

Updated: July 2020



CRIME, LAW AND DEVIANCE



CONTENTS

OVERVIEW

[CRIMINOLOGIST](#)

[CRIMINAL LAWYER](#)

[CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR](#)

[PARALEGAL](#)

[BAILIFF](#)

[FORENSICS SPECIALIST](#)

[WHO EMPLOYS GRADUTES IN CRIME, LAW AND DEVIANCE MAJORS?](#)

[PROGRAM RELATED SKILLS](#)

[POSSIBLE CAREER PATHS](#)

[HOW TO GET EXPERIENCE AND BUILD NETWORK](#)

[Informational Interviews](#)

[Additional Related Student Organizations](#)

[Create a LinkedIn Profile](#)

[Join a Professional Association](#)

[ADDITIONAL WEB RESOURCES](#)

[SAMPLE JOB POSTINGS FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS](#)

[HOW CAN THE CAREER CENTRE HELP?](#)

[Get Experienced Fair](#)

[Get Hired fair](#)

[Graduate & Professional Schools Fair](#)

[Job Shadow Program](#)

[On-line resources](#)

[Career Cruising Website](#)

[Career Centre E-book collection](#)

[Industry Reports and Labour Market Information](#)

[Tip Sheets](#)

[Career Planning by Year](#)

[UTM Program Plans](#)

[Print Resources](#)

[Career Centre Library](#)

[The National Occupational Code binders](#)

[Individual Appointments](#)

[Career Counsellors](#)

[Employment Strategists](#)

[ADDITIONAL WEB RESOURCES](#)

OVERVIEW

A background in Crime, Law and Deviance might lead to careers in corrections, probation, law enforcement, private policing, forensics, law reform or rehabilitation programs. Other possibilities are administrative and research positions within the criminal justice system, with an Ombudsperson's office, policy and planning positions with a variety of social and judicial agencies or working in group homes or with non-for-profit organizations which deal with offenders. Some students combine Crime, Law and Deviance and other programs with a particular objective in mind. For instance, a student interested in First Nations' policing and justice might combine Crime, Law and Deviance and Aboriginal Studies. Crime, Law and Deviance and Economics could lead to work in the area of analysis of the economics of corrections. Crime, Law and Deviance and a number of programs could lead to crime writing or reporting.

Some graduates hope to pursue further studies in professional areas such as law and social work or graduate studies in Crime and Deviance/Criminology, Psychology or Sociology. However, while these are all options, the reality is that many Crime, Law and Deviance graduates might find challenging and rewarding employment in fields unrelated to their major. This is true for graduates of many Arts and Science Programs. When thinking about career prospects, students must realize that many skills acquired at university are transferable in the sense that they are useful in many different situations and they are often the skills which employers seek. Students should regard their studies as an opportunity to develop and refine these skills.

CRIMINOLOGIST

JOB DESCRIPTION

Do you like watching TV shows about the inner workings of the criminal mind? Maybe you're interested in learning why criminals commit crimes. Or, you want to know more about how crime affects society. That's what criminologists do. They study crime and its causes and effects.

To understand the impact of crime, criminologists need to know all they can about it. To do this, they analyze crime statistics. They look for trends and things that are out of the ordinary. They learn what factors might make someone turn to crime. They may also find out where crime is most common. This data can tell them who might benefit from anti-crime programs or other preventions. Their research can also tell them how police and the courts handle criminals. They study how criminals are dealt with in prisons as well. They investigate how people are punished. They also research rehabilitation programs. They want to know how effective these programs are. All this data can help them develop policies and proposals for dealing with criminals.

Criminologists get their information from different sources. They do interviews and read studies done by experts in the field. This includes other criminologists, police officers, and government employees. They can also learn a lot from lawyers, judges, and correctional officers. They may need to question suspects to see if they fit a certain psychological profile.

CORE TASKS & ABILITIES

- Gather, examine and analyze information and statistics on crime
- Interview people in the field
- May attend crime scenes or autopsies to gather facts and data
- Prepare reports and give presentations
- Professors teach students and do research
- Requires detail oriented, analytical with research and writing skills

EARNINGS & EDUCATION

In general, full-time criminologists earn between \$35,000 and \$140,000 a year. Their earnings depend on their education level and the type of work they do. The Canadian Association of University Teachers conducts a survey of earnings in the field. According to their survey, the average salary for a criminology lecturer is about \$58,000 a year. Assistant criminology professors make an average of about \$75,000 a year. Associate professors make an average of \$96,000 a year. Full professors earn around \$120,000 a year on average. Criminologists who don't teach can make between \$35,000 and \$80,000 a year.

You need to earn at least a bachelor's degree. It can be in criminology, psychology, or sociology. It takes about 4 years to complete a bachelor's degree. With a bachelor's degree, you can get some entry-level positions. However, it's a good idea to complete a master's degree or PhD. This will qualify you for more senior positions. A master's degree takes 1 or 2 years to earn. A PhD takes another 4 to 5 years to complete. You need a PhD if you want to teach at a college or university.

PROFESSIONAL JOB INTERVIEWS

1. Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

I am a professor of criminology. My job involves developing theories and hypotheses to explain crime-related phenomena. This includes conducting research projects to test the theories, applying for grants to fund them, analyzing the results, and then presenting those results at academic conferences.

I teach courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

2. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

After high school, I studied sociology and history at university. Then I continued my education with a master's degree and a PhD in sociology at the same school. I've worked as everything from a bartender to a camp counsellor. Since grad school, I've worked chiefly as a lecturer and researcher.

I've always been interested in criminology; the field is very challenging and always changing. Plus, you get to work a lot on your own. That autonomy is important to me.

For a while, I considered going to law school, but the sociology department provided better funding (a scholarship and a teaching assistantship) and I didn't want to go further into debt.

3. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

To be a good criminologist, you have to be able to absorb and interpret a lot of information. And because you can be working with this information for a long time, you also need a great deal of patience. My job is very demanding, with a lot of different responsibilities and pressures.

It is also extremely important to be creative and have good communication skills, especially when you are teaching criminology. In order to get your ideas across to students, or to get your ideas published, you have to express complex thoughts in a way that's easily understood.

With all my responsibilities (teaching, writing, and research), the day can be very long.

4. How much job security is there for people in your field?

The career of a professor of criminology can be very insecure, at least in the beginning.

However, once you've been at a university for a certain amount of time, you might be offered tenure. If a professor can get tenure, as I have, his or her position is pretty secure for life.

5. What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Criminology is a very specialized field, so you can often find a niche at a newspaper or magazine writing articles on that subject, or as a government policymaker. You can also use your experience analyzing statistics to work for a polling company, or do some freelance work using your writing skills.

6. What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

I think the need for criminologists will either increase or remain the same. Crime continues to be a popular topic in our culture, so universities will continue to offer courses in it. Governments are becoming more interested in dealing with high crime rates, so funding shouldn't be a problem.

Unfortunately, criminology is becoming more about crunching numbers and less about thinking critically.

7. What are the biggest challenges in your job?

The most challenging part of this job is applying for funding, conducting the research, and publishing, all of which are important if you want to qualify for tenure. Teaching, although stressful, is not as demanding.

8. Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

If you're thinking about becoming a professor of criminology, there's good news. Many professors are approaching retirement. At the same time, the demand for government researchers seems high.

In order to get that entry-level position, you should start by selecting a good university graduate program, one that will offer you the opportunity to teach as you study. Then you should get some research experience and try to get some articles published in criminology journals.

CRIMINAL LAWYER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Criminal lawyers have the same basic duties as other lawyers. They inform their clients of their legal rights and responsibilities. They represent their clients in court. To prepare for a case, they research rules, regulations, and previous cases. They also prepare legal documents.

In the courtroom, criminal lawyers act on one of two sides. They are either the defence or the prosecution. Defence attorneys represent people charged with criminal offences. They make a case that supports their clients' innocence.

Prosecuting attorneys are usually called Crown attorneys or Crown counsel. They act for the government on behalf of the public. They form cases against defendants. They present evidence to try to prove that a defendant is guilty.

CORE TASKS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Examine evidence and interview witnesses and experts
- Research regulations and previous case laws

- Prepare cases and argue them in court
- Defence lawyers defend clients against criminal charges
- Prosecutors present evidence in court to prove a defendant's guilt
- Requires hard working individuals with analytical and logical reasoning skills

EARNINGS AND EDUCATION

Most lawyers earn between \$50,000 and \$200,000 a year. The national median income is around \$97,000 a year. Some high-profile lawyers earn more than \$200,000 a year.

After completing law school, lawyers must work as articling students. They work for about 1 year before they can write the bar exams. Most receive a salary for their work. Their earnings range from about \$30,000 to more than \$75,000 a year. Law firms in large cities tend to pay the highest salaries.

To become a lawyer, you must attend law school and complete a law degree. Before applying to law school, you need at least 2 years of study at a university. In Quebec, you can get into law school straight from a CEGEP. To get into law school, you need very good marks. You also need to write an aptitude test for most schools. This test is called the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Law school usually takes 3 years of full-time study to complete. The degree you get is either a Juris Doctor (JD) or a Bachelor of Laws.

PROFESSIONAL JOB INTERVIEW

1. Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

As a Crown attorney, I am involved in the investigative side of things more than some other lawyers. I often work with the police when they're on one of my cases.

Also, I represent the public interest in general as opposed to a particular client. I've been involved in a lot of drug prosecution cases, especially ones related to drug importers. I've also worked on some money laundering cases.

2. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I did an undergraduate degree in politics, and then studied law here and in France. While I was in university, I worked as a bank teller for the provincial government.

I was attracted to criminal law because it's an interesting field that's always changing. Also, my father is a police officer, so I was exposed to the law from an early age. I started my career as a summer student working for the province in law school, and then articulated with the federal Department of Justice.

3. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

Criminal lawyers must be comfortable while speaking publicly, because they make presentations in front of groups of people. They must also be able to think on their feet and react immediately to situations as they develop. This is especially true for prosecutors—they have to be ready for anything, because they don't know the defence's case ahead of time.

Finally, criminal lawyers must be willing to work hard and work long hours. Most work 50 hours a week or more.

4. How much job security is there for people in your field?

Many Crown attorneys can count on having their positions for life. Though most entry-level positions are contracts, once you've become established in your career, the security is quite good.

5. What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Criminal lawyers are usually excellent public speakers, and so could move into any area demanding this skill. Generally, they are well-equipped to move into either business or politics.

6. What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

I believe the demand for criminal lawyers will remain about the same. Crime remains fairly constant, although changes in legal aid and government funding do affect the number of criminal lawyers in practice.

7. What are the biggest challenges in your job?

One of the most challenging things about being a criminal lawyer is having to convey your ideas clearly and persuasively in front of a group of people. It's also difficult to keep on top of all the changes occurring in the law.

The heavy workload is another challenging and difficult part of this job.

8. Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

The availability of jobs generally depends on legal aid and government funding. But there are always some opportunities out there. The only way in is to go to law school and then do your articling. It's competitive, but certainly not impossible.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR

JOB DESCRIPTION

When a crime is committed, it often takes a team to solve the case. This includes law enforcement and forensics experts. Crime scene investigators (CSIs) are an important part of this team. CSIs are experienced police officers. They are highly trained in crime scene analysis and evidence recovery. In Canada, CSIs are often called identification officers.

CSIs investigate many types of crime. These range from murder and assault, to break and enter. It is their job to check out the crime scene and collect as much evidence and data as they can. CSIs don't chase down or interview suspects, but the clues they find at the scene help to solve the crime. One of CSIs' jobs at crime scenes is to record and document what they see. They take pictures, draw sketches, and sometimes take a video recording of the scene. They also use a notepad to write down what they see and any measurements they take. They pay careful attention to detail and document the scene as a whole. They also document each piece of evidence.

CORE TASKS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Photograph and sketch crime scenes
- Write down observations and take measurements
- Search for and collect physical evidence, such as fingerprints, fibres and blood
- Package, label and document evidence and write evidence reports
- May analyze fingerprints and bloodstains and testify in court
- Require careful and detail orientation skills

EARNINGS AND EDUCATION

All crime scene investigators start out as regular police officers. New police recruits are usually on probation for 1 year. During this time, they can make from about \$35,000 to \$55,000 a year.

Pay depends on the police force. Their salaries increase once they are off probation. Experienced constables can make more than \$80,000 a year.

If you want to work as a crime scene investigator (CSI), you must first become a police officer. Requirements for police officers depend on where you want to work. You usually need to be of a certain age and have a high school diploma.

Recruitment is competitive. Because of this, it is better to have a college diploma or university degree. In some cases, this education is required. Relevant programs include police studies, criminal justice, or sociology. You can study criminology, psychology, and law as well. If you want to be a CSI, you should take courses in biology, chemistry, and forensics. The application process for new CSIs is highly competitive. Any prior training in forensics is helpful. Once selected, you do about 2 to 4 years of intensive training in crime scene analysis. For example, in the RCMP, you enter a 4-year apprenticeship program. This training includes classroom coursework and on-the-job instruction under experienced CSIs. Trainees must also pass oral and written exams.

PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEWS

1. Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

I am a forensic identification officer for the RCMP. I examine crime scenes for potential physical evidence, including tool mark impressions, fingerprints, footwear impressions, tire impressions, DNA, hair, or fibres.

When I attend a crime scene, I make notes about a wide variety of details, including the date and time of my arrival, weather conditions, people present, description of the scene, areas that have been disturbed, and areas to examine. I photograph (or videotape) the scene the way I find it. I look for any and all types of physical evidence for comparison purposes. (For example, fingerprints are compared to positively identify suspects.)

I also complete sketches of the scene and for serious crime scenes, I take measurements for a planned drawing. All of the evidence that I collect is eventually presented in a court of law.

My job is fairly similar to other CSIs because we all begin our career as general duty

police officers in order to gain experience in dealing with the public, problem-solving, arresting and charging criminals, and responding to calls.

Even though I am based in a particular city, my job takes me all over the province. Some crime scenes require many hours of travel, just to get to the scene. Once I reach a crime scene, forensic identification work can take 8 to 12 hours.

2. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

When I was in high school, I did not know what I wanted to do for a career. However, I took university entrance courses in high school and studied hard to get good grades.

My parents did not have the money to help me go to university, so as soon as I graduated from high school, I got a job. I worked as a health care aide and contemplated going into nursing. I worked evenings in a personal care home and part-time in a hospital emergency unit. I used to work 16-hour days approximately four times a week.

When I was 30 years old, I needed a change. I wanted a career where I could work with the public and help people. But I also required a position that would provide me with job security, health benefits, and a good pension plan.

I applied for the RCMP and took a written test, physical abilities test, medical tests, and a lengthy interview. A background check was conducted to verify that I would be a good candidate as a police officer. When I was selected, I attended the RCMP training academy for 6 months of police training.

Upon successful completion, I was transferred to my first detachment where I began work as a general duty police officer responding to calls for assistance such as assaults, impaired driving, motor vehicle accidents, break and enters, loud party complaints, and missing persons.

To be eligible to become a forensic identification officer in the RCMP, you must have at least 3 years of experience as a general duty police officer.

3. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

A forensic identification officer must have good communication skills. You need to communicate with general duty police officers as well as the public to gather information that may be vital to a crime scene examination.

Good listening skills are important. You have to listen to what people are telling you so that you can gain an understanding of what happened. Sometimes people will tell you things that you didn't expect them to tell you, and it may help to solve a crime.

Patience is critical in this job. An investigator deals with many types of people of various ages, cultures, and religious backgrounds. As well, persistence is required at large crime scenes that require a lot of time to conduct a thorough examination.

A crime scene investigator must have good observation skills. You have to pay attention to even the smallest details, as there may be clues that are not always obvious.

Honesty and accountability are important because you need to be truthful in all aspects of your work.

4. How much job security is there for people in your field?

Crime scene investigators who work for the RCMP have very good job security because there will always be a need for police officers to solve crimes.

Someone joining the police force can hopefully have their job for as long as they wish to continue working. Most people work for the RCMP in excess of 25 years. Often, people work as general duty police officers in different detachments, or in specialized sections such as forensic identification, drug section, major crime unit, serious crime, proceeds of crime, and undercover work. There are a lot of different career opportunities in the RCMP.

5. What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

A crime scene investigator could also work in the private sector for a large insurance company.

6. What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

As criminals are becoming more sophisticated, crime scene investigators must adapt accordingly to solve the crimes. Investigators are always advancing their knowledge of technology and communication. We must learn new methods to detect criminals in order to solve crimes, and to keep our country and its citizens safe.

7. What are the biggest challenges in your job?

Television programs often depict our job as glamorous. Aspects of our job can be rewarding, but certainly not glamorous. We do not have a lot of the technology available to us like they do on TV. What you don't see on television is that some crime scenes have no washroom facilities, sleeping accommodations, or restaurants. And investigators have to see various forms of poverty and living conditions that most people would find deplorable.

8. Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

To be considered for forensic identification duties with the RCMP, you must work as a general duty police officer first. You can't just go into crime scene investigation right away. I believe this is the case with any police force.

If this is what you want to do in the future, it is always helpful to take courses that may be useful in this type of work, such as biology, anthropology, sociology, and criminology.

There will always be jobs in forensic identification because there are police officers who are retiring from this specialty. As well, some officers leave this area and return to general duty policing because they find this type of work takes a toll on their physical and mental health.

PARALEGAL

JOB DESCRIPTION

Paralegals perform some of the same tasks as lawyers. They do research for cases. They also interview clients and witnesses. They may prepare legal documents as well. Some of them even represent clients before courts, boards, and tribunals.

However, there are important differences between a paralegal and a lawyer. Paralegals don't handle the kinds of serious legal cases that lawyers do. The types of issues they can deal with depend on the province or territory they live in. Paralegals are not allowed to give legal advice like lawyers. However, they can give legal information to people.

CORE TASKS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Assist lawyers with legal research, and interview witnesses' and clients
- Prepare legal documents, such as wills and contracts
- Maintain records and file documents
- Provide information to clients
- May represent clients in minor matters before courts, boards and tribunals
- Requires communication as well as analytical and logical reasoning

EARNINGS AND EDUCATION

Most people in this field earn between \$30,000 and \$80,000 year. Paralegals who are willing to work longer hours can bring in higher incomes. Senior paralegals in some areas can make more than \$100,000 a year.

Earnings depend largely on level of experience. They also depend on education and reputation. Employer and location impact pay as well. Paralegals who work in major cities earn more than those who work in small towns.

You need formal training to become a paralegal. Specific requirements vary depending on your province and employer.

Many colleges and universities offer diploma programs for paralegals. These programs usually take 2 years to complete. They often include an internship to help you get experience. A few schools offer bachelor's degree programs. It takes 4 years to earn a bachelor's degree.

Some schools offer certificate programs for paralegals. These programs last 1 to 2 years. They can be taken part time or through distance education. Some of these programs require you to have prior legal experience.

PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEWS

- 1. Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?**

I run my own practice and specialize in the area of immigration law. This involves representing people in front of immigration tribunals, helping them fill out government forms, preparing

affidavits, and translating important educational and work-related documents. The general purpose of all of these activities is to help recent immigrants settle in Canada.

2. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I grew up in Warsaw, Poland. At university, I studied business administration and earned a master's degree in international relations and trade. While still in Poland, I worked as an importer-exporter, a translator, and a tour guide.

After coming to Canada, I worked for several agencies that helped recent immigrants adapt to Canadian life. My experiences in these agencies taught me how the government and the legal system functioned. Since then, I have worked as a self-employed paralegal.

3. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

Paralegals have to be good salespeople to attract new clients and be persuasive in the courtroom. Courage is important, especially for paralegals who run their own offices. They have no one but themselves to rely on for income.

It's necessary to have strong written and spoken language skills, and not only in English. Fluency in a second or even a third language can be useful when dealing with clients who are recent immigrants.

4. How much job security is there for people in your field?

Paralegals who are flexible, and willing to learn about different areas of the law, should have no trouble finding lifelong employment. Paralegals who work in the area of immigration can count on having their jobs for at least the next 5 to 10 years.

5. What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Paralegals would be well-prepared to work in any of the organizations (government-run or community-level) that help people learn about, and assert, their legal rights. Paralegals who have specialized in the area of landlord/tenant law might consider becoming property managers; those who have dealt with negligence cases could work as insurance adjusters.

6. How do you think your job will change in the future?

Regulations are changing constantly, and paralegals will have to keep up to date with these changes. In addition, as governments cut back on personnel, there will be fewer people in

departments to answer the phones and deal with the public in person. Paralegals will have to do much of their work with the government through correspondence.

7. Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

Before becoming a paralegal, you should get a job as a legal assistant or as a member of the support staff in a law firm, government agency, or community clinic. You can't go out on your own without getting the necessary experience first. You also need to build up a clientele.

BAILIFF

JOB DESCRIPTION

In a perfect world, everyone would be willing and able to pay the debts they owe. But money problems aren't that simple. Sometimes, a debtor who has borrowed money is no longer making repayments. The creditor may hire a bailiff to resolve the issue.

Bailiffs are sometimes known as recovery agents. They are more often called repo men and women. They have the legal authority to seize property on behalf of creditors. Their work is an important part of maintaining law and order. In some cases, bailiffs may negotiate alternative repayment plans with debtors. They do this rather than seizing the property.

In some provinces, bailiff companies are also contracted by courts. They may seize property if directed to do so by a judge. Or, they may serve civil and criminal documents to citizens. They serve these documents by delivering letters to people. The letters inform the people of their part in an upcoming lawsuit or trial. For example, a person may be getting sued in court or appearing as a witness in a criminal trial.

CORE TASKS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Locate people who owe money
- Seize possessions, such as cars, computers or office equipment
- May evict people from their businesses or homes
- May server people with civil and criminal documents
- Exact duties vary depending on the province

EARNINGS AND EDUCATION

Bailiffs are often paid by the company they work for on a job-by-job basis. Others work on commission. This means they receive a percentage of the value of the property they seize. Most full-time bailiffs earn from \$20,000 to \$60,000 a year. In rural areas, bailiffs may work only part time and earn around \$10,000 a year. In urban centres, experienced bailiffs can earn \$70,000 a year, or more. Average earnings for bailiffs across the country range from around \$35,000 to \$50,000 a year.

To become a bailiff, you need at least a high school diploma. A college diploma or a university degree is recommended. Programs related to law, justice, and criminology are good options. Practical training requirements depend on the province you will work in. In some provinces, you may have to work as a bailiff's assistant for up to 2 years. Then, you can apply to become a bailiff yourself. In other provinces, you need to do a formal training program. You may also have to pass an exam.

PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEWS

1. Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

Like many bailiffs, I work with landlords to resolve problems with their tenants by seizing assets. I also repossess vehicles on behalf of banks and auto auctions, and I work with various municipalities on business and realty taxes.

2. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

After graduating from high school, I worked as a dental hygienist, then ran a small construction firm, and finally became an aerobics instructor.

I was attracted to a career as a bailiff by the fact that it did not demand sitting behind a desk all day. Also, it seemed that every day as a bailiff would be different. I worked for a bailiff as an office manager for a while, and eventually became one myself.

3. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

A bailiff has to be hard-working. We work long hours, mostly because it is hard to get in contact with debtors until they come home from their jobs.

Also, a bailiff should have good common sense. We are dealing with people all the time, often in difficult situations, and the ability to assess what's going on is important.

Bailiffs should be decent and fair. I try to treat people the way I would like to be treated in the same situation.

4. How much job security is there for people in your field?

Bailiffs can count on keeping their job for life. This is because the position is actually granted to each person for life. However, each bailiff has to find his or her own clients to make a living.

5. What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Bailiffs have several options if they decide to switch careers. They can work in sales or for collection agencies. With some additional training, banking and property management are two other related fields that you could explore.

6. What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

I believe there will be an increase in the demand for bailiffs in the future. It is likely, for example, that the government will need more people to help deal with the backlog of delinquent accounts.

Technology will continue to make the job of a bailiff easier. The reduction in paperwork brought about by improved online resources is one example of this.

Also, I think that bailiffs are slowly being taken more seriously.

7. What are the biggest challenges in your job?

In my opinion, the most challenging parts of being a bailiff are handling tense situations, such as dealing with debtors who are visibly upset. Sometimes, when I arrive at a job to seize someone's assets, he or she may be crying or acting hostile towards me. Before I can continue with my work, I need to deal with the person's emotions and help him or her to relax.

Once I have accomplished this, I can explain exactly why the goods are being seized and what the debtor needs to do to get them back. It is rewarding to help people cope with this difficult situation.

8. Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

There are not many opportunities, because there are a limited number of positions for bailiffs to begin with. To enter the field in my province, you must work under an experienced bailiff for at least 2 years.

FORENSICS SCIENTIST

JOB DESCRIPTION

They study and analyze evidence in labs. Then, they report their findings in court. These scientists play a vital role in the justice system.

Forensic science is the application of science to the law. Scientists in this field perform two main roles. One is to analyze and compare evidence from victims, suspects, objects, and locations. The other is to provide expert testimony in a court of law.

Forensic scientists get their evidence from crime scene investigators and police. They look at hair and pieces of clothing. They also test fibres, teeth marks, and blood stains.

To analyze the evidence, these scientists use many methods. They may need to do a chemical analysis. Then, they study the result with a microscope or the naked eye. They may use complex instruments, computer programs, and advanced math. Sometimes, they refer to books and journals that contain special information. They have to find facts that are relevant to the case they are studying.

CORE TASKS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Examines and analyze hair, fibre samples and other evidence
- Test for alcohol, drugs or toxins in blood and body fluid samples
- Analyze and compare DNA samples
- Identify bullets, forged documents and substances used to start fires
- Testify in court about their findings

EARNINGS AND EDUCATION

Most forensic scientists work full time for one employer. Earnings for people in this field range from about \$50,000 to \$90,000 a year. Those who become managers or directors can make over \$100,000 a year.

Their income depends on a few factors. These may include employer, experience, level of responsibility, and education. Scientists with a master's degree or PhD usually earn higher salaries. Those with just a bachelor's degree tend to earn less. An advanced degree often allows them to move higher up the career ladder.

If you'd like to be a forensic scientist, you can start to prepare in high school. Take advanced level science and math courses. Next, you need at least a 4-year Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree. Many employers prefer if you have a master's degree.

Only a few universities in Canada offer a bachelor's degree in forensic science. But, you can get a degree in biology, chemistry, or a related area at any university. Many of these programs include courses in forensic science.

PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEWS

1. Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

My job is to analyze evidence to see if illegal or prescription drugs are present. Other areas of forensics include DNA fingerprints, toxicology, firearms, and trace evidence. In most labs, you focus on one or two areas.

I conduct chemical tests on drugs on a daily basis. I work on about 40 to 50 cases a week. Most of the evidence that I analyze consists of confiscated drugs from traffic stops or illegal drug deals. I can expect to testify in court about once a month.

2. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I majored in chemistry at a small school, and then completed a master's degree. Initially, I wanted to work in an environment where I was serving justice and using chemistry simultaneously.

After school, I interned at a couple of labs. These internships helped me focus my area of interest

and gave me solid job experience. To find a permanent job, I sent out resumes to labs in the area and networked with people in the field.

3. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

This job requires you to be very detail-oriented in order to ensure tests are conducted accurately. Plus, you should be able to think independently during analysis because you are responsible for your cases. Lastly, it's important to have a sense of confidence when testifying in court.

4. How much job security is there for people in your field?

Budget cuts can affect you wherever you work. However, in a government lab, jobs are generally quite secure. In private labs, where funding is often secured on a case-by-case basis, jobs may be less secure.

Training people for forensic science can be long and arduous. As a result, employers prefer to keep those employees they have already trained. Over the long term, therefore, if you are good at your job, you can stay in the field for as long as you want.

5. What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Having a science degree opens up a lot of options. I could conduct research in the food, manufacturing, or pharmaceutical industries. I could also teach.

6. What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

The work is becoming more automated. Technology is constantly changing and improving how we do our jobs. This, in turn, enables us to do our job faster.

7. What are the biggest challenges in your job?

Keeping up with submission rates and quality assurance procedures and paperwork are the most challenging parts of this job. Also, testifying in court can be very difficult and stressful.

8. Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

Apply, apply, apply. If you can, get an internship because it is a good way to become acquainted with a company and it may lead to a full-time job.

WHO EMPLOYS GRADUTES IN CRIME, LAW AND DEVIANCE MAJORS?

Several industries including the ones mentioned down below tend to hire recent graduates in crime, law and deviance studies:

- The court system
- Royal Canadian mounted police (RCMP)
- Police Services
- Prisons, Jails and Court houses
- Educational Institutions
- Social Service Agencies
- Market Research Organizations
- Non-profit Organizations
- Government
- Private Sector

PROGRAM RELATED SKILLS

Academic courses in this program provide opportunities to develop the following types of skills. Make a career counselling or an employment strategy appointment to discuss how you can demonstrate these skills to employers.

- **Communication:** develop and write research papers; articulate concepts and ideas; present data using graphs, tables and diagrams; summarize findings; public speaking; actively listen and engage in discussions.
- **Research & technical:** plan and conduct research using appropriate methodologies; collect data ethically; analyze quantitative and qualitative data; use statistical software packages.
- **Critical thinking & problem-solving:** analyze crime, societal concerns and legal structures; evaluate criminological and socio-legal concepts, theories and debates; reflect on historical and contemporary issues; synthesize information; identify problems and develop solutions.

- **Organizational:** identify goals; manage time; multitask; and work independently and collaboratively with others.

POSSIBLE CAREER PATHS

Below is a sample of the many types of occupations and jobs pursued by graduates of this program.

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. Detailed career profiles are available in the Career Centre. Some occupations require further education and experience.

Correctional Services

Criminal Investigator
 Criminology Assistant
 Corrections Officer*
 Counsellor*
 Child Welfare Care Worker
 Juvenile Justice Counsellor
 Child and Youth Worker*
 Case Workers
 Group Home Workers
 Environmental Conservation Officer
 Inmates Records Coordinator
 Probation and Parole Officer*
 Penologist
 Prisoner Classification Interviewer
 Security Agent
 Social Worker*
 Rehabilitation Counselor*

Law Enforcement

Courts

Bailiff*
 Court Administrator
 Court Liaison Counselor
 Court Clerk*
 Court Reporter
 Judge*
 Civil Litigator*
 Corporate/Commercial Lawyer*
 Criminal Lawyer*
 Law Librarian
 Legal Researcher
 Legal Secretary*
 Paralegal*
 Pre-trial Services Officer
 Victims Advocate

Other

Activist*
 Archivist*

Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms
Armed Forces (see “Infantry” and “Military
Engineer” in Career Cruising) *
Border Services Officer
Coast Guard*
Detective*
Drug Enforcement Agent
Explosives Specialist*
RCMP Constable
Immigration Officer*
Import Specialist
Juvenile Court Worker
Park Warden/Ranger*
Parking Enforcement Officer*
Police Officer*
Postal Service Investigator
Private Investigator*
Probation Officer*
Security Guard*
Special Constable
Transportation Inspector*

Forensic Science

Arson Specialist
Ballistics Specialist
Controlled Substance Specialist
Coroner*
Crime Scene Investigator*
Criminologist*

Crossing Guard*
Lobbyist*
Research Assistant
Political Aide*
Speech Writer
Foreign Service Officer*
Public Policy Analyst*
Paralegal*
Underwriter*
Journalist*
Technical Writer
Editor*
Professor*
Human Resources Specialist*
Humanitarian Aid Worker*
Financial Advisor
Marketing Specialist*
Mediator*
Sociologist*

Document Specialist
Fingerprint Specialist
Forensics Scientist*
Forensic Psychologist
Polygraph Specialist
Serology Specialist
Victim Services Personnel

* View these titles at Career Cruising, available on [CLN](#) under the *Resources* tab.

HOW TO GET EXPERIENCE AND BUILD NETWORK

Informational Interviews

Informational interviews are a great way to connect with professionals in a career area of interest and gain valuable insights about a particular career, company or industry that would otherwise be difficult to find in books or online. Check out our [tip sheet](#) to learn more.

Additional Student Related Organisations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and make valuable connections. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement's [website](#). Some organizations you may consider are:

- Sociology & Criminology Society
- Forensics Society
- Political Science & Pre-Law Association
- UTM Students' Union
- Habitat for Humanity at UTM

Create a LinkedIn Profile

Create a [LinkedIn](#) profile to connect with professionals in various fields, explore the career paths of UTM alumni, research employers, apply for specific positions, and more. Need help? Come to the Career Centre to book a LinkedIn profile critique.

Professional Associations

There are many benefits of becoming a member of association(s), such as developing a network of contacts, learning about industry trends, accessing industry-related job postings, and stating your affiliation on your resume. Some associations related to this major are:

- [Canadian Criminal Justice Association \(CCJA\)](#)
- [Canadian Law and Society Association \(CLSA\)](#)
- [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences \(ACJS\)](#)

ADDITIONAL WEB RESOURCES

For more information regarding this career profile, check out some of these links down below

- [Prospects – Careers Options in Criminology and Public Admin & Social Policy](#)
- [CareerProfiles – Legal, Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement Careers](#)
- [Correctional Service Canada](#)
- [WetFeet – Careers and Industries Overview](#)
- [Ontario Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services](#)
- [Canada's Top 100 Employers for Young People](#)

SAMPLE JOB POSTINGS FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

Below is a sample of delisted positions that have been posted on UofT's Career Learning Network (CLN). To access current listings, login to [CLN](#) and click on *Jobs*.

- Investigative Consultant, Sun Life Financial
- Correctional Officer and Parole Officer, Correctional Service Canada
- Victims Services Coordinator, Public Safety Canada
- Client Service Representative, Law Society of Upper Canada
- Summer Assistant, Adoption Council of Ontario
- Records Management Clerk, Elections Ontario
- Student Municipal Advisor, Ministry of Housing
- Resource Development Officer, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

- Legal Assistant, Speigel Nichols Fox LLP
- Report Editor/Application Processor, Andrew Shaul Psychology
- WalkSafer, Campus Police, UTM
- Qualitative Data Analyst, Department of Sociology, UTM
- Team Leader – Drugs and Alcohol, Health & Counselling Centre, UTM
- Research Assistant, Economic Development & Culture, City of Toronto
- Support Group Facilitator, Centre for Inquiry Canada

HOW CAN THE CAREER CENTRE HELP?

There are many services and resources offered by the Career Centre that can help you to explore and plan your career direction. Check out the Career Centre website:

www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers for more information. The following are some of the many services and resources that you may find helpful:

Get Experience Fair

This fair is held in September every year. This fair gives you a chance to meet with different employers and find out how to get involved and gain experience. A list of participants will be listed on the Career Centre website in September:

<https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/events/fairs-utm/get-experience-fair>

Get Hired Fair

This fair is held every year in January. At the Get Hired Fair you will learn about a range of summer and full-time job opportunities. <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/events/fairs-utm/gethired-summer-full-time-job-fair>

Graduate & Professional Schools Fair:

This fair is held in September every year. Students will get the opportunity to speak with representatives from various professional schools in Ontario such as Master's in social work,

master's in environmental studies, Law, etc. <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/events/fairs-utm>

Job Shadow Program

Are you still curious about what career path is best for you? Would you like a chance to experience working in an industry to find out if it's really the path for you? The Job Shadowing Program can help. This job-shadowing program grants you a one- to five- day placement in a career of your choice. Placements have included: Translator, Family Counsellor, Teacher, Editor/Writer, and Speech Language Pathologist. Go to the Career Learning Network to register for the Career Exploration, part 2 workshop that will help you to prepare for your placement. To register go to: www.clnx.utoronto.ca and then go to Workshops and Events to see when the next workshop is happening.

On-line Resources

Career Cruising Website:

(Access through CLNx) Useful resource to look into Job Descriptions, Working Conditions, Salary Information, Interviews, Associations, etc. for various social activist careers. There are hundreds of different careers as well as over 900 multimedia interviews of people of different careers. <https://clnx.utoronto.ca/home.htm>

Career Centre E-Book Collection:

Access a wide range of e-books to help you identify your career goals, finding careers that have a social impact, help with grad school and much more.

<https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-resource-library>

Industry Reports and Labour Market Information:

To learn more about different sectors click on: <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/industry-reports> . You can also find out additional information about the Canadian labour market by visiting: www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/labour-market-information

Tip Sheets:

Do you like information in an easy-to-read, easy-to-digest, take home format? Take a look at our tip sheets on subjects like Effective Interviewing, Networking and Preparing for Graduate School. Events. Find them at: <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets>

Career Planning by Year:

Establishing your career isn't something that's done overnight. It's a gradual process that can be accomplished one small step at a time. Visit our Career Planning by Year page for ideas of important career related activities for each year. You can visit us in the Career Centre to find out more about career areas that interest you. <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-planning-year>

UTM Program Plans:

These plans are a quick and accessible overview of the many academic and co-curricular opportunities available to help you get the most out of your UTM experience. We know the choices can be overwhelming, so we've packaged these opportunities into plans that cater to your specific major/specialist program. These plans are also a good resource to learn more about how you can use your degree and to find out how to map out your academic career journey while at UTM. Visit: www.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Print Resources

Career Centre library:

The Career Resource Library contains information about a wide range of occupations in all industries, resume and cover letter resources, effective work search methods, graduate/professional school preparation and preparing to answer some of the tougher interview questions. Visit the library in DV-3094

The National Occupational Code binders:

These binders provide very detailed, specific and extensive information relating to hundreds of careers. From general overviews of the job, to working conditions, to sample job postings related to the field and related articles, the binders are sure to provide you with in-depth answers to many of your job-specific questions.

Individual Appointments

1. Career Counsellors:

If you are unsure about your career direction or want help with shaping your career direction, you may find it helpful to make an appointment with one of our career counsellors. Drop by or call the Career Centre at 905-828-5451 to make an appointment.

2. Employment Strategists:

Determine a job search plan with a professional and receive ongoing coaching to keep you motivated and focused. Drop by or call the Career Centre at 905-828-5451 to make an appointment.