



**Department of Criminal Justice
Student Orientation
Frequently Asked Questions**

Are there professional academic advisors to help with degree planning and course registration?

Yes, ECU has two full-time professional criminal justice academic advisors who assist criminal justice majors and minors with degree planning, course selection, and course registration. Moreover, they are partners in the academic success of students so provide guidance and counseling to achieve that goal.

What are the most popular careers sought by ECU criminal justice majors?

- 1st Law enforcement positions
- 2nd Law school and attorney positions
- 3rd Probation and parole positions

However, criminal justice jobs are found across a broad spectrum in the administration of justice. For example, there are positions in federal, state, local, and private organizations in all subfields as well as related social service areas. These include law enforcement, corrections, law and courts, forensic science, intelligence, juvenile, private security and more. Therefore, ECU graduates can be found in government agencies, corporations, law offices, and private companies in the US and abroad.

Are there internship opportunities for ECU criminal justice majors?

Yes, a semester-long internship is required for Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice majors. Students enroll in the course in their senior year last semester and it consists of a full-time field placement in an agency/organization and online instruction. The course is offered fall; spring; summer.

Are there criminal justice-related minors available?

Yes, the Department of Criminal Justice offers three minor programs to undergraduate students.

- Criminal Justice minor (24 semester hours)
- Criminal Law and Judicial Process minor (21 semester hours)
- Forensic Science minor (24-26 semester hours)

Is there a Forensic Science study program available?

Yes, the Department's Forensic Science minor is the only such study program at ECU. It focuses primarily on criminal investigation and crime scene management to include courses in

anthropology, biology, chemistry, and criminal justice. For students interested principally in criminal evidence laboratory analysis, a major in biology or chemistry is recommended.

Does the Department of Criminal Justice offer extra-curricular activities for criminal justice majors?

Yes, a wide variety of extra-curricular programs are available to interested students. These include:

- Student Organizations, such as, 1) Alpha Phi Sigma, National Criminal Justice Honor Society; 2) Criminal Justice Student Organization; and 3) Mock Trial Association.
- European Study Abroad 2-week program led by an ECU faculty member.
- Annual Criminal Justice Career Fair with on-campus recruiter representatives from 40+ federal, state, and local criminal justice organizations including law enforcement, law schools, corrections, juvenile, US Armed Forces, and social services to discuss criminal justice careers and employment opportunities.
- Faculty-student Research involves students participating in active criminal justice research projects supervised by departmental faculty members.
- Guest Speakers and Field Trips throughout the academic year prominent criminal justice professionals visit campus to speak in classes or hold informational sessions on a variety of topics to include job opportunities and critical issues in the criminal justice field. Also, there are faculty-led field trip opportunities to law enforcement agencies, jails, prisons, and juvenile rehabilitation facilities.
- Foreign Study Abroad Programs sponsored by the ECU Department of Criminal Justice and Global Affairs Office are semester-long study abroad partnerships with international universities that offer transferrable English language courses to ECU students in countries such as Australia, Canada, Ireland, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, and others.

Are there student scholarships available for criminal justice majors?

Yes, each academic year the Department of Criminal Justice offers student scholarships on a competitive basis. The amounts vary each year; however, common awards are \$500-1,000+. Applications are submitted and managed by the ECUAWARDS program.

Are there community engagement and service-learning opportunities available?

Yes, criminal justice majors are involved in a variety of community and service-learning activities through student organizations, field experiences, and internships. Students provide assistance to community partners in areas such as criminal justice agencies, food banks, domestic violence shelters, and offender reentry programs, among others.