

COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CRIMINAL JUSTICE



CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMPREHENSIVE

As a criminal justice major, you will be prepared for challenging and exciting careers within federal, state, county and municipal justice systems and have many occupations to choose from. The curriculum includes specialized courses reflecting current trends in justice in the United States and world-wide. In classes with low student-to-faculty ratios, you will have access to faculty with both real-life and research experience and have the opportunity to get the most out of each course from exciting applied-learning experiences. Because of this broader comprehensive study in criminal justice, an additional minor is not required to graduate.



Criminal justice career interest areas

- Police officer
- Special agent
- State police officer
- Probation or parole officer
- Security or private investigator
- Correctional officer
- Youth security specialist
- Legal assistant
- Judicial administrator
- Border patrol agent
- Military officer with criminal justice specialty

Did you know?

Student-faculty relationships are a focal point of the UNK experience.

Faculty interact on a personal basis with students as teachers, advisors, mentors and friends both inside and outside the classroom, and from your freshman year to graduation and beyond.

Alumni profile

“In law enforcement, I get to meet new people every day, work throughout the entire city, be involved with interesting investigations, teach other officers, and of course carry a gun and do dangerous jobs no one else wants,” said Josh Fink, a 2011 UNK criminal justice graduate who is now employed as a police officer in Hastings, Neb.

Fink’s desire to get into law enforcement increased after interning with the U.S. Marshals Service in Omaha, Neb. “The internship helped me be confident I was making the right choice.”



JOSH FINK

He says his undergraduate education of studying literature and writing long book reports and research papers has given him the ability to write effective police reports. “I had no idea how much writing was involved in policing. I knew there were ‘reports,’ but I didn’t know what that meant. You basically have to write a retelling of a very complicated story that makes sense and has all the information required.”

Education does matter to Fink. “You must have that education to move up in rank, get involved with federal agencies, or be recognized as someone with potential, drive and motivation.”

Reasons to major in criminal justice

- Diversity of job tasks
- Opportunities to serve the community
- New challenges each day
- Times to help people make better choices
- Chance to save lives, every day

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FOUR YEAR CLASS SCHEDULE

The schedule is a guideline for progress toward a degree. Consult with your academic advisor.

<p>Semester 1 (15 credits)</p> <p>General Studies Written Communication General Studies Oral Communication Portal 188 (your choice) General Studies Distribution Aesthetics CJUS 101 Intro to Criminal Justice</p>	<p>Semester 2 (15 credits)</p> <p>General Studies Natural Science General Studies Democracy PSCI 110 Intro to American Politics SOC 100 Intro to Sociology General Studies elective (2-3 credits) CJUS 103 Orientation to Criminal Justice</p>
<p>Semester 3 (16 credits)</p> <p>General Studies Distribution Humanities General Studies Natural Science with lab STAT 235 or 241 Statistics PSY 203 General Psychology CJUS 230 Police Services</p>	<p>Semester 4 (15 credits)</p> <p>General Studies Distribution Humanities CJUS 215 Correctional Services CJUS 250 Criminal Justice Research Methods CJUS elective (your choice) Unrestricted elective</p>
<p>Semester 5 (15 credits)</p> <p>Capstone 388 (your choice) CJUS 326 Theories of Crime, Criminal Law CJUS elective (your choice) CJUS elective (your choice) Social Science elective</p>	<p>Semester 6 (15 credits)</p> <p>CJUS 340 Criminal Evidence Procedure CJUS elective (your choice) CJUS elective (your choice) Unrestricted elective Unrestricted elective</p>
<p>Semester 7 (15 credits)</p> <p>CJUS elective (your choice) CJUS elective (your choice) Social Science elective Unrestricted elective Unrestricted elective</p>	<p>Semester 8 (14 credits)</p> <p>CJUS 475 Internship (6-9 credits) CJUS 480 Senior Seminar Social Science elective Unrestricted elective (2-3 credits)</p>

Criminal justice organizations

Criminal Justice Club is a student organization and **Alpha Phi Sigma** is the National Criminal Justice Honor Society. Meeting twice a month, professionalism and career development is the focus with guest speakers such as:

- Probation and parole officers
- Prosecution and defense attorneys
- Patrol officers and chiefs of police
- Wardens and correctional officers
- Sheriffs and deputies
- Undercover narcotic agents
- FBI and DEA agents

Each semester, students can go on field trips to places such as:

- The Nebraska State Penitentiary
- Lincoln Correctional Center
- State Patrol headquarters
- Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center
- Nebraska Correctional Center for Women

Criminal justice scholarships

- Sgt. Justin Duffy Memorial Scholarship
- Donna Wick-Rios Criminal Justice Scholarship
- Dale and Ellen J. Schroeder Scholarship
- Lloyd L. Frank Memorial Scholarship

Personal traits needed for success in criminal justice

- Shows excellent character
- Acts responsibly
- Values honesty and integrity
- Enjoys helping others
- Demonstrates self-discipline
- Takes action for accountability
- Cares about societal issues
- Embraces technology
- Makes sound decisions under pressure

For more information, contact:

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STUDENT PROFILE – Logan Miller



Hometown: Broken Bow, Neb.
Major: Criminal justice comprehensive
Graduation: spring 2015

“Criminal justice is a growing field, and I chose to study criminal justice at UNK because there are a variety of classes offered such as policing and investigation that give students the opportunity to experience all different aspects,” Logan Miller said. Miller was attracted to UNK because of the student-to-faculty ratio. “With small classes you have the ability to meet your professors one-on-one. The professors are what I like most about the criminal justice department. They are willing to work with the students and offer expertise in many fields of the criminal justice profession.”

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