

FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



DEVELOP

a Course Plan and
Build Academic Skills

- Check out the [Academic Support Zone](#) for writing and tutoring support.
- Consider elective courses that interest you and areas you may want to study in the future - find out the prerequisites for those future courses.
- Review your program requirements on the [Academic Calendar](#).
- Familiarize yourself with your [myInfo](#) account, self-help and degree audit tools.
- If you need academic accommodations, meet with our [Student Accessibility Services team](#).
- Meet with the Criminology Program Coordinator and/or Student Central Professionals if you are running into academic challenges.
- Start thinking about whether you want to minor in Anthropology, Psychology or Biology.
- Read through the [Academic Regulations](#).

- Visit the [Student Success Centre Academic Support Zone](#).
- Meet with your Chair or Student Central Professional to discuss your academic progress, and current/future courses.
- Consider post-degree programs that may require specific courses or academic requirements - start to create a plan.
- Make sure to check your degrees audit and the beginning and end of the year (found on [myInfo](#)). You need to check your audit anytime you add/drop courses.
- Think about your options, do you want to do a thesis?
- Speak to faculty in your department and see if they would be willing to be your supervisor!
- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis project or special topics!
- Begin looking at potential career pathways or graduate programs.

- Meet with your Chair or Student Central to ensure you have completed and are in-progress to complete all necessary degree requirements needed for graduation consideration.
- Submit your Intent to Graduate.
- RSVP for convocation ceremonies.
- Understand application requirements, processes and deadlines for future programs of interest.
- Sit down with your Chair to review your degree audit for graduation to ensure you are on track.
- Submit your final thesis with all required signatures and email a PDF to the Library for archives.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CHECKLIST

- Interpret academic resources.
- Summarize academic resources concisely and accurately in writing.
- Articulate major theoretical perspectives in criminology.
- Articulate scientific principles and terminology.
- Articulate appropriate methods for collecting social science data.
- Produce research proposals with testable research questions and evidence-based hypotheses.
- Critically assess policy implications.
- Employ existing qualitative or quantitative evidence to provide an informed perspective on criminological topics.
- Identify areas where criminological research is limited.
- Engage in clear and effective oral and written communication. Implement and review feedback from your professors.



CONNECT

and Gain Experience
with the Local and
Global Community

- Register in courses that contain in-class experiential learning opportunities such as case studies and labs.
- Ask to volunteer for the department. Find out if faculty know of any opportunities where you can develop skills.
- Join the [Lakehead Criminology Society](#).
- Meet the Criminology Program Coordinator - get to know them, and let them get to know you.

- Develop networks and connect with your professors.
- Consider the [Study Abroad Program!](#)
- See what projects professors are working on; sometimes they look for student workers during the year.
- Practice effective oral communication through class discussions and presentations.
- Attend career-oriented recruitment sessions hosted by the Criminology Program.
- Connect with your professors – go to office hours even when you don't have a specific issue.
- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis project.
- Build networks with students and faculty outside of the Criminology Program. Joining [clubs](#) is a great way to do this.

- Connect to the local community through attending courses that involve case studies.
- Join different networking platforms such as [Lakehead Connect](#).
- Attend fairs and events, such as the Graduation Fair for all graduating students.
- If you are completing an Honours thesis, consider presenting your research at an academic conference.
- Connect to the local community through [volunteer work](#). Local volunteering is a great way to connect with your community, develop skills, network, and gain experience.
- Leverage CRIM 4035 (Professional Field Exposure) by consistently attending and participating.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- Take advantage of local volunteer activities.
- Consider participating in an academic exchange through Lakehead's Study Abroad program.
- Evaluate and synthesize criminological research to produce sophisticated understandings of criminological topics.
- Participate in the research process from project conceptualization to knowledge sharing as a research assistant.
- Formulate conclusions to criminological research questions based on personal analysis of qualitative and/or quantitative data.
- Talk to an Academic Advisor about starting your [Co-Curricular Record!](#)



FIRST YEAR

- Visit the [Student Success Centre Career Zone](#) to find out about the career services offered!
- Check out the job bank at mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca to learn about summer jobs and on campus opportunities in your program.
- Meet with a Student Central Professional to discuss financial management, and funding resources.
- Consider applying for OSAP/Provincial Loan funding.
- Discuss bursary and award opportunities with Student Central.

MIDDLE YEARS

- Start connecting with employers through on campus recruitment events, such as career fairs and employer visits.
- Join [Lakehead Connect](#) to make connections with alumni in industry.
- Develop relationships with faculty - future references are important.
- Consider a [work-study job](#); it's a great opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education.
- Review your program requirements with a Student Central Advisor.
- Communicate interest in career-related opportunities with your professors.

FINAL YEAR

- Build career readiness skills by attending resume, job search and interview skills workshops in the [Career Zone](#).
- Attend the Career and Job Fair/Career and Summer Job Fairs to network with employers.
- Consider and discuss graduate school options with your faculty.
- Finish strong with your final year – in many cases, grad programs only look at your last year or two of grades.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- Develop a personalized career plan with a faculty member in CRIM 4035.
- Create careers materials (e.g. cover letters and resumes) and practice careers activities (e.g. networking, interviewing) that enhance employability in CRIM 4035.
- Create a LinkedIn account.
- Network with employers on campus.
- Network during Volunteer and Career Fairs.
- Consider arranging an [Informational Interview](#).
- Research employment opportunities tied to skills developed in Criminology.
- Check out [Resources and Tools](#) on the Career Zone Website to learn more about professional development (i.e. Strong Interest Inventory).
- Keep track of your skills and experiences for cover letters and resumes.
- Keep track of your extra-curricular activities on campus and add them to your Co-Curricular Record (CCR) on mySuccess.



PREPARE

for Postgraduation or Career

▶ What skills do employers want?

- Be able to execute provided instructions.
- Communicate formally and respectfully both orally and in writing.
- Be reliable and responsive.
- Produce materials that are high quality and error free on the first submission.
- Work both independently and collaboratively.
- Accept and adapt to constructive feedback.
- Act in a way that demonstrates the organization's commitment to integrity, accountability, and fairness.

▶ What skills will I gain with this major?

- Ability to conduct research
- Oral and written communication
- Professional conduct
- Independent and teamwork skills
- Criminological theory and research methods
- Employability assets (e.g. resume, interviewing practice, networking)

▶ What double degrees can I do with this major?

Students can choose to double major in a range of options alongside their Criminology major, with particularly common double majors including:

- Anthropology
- English
- History
- Political Science
- Sociology

▶ What graduate degrees or professional programs could I pursue?

- Law school
- Masters degree in Criminology, Legal Studies, Policy Studies, Sociology, and more
- Post-graduate certificate programs at colleges that provide internship opportunities

▶ What types of minors can I do?

Students can choose to minor in a range of options alongside their Criminology major, with prospective minor options including:

- Biology (Science and Environmental Studies)
- Information Systems (Business)
- Indigenous Learning (Social Sciences)
- Media Studies (Social Sciences)
- Psychology (Health Sciences)

▶ What careers can I pursue?*

Graduates of social science degrees have a host of career opportunities available to them, with criminology students often pursuing careers in:

- Policing (sworn and civilian members)
- Corrections
- Non-profit organizations (e.g., John Howard Society)
- Victim services
- Provincial government work (e.g., Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services)
- Federal government work (e.g., Canada Border Services Agency)

*Your career path is not limited to this list. There could be other options to explore!

▶ What field of work are alumni working in?

- Community Legal Worker /Case Worker
- Criminal Defense Lawyer
- Associate Lawyer
- Teacher
- Research Analyst

▶ What percentage of graduates are employed within 2 years after graduation?

- 98.7 % of students in the Social Sciences

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

THUNDER BAY (SC0008)

(807) 343-8018
 ssc@lakeheadu.ca
 Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

ORILLIA (OR1021)

(705) 330-4010 x 2118
 orillia.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
 Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

CAREER ZONE

THUNDER BAY (UC00)

(807) 343-8010 x 8264
 careerzone.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
 Monday - Friday | 10:00am - 4:30pm

SOCIAL MEDIA

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