

## What do I need to do right now?

**Connect with the field.** Look for opportunities to **volunteer** or **ride-along** at various agencies. Join **professional societies** and **participate** in your chosen field. Many positions in the field are earned via **networking** with hiring agencies.

### Start a binder for future applications.

- Official Transcripts:  
High School reflecting graduation  
Colleges  
Syllabi from all college courses
- Records of any honors or awards
- Record of all extracurricular activity and community service
- List of potential references and any letters of reference
- Employment history:  
Name, address, telephone numbers of all employers  
Period employed  
Any letters of reference from employers
- Residential history, addresses and dates
- Birth certificates, certified
- Military records, DD214

### Remember the importance of integrity and honesty, not only in your personal and professional life, but in your academic career.

Many agencies conduct extensive background checks which include interviews with an applicant's former college instructors. Incidences of cheating, plagiarism, rudeness (including use of cell phones during class) and any kind of offensive behavior, are occurrences that will be noted by your professors.

**Be mindful of your digital footprint.** Avoid engaging in questionable behavior in your social media presence. This will be an area explored as a part of your background process by a prospective employer.

**Meet with your major advisor** every semester to make sure you are on track to graduate.

*(Lift flap for Major Course Planning)*

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# Policing

## What is Policing?

Policing is the application of laws bound together by sciences (social, political, religious, economic) and the social phenomena that occur in a society.

Policing describes a sub system within the criminal justice system that deals with the prevention of crime, response to in-progress crime and investigative follow-up of crimes that have occurred. Sworn (peace officer) and non-sworn (support personnel) play an integral role in the protection of life and property and employ numerous strategies to combat harmful conduct in our society.

Community policing empowers criminal justice professionals to develop and foster community partnerships to aid in problem solving. The approach to problem solving in the area of community policing involves a collaborative effort of the criminal justice professionals, community-based organizations and the citizens within the communities served.

There are a myriad of assignments that make up the policing component of the criminal justice system. As technology has advanced, modern day policing employs a multi-faceted approach to predicting, preventing and responding to crime and disorder.

*(over)*

## Tell me more about the kinds of jobs in the field of policing . . .

Initially, policing agency jobs are primarily uniformed patrol. Positions within California require Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certification in the state of employment. POST basic academy training typically lasts four to six months.

New police officers are assigned to a field training officer for several months before receiving a more permanent patrol assignment. Some sheriff departments may assign new deputies to security detail in the county jail or courts before transferring them to patrol duties.

Experienced patrol officers may be assigned to specialized divisions after a number of years, particularly in large departments. These assignments might include motorcycle traffic enforcement, community policing, training, investigations, juvenile, and narcotics.

Investigators are usually promoted from the ranks of patrol officers after several years experience. Criminal investigators in local police and sheriff's departments, normally titled detectives, investigate the majority of reported crimes including homicide, robbery, burglary, theft, assault, and rape as well as some unreported crime such as narcotics trafficking and prostitution. District attorney's offices also employ investigator, principally to prepare cases for trial. District attorney offices primarily hire experienced investigators from police or sheriff's departments, rather than training their own investigators.

(Lift flap to learn more about the skills needed for these jobs)

## What kinds of skills would I need for this career?

Police agencies emphasize **involvement with community** and maintenance of both law and order without the use of force or invoking arrest.

**Communication.** A candidate must communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing. Must maintain composure in stressful situations and possess strong decision making skills and techniques.

**Critical Thinking.** Ability to address a complex situation in the field in a manner that shows consideration for all stakeholders. Must exercise excellent judgment, self-confidence and the willingness to use creativity to solve problems.

**Ability to work with people.** The ability to deal effectively with victims and offenders. Must exercise a sincere desire to serve the community and deal effectively with people from all socio-economic levels.

**Situational Awareness.** The ability to identify, process and comprehend critical information and having the ability to understand the impact of that information on short and long-term goals.

**Ethical behavior.** Consistent procedurally and morally correct behavior under all circumstances. Candidates must be honest, trustworthy, and reliable, and hold themselves accountable for their actions.

## Other helpful skills:

- Physical agility
- Maturity

## Deal-Breakers

Some concerns will make a potential candidate unsuitable for this career.

- Unwilling to carry a gun
- Hiring often limited to age 35
- Reckless driving
- Heavy drinking or drug use
- Credit problems
- Misdemeanor arrests
- Committed felonies

## Who can I talk to about this career?

- Tim Albright
- Ryan Getty
- Jimmy Martinez
- Owen Cater
- David Swim
- Todd Davis

## Suggested Major Course Sequence

### Freshman Year

\_\_\_ CRJ 001 Intro to CRJ & Society

Suggested GE Electives  
SOC 001/PSYC 001 (Area D)  
HIST 017B (Area D)

### Sophomore Year

\_\_\_ CRJ 002 Law of Crimes  
\_\_\_ CRJ 004 Gen. Investigative Techniques  
\_\_\_ CRJ 005 Community & the Justice System

Suggested GE Electives  
GOVT 150 (Area D)  
STAT 001 (Area B4)

### Junior Year

\_\_\_ CRJ 101 Intro to CRJ Research Methods  
\_\_\_ CRJ 102 Crime & Punishment  
\_\_\_ CRJ 121 Struct & Func of American Courts  
\_\_\_ CRJ 160 Criminal Justice Administration  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_

### Senior Year

\_\_\_ CRJ 123 Law of Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
\_\_\_ CRJ 130 Fundamentals of Corrections  
\_\_\_ CRJ 141 Police & Society  
\_\_\_ CRJ 190 Contemporary Issues in CRJ  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ CRJ Elective \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** This is a suggested sequence for a full time (15 units) student. Course sequence may have to be modified for course availability. Students interested in pursuing a minor should seek advice from a CRJ advi-

## Suggested Electives

The following is an excerpt. Consult the **Major Planning Worksheet** for the full list of electives.

	Area I - Administration
CRJ 142	Police Administration
CRJ 144	Critical Issues in Police Admin.
CRJ 163	Leadership in CRJ
CRJ 165	CRJ Planning
CRJ 168	CRJ Information Systems
CRJ 195	Internship
	Area II - Investigations
CRJ 133	Fundamentals of Computer Crime
CRJ 152	Interviewing & Detect of Deception
CRJ 153	Advanced Criminal Investigation
CRJ 154	Introduction to Physical Evidence
CRJ 156	Intro to Crime & Intelligence Analysis
	Area of Interest III - Corrections
CRJ 134	Community Based Corrections
	Area IV – Offenses & Offenders
CRJ 105	Delinquency Prevention & Control
CRJ 106	Analysis of Career Criminals
CRJ 108	Domestic Crimes & Violence
CRJ 112	Gangs/Threat Groups in America
CRJ 114	Sexual Offenses & Offenders
CRJ 115	Violence & Terrorism
	Area V - Law
CRJ 125	Law of Responsibility
CRJ 126	Law of Evidence
CRJ 127	Juvenile Law
CRJ 191E	Topics in Law
	Area VI – Supporting Courses
GOVT 120A	Constitutional Law
GOVT 122	Law & Bureaucracy
GOVT 180	California State & Local Gov't
HIST 162	Social History of the United States
PSYC 110	Cognitive Psychology
PSYC 168	Abnormal Psychology