WHAT WILL YOU LEARN IN THIS MAJOR?

Has criminal activity changed as the world has become more globalized? How are international and transnational crimes (such as genocide, war crimes, terrorism, human trafficking, and money laundering) policed? How do law enforcement agencies from different countries cooperate with each other? What role do international bodies (such as the United Nations, the International Criminal Court and INTERPOL) play in responding to crime at the global level? How are human rights protected, and how is justice pursued, within the international system? How can we achieve justice for marginalized groups around the world?

If you are interested in these questions, the International Criminal Justice (ICJ) major is a good fit for you. ICJ is distinct from the other “criminal justice” majors at John Jay, in that you will gain knowledge of crime and crime control with a global and comparative perspective. The issues, theories and research strategies that you will learn about in ICJ will help you understand the ways in which crime and the criminal justice system operate across international borders.

IN THIS MAJOR YOU WILL

Understand key issues and institutions in the field of international criminal justice.

Acquire tools to pursue research on crime and crime control at the global level.

Explore theories of international and transnational crime.

Write analytical papers.

Give oral presentations.

Develop your own original research projects.

FIRST COURSES IN THIS MAJOR

ICJ 101: Introduction to International Criminal Justice

ECO 231: Global Economic Development and Crime

POL/LAW 259: Comparative Criminal Justice Systems

The required foundation courses for this major are Economics 101, Political Science 101, and Sociology 101

“The interdisciplinary nature of the International Criminal Justice major equips you with the background knowledge needed to apply the content to a variety of fields. With the diverse range of subject areas and the support of the faculty, this major has allowed me to recognize my passion for human rights issues and the intricacies that accompany it.”

— Julia Bolotovsky/Senior

“I decided to study ICJ at John Jay College to prepare for my dream job. I want to advocate for all human beings’ rights, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or other status. Through the ICJ major, I don’t see the injustice of today, but I see the justice of the future.”

— Juan Marte Meléndez/Senior
WHAT CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS WILL YOU DEVELOP IN THIS MAJOR?
- Analytical ability
- Qualitative and quantitative research skills
- Enhanced oral and written communication skills
- Advanced foreign language ability

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WILL THIS MAJOR OFFER YOU?
- Independent research and publications/conference presentations with ICJ faculty members
- Internships
- Study Abroad
- ICJ Student Club
- Participation in events hosted by John Jay’s research centers such as the Center on Terrorism and the Center for International Human Rights
- Model United Nations team
- Dual Admission Accelerated Program

WHAT MINOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THIS MAJOR?
There are many possible options, but some particularly interesting choices are:
- Africana Studies
- Computer Science
- Criminology
- Cybercrime
- Dispute Resolution
- Economics
- Gender Studies
- Human Rights
- Latin American and Latinx Studies
- Police Studies
- Public Administration
- Spanish
- Sustainability and Environmental Justice

DEPENDING ON YOUR INTERESTS, WHAT SECOND (DOUBLE) MAJOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THE ICJ MAJOR?
- Criminal Justice Management
- Economics
- English
- Forensic Psychology
- Gender Studies
- Global History
- Police Studies
- Public Administration
- Security Management
- Spanish
- Latin American and Latinx Studies
- Police Studies
- Public Administration
- Spanish
- Sustainability and Environmental Justice

“Pursuing the International Criminal Justice major allowed me to combine my passion for criminal justice studies and international policy. The program allowed me to gain insight into the idea of criminal justice from more than just the US perspective and broadened my understanding of global crises and international injustices. This program goes beyond advocating for justice and educates students to strive towards advocating for global peace.”
– Sarah Umstadt ’21, Macaulay Honors Student, incoming Law Student, St. John’s University

“For a first-generation student, I chose the International Criminal Justice major because it allowed me to study crime and (in)justice beyond the US border. The interdisciplinary curriculum allows students to take courses in areas we are excited about, while providing us the skills we need beyond the classroom. The graduate degree allowed me to specialize in Transnational Organized Crime Studies and work with leading faculty in their respective fields. Both programs have equipped me to pursue my passions in teaching and research.”
– Vanessa Gutiérrez, BA ICJ ’17, MA IC&J ’19, Adjunct Lecturer in the ICJ BA Program and incoming Doctoral Student in Criminology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

“As a first-generation student, I chose the International Criminal Justice major because it allowed me to study crime and (in)justice beyond the US border. The interdisciplinary curriculum allows students to take courses in areas we are excited about, while providing us the skills we need beyond the classroom. The graduate degree allowed me to specialize in Transnational Organized Crime Studies and work with leading faculty in their respective fields. Both programs have equipped me to pursue my passions in teaching and research.”
– Sarah Umstadt ’21, Macaulay Honors Student, incoming Law Student, St. John’s University

For more detailed information about careers, contact:
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Careers@jjay.cuny.edu
www.jjay.cuny.edu/career-services