see what graduates are doing:

nwcsiowa.edu/CJ

Office of Admissions

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