

# Criminology

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## About this area of study:

Criminology represents a complex social phenomenon. As it often draws on knowledge from related disciplines, it constitutes an interdisciplinary field. As an employment sector, Criminology probes the culture of crime to examine law enforcement, judicial, detention and rehabilitation systems in which people are accused of a crime or brought to justice. In particular, it examines the relationship between criminal behaviour and broader social issues, such as mental health, ethnicity, educational attainment, family composition or substance abuse. As crime has also become an international concern with the growth of organised networks, global digital technology, and the threat of terrorism, Criminology now encompasses a multitude of avenues for specialisation. This suggests that the forecasted increase in demand for graduates specialising in crime prevention will continue.

Key skills that Criminology graduates demonstrate include:

- High order critical evaluation and judgement
- Skills in decision-making and problem-solving
- Highly developed interpretive and analytical skills
- Skills in research methods
- Ability to think logically and clearly

### Training:

As Criminology is an intellectually challenging field, it is essentially research based. This means that a bachelor degree represents the minimum pre-requisite. Graduates seeking employment in policy, advisory or consultancy roles will need postgraduate qualifications to enhance their skills in research methodology and statistical analysis. If not offered as a specific degree, Criminology generally falls within the Social Sciences.

Courses currently being offered by Deakin University include:

#### **Bachelor of Criminology**

- Offered at Waurm Ponds, Geelong and Off Campus only from 2007.
- Develops skills and experience necessary for public and private sector agencies, including critical evaluation and knowledge of debates surrounding crime and justice.
- Links professional and career training in fields of policing, security, corrections, crime prevention, community safety or para-legal through mandatory work placement.

#### **Bachelor of Arts (with Criminology major)**

- Combines critical theory with analysis of policies and practices of criminal justice professions, other participants (such as victims) and the role of the state in governance.
- Examines shifts in nature, organisation and practices of policing, responses to terrorism and transnational crime, the formation and regulation of deviant identities, the role of law in controlling behaviour and different practices in criminological research
- Aims to produce graduates with interdisciplinary knowledge of key theoretical debates.

Combined courses being offered by Deakin University include:

### **Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Laws**

- Available from 2008 as a combined five year degree.
- Builds interdisciplinary knowledge through cross-Faculty linkages.
- Students acquire valuable legal experience through mandatory work placement and dispute resolution exercises.
- Students can specialise in electives such as international law, law and the internet, or migration and refugee law.
- Aims to produce graduates with interdisciplinary knowledge of crime and justice issues and a deeper understanding of how the law responds.

### **Labour Market Information:**

- Median salary for Criminology Graduates - \$ 36,800
- Approximate salary for Corrections Officer - \$38,900-46,200
- Approximate salary for Crime Analyst - \$45,300-57,400
- Approximate salary for Case Manager - \$54,600-58,000

### **2006 Statistics:**

Adapted from Deakin University Australian Graduate Survey Data, 2006.

Total number of graduates available for employment nationally:	1,407 (66.5%)
Total number of graduates gaining full time employment:	1,105 (78.5%)

### **Where do Social Science graduates go after finishing?**

<b>Activity Category</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Employed Full Time	70%
Seeking Full Time	30%
Seeking Full Time, Employed Part Time	22%
Seeking Full Time, Not Working	8%
In Full Time Study	27%
Had Secured Full Time Employment During Final Year of Study	16%

*Table 1. Activities of bachelor degree graduates (Social Science) available for full time employment, Graduate Careers Australia, GradStats, No. 11, December 2006.*

## Gender profile of graduates

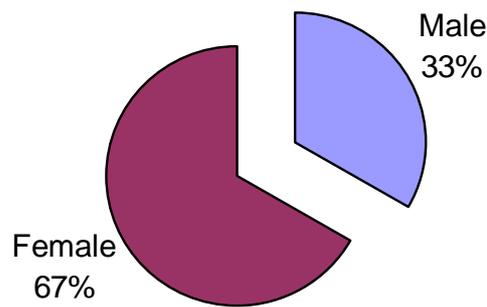


Figure 1. Gender profile of bachelor degree graduates (Social Science-Other) 2006, adapted from Graduate Careers Australia, Gradsonline Website, October 2007.

## Related Occupations:

### Community Safety Officer

- Assist communities with planning, developing, implementing and evaluating crime prevention programs and support networks.
- Raise public awareness of crime and justice issues.
- Conduct research, analyse and assist government agencies with community-based crime prevention strategies.

### Case Manager

- Act as a point of contact with clients going through transitional period in their life and relevant community or government services.
- Conduct interviews to identify client circumstances and requirements, draft reports and make recommendations on most appropriate services.
- May assist with the provision or evaluation of services as case management.

### Policy analyst or adviser

- Employ abstract reasoning and then source and analyse information to prepare briefings and make recommendations based upon subject-matter expertise or research.
- Employers include government agencies, local authorities, educational institutions or professional associations.

### Crime or intelligence analyst

- Organise the collection, collation and analysis of crime data to develop intelligence information.
- Conduct surveys and utilise briefings, reports, charts, maps or other research methods to disseminate intelligence.

## Employers:

### Examples of employers for Criminology graduates include:

Australian Government Agencies – [www.apsjobs.gov.au](http://www.apsjobs.gov.au).

Australian Crime Commission – [www.crimecommission.gov.au](http://www.crimecommission.gov.au)

Australian Intelligence & Security Organisation – [www.asio.gov.au](http://www.asio.gov.au)

Department of Justice – [www.justice.vic.gov.au](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au)

Federal Police – [www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au)

State Police – [www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au)

Corrective Services – [www.cvcareers.com.au](http://www.cvcareers.com.au)

Australian Institute of Criminology – [www.aic.gov.au](http://www.aic.gov.au)

Private Security Industry

### For specific employment opportunities visit the following sites:

Deakin University Jobshop - [www.deakin.edu.au/jobshop](http://www.deakin.edu.au/jobshop)

Graduate Opportunities – [www.graduateopportunities.com](http://www.graduateopportunities.com)

Unigad – [www.unigrad.com.au](http://www.unigrad.com.au)

Seek – [www.seek.com.au](http://www.seek.com.au)

Mycareer – [www.mycareer.com.au](http://www.mycareer.com.au)

Career One - [www.careerone.com.au](http://www.careerone.com.au)

## Professional Associations:

Australian & New Zealand Society of Criminology – [www.anzsoc.org](http://www.anzsoc.org)

Australian Institute of Criminology – [www.aic.gov.au](http://www.aic.gov.au)