

Research Guide for Criminal Justice

The Library provides resources to support the Criminal Justice Program. This guide is meant to help students effectively use those resources.

Library Website

The **Library HomePage** acts as a menu to library resources and other useful information. It can be found at: <http://www.jalc.edu/lrc/library/>. It includes links to library resources as well as links to library services and to assistance in writing, reference list creation, and to e-mail and chat reference services.

Books

The **Library Catalog** includes the holdings (books and videos) of John A. Logan College Library and the Media Distribution Center as well as the holdings of other libraries in the Shawnee Library System consortium. It can be reached from the **Library HomePage**. **Search tips:** Start with a keyword search. When you find an interesting book, look at the subject headings in the record. By selecting any one of those subject links, you can refine your search to include all books with that particular subject heading. **Examples of keywords for Criminal Justice:**

Criminal Justice
Criminology
Criminals
Prisoners
Juvenile Delinquents

Murder
Crime
Capital Punishment
Prisons
Gangs

You can check on due dates and renew materials from within the catalog by clicking on “my account”, logging in using your barcode and PIN, and viewing/selecting items within your account.

Browsing: You can also browse the shelves at the library. The books in the library are organized by the Library of Congress Classification system which uses letters and numbers as a code for a subject. This code is referred to as the call number. The following LC classes will be helpful to you: **HV - for Social Pathology, Social and Public Welfare, and Criminology**. Books on **Criminal Justice Administration** can be located at **HV 7231 – HV 9960**. You can browse those shelves for additional books. Criminal Justice books are shelved in the reference collection as well as the circulating collection. Some reference titles, along with their call numbers, that might be useful are:

Atlas of Crime; Mapping the Criminal Landscape: Ref HV 6783 A85

The FBI; A Comprehensive Reference Guide: Ref HV 8144 F43 T48

Encyclopedia of American Crime: Ref HV 6789 S54

Encyclopedia of American Law Enforcement: Ref HV 8133 N48

Encyclopedia of American Prisons: Ref HV 9471.5 S54

Encyclopedia of Crime and Justice: Ref HV 6017 E52

Encyclopedia of Drugs and Alcohol: Ref HV 5804 E53

Encyclopedia of Juvenile Violence: Ref HV 9104 E59

Encyclopedia of Women and Crime: Ref HV 6046 E56

National Criminal Justice Thesaurus: Ref Z 695.1 C84 U54a

Borrowing from other Libraries

As part of the Shawnee Library System, you may request material from other libraries in the consortium. Depending on availability, items usually are delivered within three days. If you do not find what you are looking for in the Shawnee Library System or through our Online Databases you can search the catalogs of other libraries. To request materials from outside the Shawnee Library System, use the request forms in “Borrowing from other Libraries” from the Library HomePage. This may take longer to obtain so plan accordingly. Please ask a Librarian for assistance if you need help.

eBooks

NetLibrary is a searchable database of eBooks (digital electronic books) covering a wide variety of subject areas including over six hundred books on criminal justice. You must come into the library to set up an account in NetLibrary before you can access the eBooks from off-campus.

Databases

Finding Articles: Use periodical indexes and databases to locate articles, reports, and other documents on your topic. Most of these resources provide full-text articles, which you can print, save, or e-mail. We also have print subscriptions to some magazines and journals that aren't available electronically. If an article you need is not available at the John A. Logan Library in either print or electronic format, you can request the article from another library through Interlibrary Loan either at the Circulation Desk or by using the forms found on the library's website by clicking on “**Borrowing from Other Libraries**”.

From the Library's homepage, choose **Databases in Alphabetical Order** and scroll down to choose a database. Access outside the library requires IDs and Passwords.

They can be obtained from the circulation desk each semester. These databases represent the most useful for research in criminal justice:

Academic Search Complete is a large multi-disciplinary database that provides full text for more than 7,100 journals, including full text for more than 6,100 peer-reviewed titles. Indexing is provided for over 11,000 journals and other publications. PDF backfiles to 1887 are available.

CQ Researcher provides research on social issues in a structured report format.

Credo Reference contains dictionaries, bilingual dictionaries, thesauri, encyclopedias, quotations, and atlases, plus a wide range of subject-specific titles covering every subject including criminal justice, law, and social science.

Military & Government Collection contains periodicals, academic journals and other content pertaining to all branches of the military and the government including full text for nearly 300 journals and periodicals.

NewsBank provides unique coverage of local and regional news, including criminal justice, companies, politics, industries, cultural activities, and people in the community, as well as a distinctive focus offering a variety of viewpoints on local and world issues

Opposing Viewpoints provides research on social issues including crime, capital punishment, gun control, violence, and prisons.

Criminal Justice Websites

Information on careers in the field as well as information on the latest research or news in the field can be found in websites. The Internet can be a valuable source for supplementing the information you have gathered from books and periodicals. It is important that you evaluate the information you get from the Internet to determine if it is reliable and useful to your research. The sites that follow represent only a few of those that are available.

Search Engine and Mediated Website

Google: www.google.com

Librarians' Index to the Internet: <http://lii.org>

Criminal Justice Associations

National Criminal Justice Association <http://www.ncja.org>

Midwestern Criminal Justice Association <http://www.mcja.org/>

American Probation and Parole Association <http://www.appa-net.org/>

National Institute of Corrections <http://www.nicic.org/inst>

Criminal Justice Resources

Cornell University Law School Laws by State
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/states/listing.html>

U.S. Department of Justice <http://www.usdoj.gov/>

Bureau of Justice Statistics <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

U.S. Office for Victims of Crime <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>

World Factbook of Criminal Justice Systems

<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/html/wfcj.cfm>

U.S. Marshals Service <http://www.usdoj.gov/marshals/>

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration <http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/>

FBI <http://www.fbi.gov/> Uniform Crime Reports <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>

U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons <http://www.bop.gov/>

U.S. Federal Judicial Center <http://www.fjc.gov/>

U.S. Sentencing Commission <http://www.ussc.gov/>

U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives <http://www.atf.gov/>

National Archive of Criminal Justice Data
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/index.html>

Justice Technology Information Network <http://www.justnet.org/Pages/home.aspx>

National Criminal Justice Reference Service (full text database of reports, articles, etc.) <http://www.ncjrs.gov/app/search/advancedsearch.aspx>

Security Sites

American Society for Industrial Security: www.asisonline.org

Security: <http://www.securitymagazine.com/>

Security Management Online: www.securitymanagement.com

Security Solutions Online: www.securitysolutions.com

Selected Journals with Full-Text Content

FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin <http://www.fbi.gov/publications/leb/leb.htm>

Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture
<http://www.albany.edu/scj/jcipc/index.html>

Justice Policy Journal http://www.cjcj.org/justice_policy_journal

Western Criminology Review <http://wcr.sonoma.edu/default.html>

Megasites Developed by Libraries, Associations, and Institutions

Cornell University Legal Information Institute <http://www.law.cornell.edu/>

FindLaw for Legal Professionals <http://lp.findlaw.com/>

American Bar Association Public Resources <http://www.abanet.org/public.html>
Criminal Justice Section <http://www.abanet.org/crimjust/>

Links to Criminal Justice Organizations and websites
<http://www.aele.org/Crimlinks.html>

Academic Info – Law and Criminal Justice <http://www.academicinfo.net/law.html>

Florida State University College of Criminology and Criminal Justice
<http://www.criminology.fsu.edu/>

Michigan State University Libraries
<http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/content.php?pid=81036>

World Criminal Justice Library Network at Rutgers's University
<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~wcjlen/WCJ/mainpages/bibliogs.htm>

Guides and tutorials

The Library has a range of research guides that will help with searching resources, writing papers, and with references. They can be found on the library's HomePage.