

The Criminator

Newsletter of the UMCP Criminology & Criminal Justice Program at The Universities at Shady Grove



56 at The UNIVERSITIES

Happy Fall! We hope you had a great summer!

Fall 2017 Semester Important Dates

August 28 First day of classes

September 4 Labor Day

November 22-26 Thanksgiving break

December 11 Last day of classes

December 12 Reading Day

December 13-19 Final exams

December 19 Main Commencement

December 20 College Commencement

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Hello CCJSers!

We are so glad to see everyone back on campus this fall semester. Feel free to drop by the CCJS offices to say hi!

We also wanted to let you know of an adjustment to the advisor assignments. Moving forward, please use the following guidelines to identify your advisor:



- Students with less than 90 completed credits will be advised by Rachel Hill (ccjsusg@umd.edu)
- Students with 90 or more completed credits will be advised by Dr. Stickle (wstickle@umd.edu)

This means that some of you who have been seeing Rachel for advising might be moving on to your senior year, in which case you will be meeting with Dr. Stickle. If you are not sure how many credits you have completed, you can check your student audit by going to www.testudo.umd.edu and clicking on Degree Audit.

You are always welcome to talk to either of us if you have questions, but these assignments will apply to all formal advising.

Best wishes,

Dr. Stickle & Rachel

You want to make sure you are getting program related updates on time? Then subscribe to our blog TODAY and never miss any important announcements!

ccjsusg.blogspot.com

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CRIMSA: A Great Way to Get Involved

CRIMSA was established to provide students enrolled in the University of Maryland's program in Criminology & Criminal Justice (CCJS) at USG with activities that will complement their academic studies. The activities of CRIMSA may include functions and events of an intellectual, social, cultural, or charitable nature, as well as those activities that promote the academic and professional success of future, current and graduating CCJS students.



Be an Intern for College Credit

Students in the CCJS program can earn one (1) college credit for every 45 hours of work with a department-approved employer. Previous students have interned at local law firms, police departments, state and federal agencies, and more. Their experiences include administrative work, ride-alongs with officers, warrant and background processing, and attendance of court cases.

There's no better way to gain experience and build your resume!

Contact Dr. Wendy Stickle to receive permission to enroll in a CCJS internship.

We are pleased to introduce you Jinadaree Gonaduwage, a current senior in the UMD Criminology & Criminal Justice program at USG, as she shares insights about her recent internship with the Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters.

Where is your internship? Do you have a specific title?

My internship was at the Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters in Washington D.C. I was a Collegiate Intern for the Office of Research and Analytical Services (ORAS), which was a branch of the Homeland Security Bureau.

How did you get this internship?



I submitted an online interest form to apply for the Collegiate Internship Program through the MPD website. Then, I contacted the Director of the Office of Volunteer Coordination to introduce myself and to ask any other questions I had regarding the internship program. Later, I was offered the internship.

How did this internship enhance your learning?

This internship enhanced my collaborative skills with individuals in a professional working environment. I had to complete a research project on a topic of my interest. My supervisor created an outline on what she expected in the completed project. However, I extended this research project and completed more than she expected. At the end of the internship, I realized the importance self-initiative and creating the best product you can for the team. I was also exposed to the ArcGIS mapping software to conduct spatial analyses for the project; crime mapping is my newfound interest.

What advice do you have for new students who have not yet had an internship?

Talk to your program director to find out if she/he is aware of any available internship opportunities. Talk to your classmates who have completed internships and find out how they applied. Do your own research and apply to multiple internships. Don't apply to just one internship and assume you'll earn it. If you have ever been rejected from an internship, don't feel discouraged. There will always be another opportunity waiting for you. I think it is crucial to gain experience, build a professional network, and complete an internship prior to graduating. So, keep searching and keep applying!

Faculty Spotlight: Tom Alexander

Dr. Tom Alexander recently co-authored a chapter in The *Handbook on Homicide* along with Dr. Charles Wellford. This chapter is entitled *Solving Homicide: Trends, Causes, and Ways to Improve.*

According to Wiley Publishing, "*The Handbook of Homicide* presents a series of original essays by renowned authors from around the world,



reflecting the latest scholarship on the nature, causes, and patterns of homicide, as well as policies and practices for its investigation and prevention."

Dr. Alexander says, "it is the publisher's hope that the Handbook becomes the place for researchers, students, and others to turn to first for international scholarship on homicide."



Dr. Alexander is finishing up his 43rd year with the Hagerstown Maryland Police Department. He has been assigned to patrol, a supervisor in records and communications, a member of the special response team, planning and research, internal affairs, and the research and grants administrator over his career. He is currently a Lieutenant of Police assigned as a Patrol Commander. Outside interests include Tae Kwon Do, where he holds a 1st degree black belt, stick fighting, tai chi, and road cycling; especially the Tour de France. Dr. Alexander is a Terp 4 Life!