

Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice

Our Degrees Offered

The Department offers a **Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology** and a **Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice**. The Sociology major provides a comprehensive grounding in the academic discipline of Sociology, its theories, methods, and findings. The Criminal Justice major provides a comprehensive grounding in the discipline of criminology, as well as analysis of the multitude of social factors and institutions that impact the criminal justice system. The Department also offers a minor in Sociology and a minor in Criminal Justice.

[What can I do with a degree in Sociology?](#) [1]

[What can I do with a degree in Criminal Justice?](#) [2]

[What can you minor in as a Sociology or Criminal Justice major?](#) [3]

Why Choose a Degree in Sociology

Sociology graduates have successful careers in such diverse occupations as non-profit business consultation, healthcare, gerontology, risk management and insurance fund-raising and advocacy groups, international relations, state and federal government agency administration, urban and community planning, military officer, career management, evaluation research, seminar and workshop consultations, public opinion polling, market research and employee relations.

To graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, a student must complete at least 121 credit hours of coursework. Coursework includes general education courses, as well as a wide range of Sociology courses. Sociology majors must complete an internship in their junior or senior year. Sociology majors are encouraged to complete a minor and/or develop a specific area of interest, such as law studies, woman and gender issues or health promotion. A minimum grade of “C” is required in most Sociology courses.

Why Choose a Degree in Criminal Justice

Criminal Justice careers may entail law enforcement, probation and corrections, legal research, or homeland security. Preparation for professional and graduate schools includes law school or advanced degrees in Sociology. Today, a variety of master’s and doctoral programs are offered in criminal justice, criminology, gender studies, urban sociology, and applied sociology across the country and around the globe.

To graduate with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice, a student must complete at least 121 credit hours of coursework. Coursework includes general education courses as well as Criminal Justice courses and an internship. A minimum grade of “C” is required in most Criminal Justice courses.

Internships

Both curricula in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice require that students complete an internship. Internships are designed to enable students to apply classroom knowledge in the professional work setting. They are a central component to preparing for the professional job market, building professional credentials and networking. Completion of an internship is a requirement for graduation. [Internship Form](#) [4]

Faculty Advisor for Internship - [Dr. Laurin Parker](#) [5]

DSU Sociology and Criminal Justice majors have completed internships in a wide variety of agencies, including but not limited to:

[Interpol, Washington, DC](#) [6]

[Washington, DC, Pretrial Services](#) [7]

[Delaware Department of Correction](#) [8]

State Congressional Offices

Delaware State University Police

State Police (Delaware and other states)

Division of Family Services

Private Law Offices

Attorney General's Office

Probation and Parole (Delaware and other states)

Administrative Office of the Courts (Delaware and other states)

Delaware State Bureau of Investigation

Public Defender's Office (Delaware and other states)

Juvenile Detention Centers (Delaware and other states)

Clubs & Organization

The CJ Club

The Criminal Justice Club is formed and led by students. As a student enrichment organization, it promotes awareness of life after college by hosting guest speakers and social activities that allow for informal interaction among students, faculty and professionals.

CJ Club activities include field trips, guest speakers, mock interviews, fundraising strategies and discussions regarding the Criminal Justice field. The Criminal Justice Club has taken trips to such places as: The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Delaware Correctional Center, Baylor Correctional Institution for Women and The Ferris School.

NOBLE

[National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives](#) [9]

The mission of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives ([NOBLE](#) [9]) is to ensure equity in the administration of justice in the provision of public service to all communities and to serve as the conscience of law enforcement by being committed to justice by action. The vision/goal of NOBLE is to be recognized as a highly competent, public service organization that is at the forefront of providing solutions to law enforcement issues and concerns, as well as to the ever-changing needs of our communities.

DSU hosts the only college chapter of NOBLE. NOBLE not only allows students to interact with professionals, but it also has a Mentoring Program that allows students to shadow a professional, and it provides students with opportunities to network and secure internships. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 to participate. Students interested in NOBLE must complete and submit an application to the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice.

DSU [NOBLE Club Ongoing Fundraiser](#) [10]

Faculty Advisor for NOBLE - [Dr. Kylie Parrotta](#) [11]

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Links

- [1] <http://www.desu.edu/sites/default/files/u745/sociology1.pdf>
- [2] <http://www.desu.edu/sites/default/files/u745/criminaljustice1.pdf>
- [3] <http://www.desu.edu/arts-humanities-and-social-sciences/what-can-you-minor-sociology-or-criminal-justice-major>
- [4] <http://www.desu.edu/sites/default/files/u8616/Internship%20info.pdf>
- [5] <mailto:lsparker@desu.edu?subject=Internship>
- [6] <https://www.justice.gov/interpol-washington>
- [7] <https://www.psa.gov/>
- [8] <http://www.doc.delaware.gov/>
- [9] <http://www.noblenational.org/home.aspx>
- [10] <http://www.fundinco.org/orghome.php?orgid=1309>
- [11] <mailto:kparrotta@desu.edu?subject=NOBLE>