



## WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ... CRIMINOLOGY

### OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW / EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

The [Bureau of Labor Statistics \(BLS\) \(2012\)](#) explains that Sociologists study society and social behavior; criminologists, focus on the nature, extent, causes, control, and prevention of crime and criminal behavior. Criminologists can be found in a wide range of disciplines including law, economics, education, history, psychiatry, psychology, counseling and political science. Most entry-level positions for criminology majors reside with law enforcement, governmental, or social service agencies/organizations. Depending upon the student's career goals, many employers also require graduate education. For example, a master's degree in criminal justice, forensic science, social work, counseling, public administration, or business may be required for positions involving therapy or higher levels of administration, forensics, and research. A doctorate is required for university-level teaching positions. Consult [O\\*Net](#) for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are needed for a career in architecture.

### THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

For students who are primarily interested in crime and criminal justice, the UNM Department of Sociology offers criminology as major or minor. Courses are designed to give students a comprehensive introduction to the field. The classes focus on characteristics and causes of deviance and crime. Students will study the origins, nature and consequences of societal reactions to deviance and crime. The University of New Mexico's Department of Sociology offers a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, with two different concentrations (Pre-law and Human Services and Social Policy). MA and PhD programs are offered as well with the following areas of graduate specialization: Crime, law and Social control, Sociology of Health and Medicine, Race and Ethnicity, Social Movements and Comparative Sociology. Further information can be found on the [UNM Department of Sociology](#) website.

### INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS

A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM's [Lobo Career Connection](#) for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the [UNM Office of Career Services](#) for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

#### Social Services

Corrections – Counseling – Juvenile justice – Casework – Administration – Probation/parole – Victim advocacy

#### Judiciary and Law

Court reporting – Legal assistance – Legal research – Administration

#### Law Enforcement

Patrolling – Investigating – Forensics – Probation - Security

#### Business

Private security – Consulting – Investigating – Systems integration – Global intelligence – Internet security

#### Education

Teaching – Research - Colleges and universities - Private and public schools – Adult education providers

### SUGGESTED STRATEGIES

- Gain related professional experience through involvement in internships, student employment, [Co-ops](#), and/or volunteer opportunities. Check out UNM's Department of Sociology's Internship program <http://www.unm.edu/~socdept/internprogram.htm>
- Shadow professionals in the field to gain a better understanding of the occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
- Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. Find organizations and events at the [Student Activities Center website](#).
- Attend career related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.
- Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
- Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.

- Job leads can be found on your department's website, list-serv, newsletters, and social media sites  
<http://www.unm.edu/~socdept/resources.htm>

## STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES

Adapted from CareerOneStop (2013)

### SOCIOLOGISTS

Location	2012				
	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
<b>United States</b>	<b>\$43,300</b>	<b>\$57,100</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>\$96,900</b>	<b>\$129,800</b>

## INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

Criminal Justice USA  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 U.S. Department of Justice  
 Central Intelligence Agency  
 National Drug Enforcement Officers Association  
 National Criminal Justice Reference Service  
 National Institute of Justice  
 Department of State  
 National Security Agency  
 U.S. Department of Defense  
 Police Employment  
 Police Foundation  
 Cop Net  
 Corrections Connection  
 FBI Library Law Enforcement  
 FBI Academy Volunteer Internship Programs

<http://www.criminaljusticeusa.com/>  
<http://www.fbijobs.gov>  
<http://www.usdoj.gov>  
<http://www.cia.gov/>  
<http://www.ndeoaa.org/>  
<https://www.ncjrs.gov/>  
<https://www.nij.gov>  
<http://www.state.gov/>  
<http://www.nsa.gov/>  
<http://www.defenselink.mil/>  
<http://www.policeemployment.com>  
<http://www.policefoundation.org/>  
<http://www.copnet.org>  
<http://www.corrections.com/>  
<https://www.fbijobs.gov/>  
<https://www.fbijobs.gov/234.asp>



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

## REFERENCES

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, (2012, August 31). *Occupational Outlook Handbook, Sociologists*. Retrieved from <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/architects.htm>

State of Minnesota, U. S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (2013). *CareerOneStop, Occupation Profile, Architects*. Retrieved from [www.careerinfonet.org](http://www.careerinfonet.org)

University of New Mexico, Department of Sociology (2013). *Degrees and resource websites*. Retrieved from <http://www.unm.edu/~socdept/index.htm>