

The Criminal Justice Major Goals

July 2002

The purpose of the criminal justice major is to prepare the learner to understand the application of research-based theory, legal guidelines, and ethical principles to the practical functioning of the criminal justice system. (Courses required in the major appear in bold type. Electives in the major are in plain type.) A learner who has successfully completed a criminal justice major at Upper Iowa University will be expected to:

1. Demonstrated understanding of research methodology and basic statistical techniques.
 - a. Critically evaluate existing social science research—**PSY/SOC 373, SOC 110**
 - b. Perform basic statistical operations—**MATH 220**
2. Demonstrated understanding of the theoretical foundations of criminal justice practice.
 - a. Interpret theories, history, and traditions in criminal justice—**CJ/SOC 224**
 - b. Explain the history and background of juvenile delinquency—**CJ/SOC 321**
 - c. Analyze the causality and extent of criminal behavior in the US—**CJ/SOC 333**
 - d. Explain the societal rationale for punishment of those who violate the laws of society—CJ/SOC 380
 - e. Explain the reasons for and the state of understanding of the study of victimology—CJ/SOC 337
 - f. Examine theories that explain deviance and theories that explain social control—SOC 347
3. Demonstrated understanding of the legal foundation of criminal justice practice.
 - a. Identify the historical development of criminal law and the legal system—**CJ/SOC 237**
 - b. Differentiate between the goals, aims, methodologies, and techniques of the juvenile and adult criminal justice system—CJ/SOC 315
4. Demonstrated understanding of the ethical basis of criminal justice practice.
 - a. Analyze ethical decision making in the criminal justice system— , **CJ/SOC 367 Ethics in Criminal Justice**
5. Demonstrated understanding of the daily functioning of the criminal justice system.
 - a. Explain management techniques in the criminal justice system—**CJ/SOC 398**
 - b. Evaluate and plan investigative strategies for criminal cases—**CJ/SOC 362 Criminal Investigations**
 - c. Differentiate between the goals, aims, methodologies, and techniques of the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems—CJ/SOC 315
 - d. Discuss and illustrate the historical and current state of corrections as punishment in the American legal context—CJ/SOC 380
 - e. Explain the methodology and issues utilized by police—CJ/SOC 365
 - f. Identify the supervisory problems resulting from the way people think, organize information, communicate, and interact with each other—BA 362