In 1980, the Joint Commission on Criminology and Criminal Justice Education and Standards surveyed more than 3600 faculty members from approximately 560 graduate and undergraduate criminal justice and criminology programs in the country. This paper compares the responses of faculty who indicated expertise in the forensic sciences with those of the larger group of criminal justice faculty members.

More than 40% of the 61 faculty who specialize in forensic science have backgrounds in law enforcement and are teaching at two-year institutions. Less than 10% of these faculty have crime laboratory work experience. Teaching is clearly the primary activity of these faculty, with a small percentage of their time devoted to research and writing. The forensic science faculty are also notable in that they customarily teach in an adjunct status and do not hold academic appointments that will lead to permanent status with a college or university.
The criminal justice and forensic science fields are closely related, given they both deal with various aspects of law and order. To advance your career in either, a master's degree is one way to remain competitive and, in some cases, it’s even a requirement. If you know you’d like to work within law enforcement or the court system in some capacity, you may find yourself choosing between two online master’s: forensic science or criminal justice. In this article, we’ll take a look at each to help you make a more informed decision. Industry and Educational Overview. We’ve established there are several educational options for those interested in forensic science and criminal justice. The forensic science faculty are also notable in that they customarily teach in an adjunct status and do not hold academic appointments that will lead to permanent status with a college or university. Author Information: Peterson, JL Director, Center for Research in Law and Justice, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL. Angelos, SA Forensic chemist, Drug Enforcement Administration, North Central Regional Laboratory, Chicago, IL. Stock #: JFS11549J. ISSN: 0022-1198. DOI: 10.1520/JFS11549J. Author Title Characteristics of Forensic Science Faculty within Criminal Justice Higher Education Programs. July 1983 · Journal of Forensic Sciences. Joseph L. Peterson. Crime Reconstruction is a working guide to the interpretation of physical evidence, designed for the forensic generalist and those with multiple forensic specialties. It was developed to aid these forensic reconstructionists with the formulation of hypotheses and conclusions that stay within the known limits of forensic evidence. Crime Reconstruction begins with chapters on the history and ethics of crime reconstruction, and then shifts to the more applied subjects of general reconstruction methods and practice standards.