

Do you see yourself working in law enforcement, corrections, probation, parole, or juvenile justice? Are you interested in the areas of crime, deviance, law, and criminal behavior? Are you looking to develop a career in social research as an academic or in public, private, or nonprofit organizations? Do you want a career in local, state, or federal criminal justice agencies? If you answered “yes” to any of the above, a degree in criminal justice from St. Ambrose University is just what you’re looking for!

Tipping the scales for justice. Right now, more than a million criminal justice professionals are employed in the public sector, and another million are engaged in private investigation, security and law enforcement. As communities grow and citizens demand safer towns and cities, so too will the need increase for educated professionals who wish to serve in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

Changing and upgrading. In this complex society, criminal justice agencies are changing and upgrading their educational requirements for entry-level employment. St. Ambrose offers the courses essential to your thorough understanding of the criminal justice system. You’ll examine the nature and causes of crime, the justification and means of social control, the administration of the justice system and the evaluation of criminal justice programs.

Preparation to address formidable challenges. The world in which we live in is changing rapidly. In the news and in our own lives, we are constantly presented with issues related to crime and justice. A degree in criminal justice prepares students to address the formidable challenges of a complex world and scarce resources with which criminal justice practitioners strive to protect the public.

Ambrose Advantages

Theory and practical applications. St. Ambrose criminal justice faculty members may hold PhD-level academic credentials, but they have also worked in law enforcement. We also have faculty that have previously, or are currently, working in corrections. Because of this experience, students receive a balanced mix of both theory and practical applications of crime control, treatment, and corrections.

Close advising and connections. Through close advising relationships, our faculty have been able to use their connections to employers in the area to allow our students to pursue internship experiences and eventually find job placements.

Accelerated Program for Advanced Credentials

The Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice offers a unique opportunity for undergraduate students who major in criminal justice to earn a MCJ degree on an accelerated timeframe. Starting in their junior year, qualified students can complete up to



twelve credits of graduate-level criminal justice courses that will count toward both their bachelor’s and master’s degrees. This will allow students to complete the MCJ degree in a single year following the completion of the bachelor’s degree. A master’s degree is increasingly the minimum requirement for employment in many agencies. And with more sophisticated homeland security and law enforcement practices on the rise, advanced education can help criminal justice professionals keep current and marketable. The BA/MCJ program allows qualified students to acquire an advanced education and get a jumpstart on their careers.

Career Opportunities

Many of our graduates are employed as **instructors, counselors and administrators** in the Iowa or Illinois Department of Correction facilities.

Career opportunities in this field exist in a wide range of settings: police departments, state prisons, sheriffs' departments, federal agencies, private and public security companies, children services, juvenile facilities, judicial offices, community-based corrections, probation, parole, or juvenile justice. We also have had students continue on into graduate programs in criminal justice, sociology, and law.

Career Outlook

- > Police officers report an above-average job satisfaction, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, and an unemployment rate of 1.2 percent in 2013 was among the lowest on the job market.
- > The median salary for police detectives was \$56,989 in 2012. More than 41,000 police jobs are projected to be added in the field through 2022, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- > The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects job growth for private detectives and investigators at 11 percent through 2022. The median salary for private detectives and investigators was \$45,740 in 2012.
- > Probation officers and correctional treatment specialists earned a median salary of \$48,190 in 2012.
- > The market for information and security analysts is among the fastest growing—it is projected to grow at 37 percent through 2022, according to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- > The median salary for security analysts was \$86,170 in 2012.

Alumni Success Stories

- > We have many alums who have gone on to work in Iowa's Seventh Judicial District Department of Correctional Services: Frank Price, pre-trial interviewer; Sara Palcynski, residential officer; Matt Grover, residential officer; Ryan Brophy, residential officer; Carli Larson, residential officer.
- > At the federal level, Carrie Landau currently works in the FBI specializing in human trafficking.

Where Some of Our Graduates Work

A few of the organizations that employ St. Ambrose criminal justice graduates:

- > Des Moines (Iowa) County Sheriff's Office, patrol deputy
- > Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, federal investigator
- > Federal Highway Administration, civil rights manager
- > Homeland Security Investigations, special agent

- > JI Polygraph Investigation, certified polygraph examiner
- > Per Mar Security, general manager
- > Rock Island (Illinois) County Court Services, probation officer
- > United States Capitol, police officer

Your Career: Networking, Internships and Jobs in the Quad Cities

The Quad Cities is a welcoming and fun place to live as a college student. More than that, it offers a great community to help you prepare for—or even start—your career. In the metropolitan area, there are a number of ways for criminal justice majors to learn about the vital law enforcement process of a city and its constituents. The Quad Cities is also in close proximity to facilities managed by the Iowa and Illinois departments of correction. All this means the Quad Cities offers exceptional opportunities for networking, clinical placements and jobs.

Get in Touch With Us Today

We invite you to visit St. Ambrose to learn more about the opportunities here. Our quality academic programs provide one of the best private education values in the Midwest. Check it out for yourself: contact our Admissions Office, 563/333-6300 (toll-free 800/383-2627) or admit@sau.edu, or go online to www.sau.edu.

St. Ambrose University offers a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice degree. A minor in the discipline is also offered. For complete curriculum information and course descriptions, consult the Course Catalog at www.sau.edu/catalog.