



The Criminator

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



Fall 2016 Semester Important Dates

August 29	First day of classes
September 5	Labor Day holiday
November 23-27	Thanksgiving break
December 12	Last day of classes
December 13	Reading Day
December 14-20	Final exams
December 20	Main Commencement
December 21	College Commencement

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Welcome! We wish you a great Fall 2016!

MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY

Teaching and trying cases require surprisingly similar skills – the ability to take complex issues and boil them down to understandable facts, to speak with credibility, and to persuade people that you’ve got it right (and hopefully you do). I’ve been trying criminal cases for the better part of 27 years, which is sadly more years than most of the students have been on earth, and I hope and think I’ve been teaching in some capacity for a lot of those years, too. I grew up in Montgomery County, and then I was graduated from Wake Forest University (1986) and Emory Law School (1989). I worked for ten years as an Assistant State’s Attorney in Montgomery County. For a few of those years I also taught some paralegal classes at Montgomery College, but trial schedule and family made that a logistical challenge. In 1999 I started working at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Greenbelt, Maryland, and I enjoyed ten years at that office before taking a position at the Department of Justice’s Gang Unit. Within a couple of years, the Gang Unit merged with the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section, and I became the Chief of the Organized Crime and Gang Section in 2011. I supervise approximately 35 attorneys who handle traditional organized crime, gang, and international organized crime cases around the country.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of being the Chief is that I get to brainstorm with our younger prosecutors to make important, creative, and smart decisions about tactics, strategy, legal issues, and advocacy. Similarly, in recent years, I’ve spent some time volunteering with American University’s Washington College of Law, conducting mock trials and serving as a mock trial coach for a couple of competitions. I frequently instruct for U.S. Attorney’s Offices facing gang or organized crime challenges and on a variety of criminal law subjects at the National Advocacy Center (which conducts training for prosecutors). While I expressly do not speak for the Department of Justice when I’m teaching classes, I do think I can speak from experience, which is always a good thing. In teaching criminal law classes, I hope to keep it practical, lively, and inspiring for undergraduates who might end up having an interest in working within the criminal justice system—take it from me, it is full of excitement, challenge, humor, and sadness, and there is rarely a dull day.

James Frusty





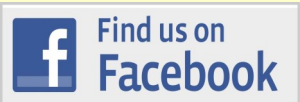
Need help with writing your papers? Stop by the Center for Academic Success in Student Services or e-mail them at sg-cas@umd.edu. Center Coordinators can help students with writing & reviewing papers, personal statements, graduate school test prep, and much more!

Questions about the CCJS program at USG?



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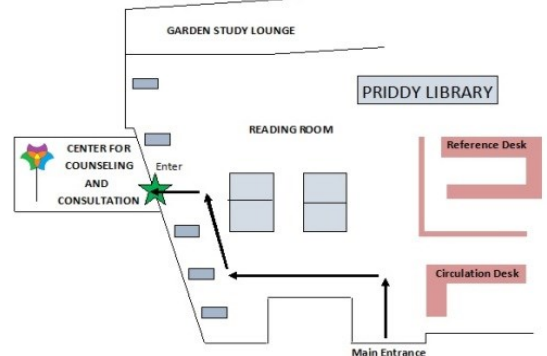


ccjsusg.blogspot.com



Did you know...

The Center for Counseling and Consultation has moved its office to Building III, Room 1134. The new entrance is located inside the Priddy Library against the left-most wall as you face into the Library from the entrance. Please refer to the map for more details. Call 301-738-6273 or stop by to make an appointment



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. Email USGCRIMSA@gmail.com with questions or to find out how to participate!



www.facebook.com/crimsausg

Course Sharing at USG



Students enrolled in the CCJS program at the Shady Grove campus have the opportunity to take courses within the 9 different institutions offering classes at USG. In 3 simple steps, education is enhanced through this unique course sharing program.

- STEP 1** Browse the course sharing catalog online and select courses at: <http://shadygrove.umd.edu/academics/course-sharing>
- STEP 2** Contact Program Director Dr. Wendy Stickle for permission to enroll in a course(s) at: wstickle@umd.edu
- STEP 3** Enjoy the diversity of courses and see your grades in the UMD student portal once the semester is over.

Be an Intern for College Credit



Have you considered doing a CCJS internship?

Students in the program can earn one (1) college credit for every 40 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,



We are delighted to introduce you Victoria McConnell, an alumna in the UMD Criminology and Criminal Justice program at USG, who has agreed to share some insights about her last semester internship.

Where is your internship?

My internship is with the Support, Advocacy, Freedom, and Empowerment (SAFE) Center on main campus in College Park.

How did you get it?

Dr. Stickle referred me to the director of the center. Having known my interest in Human Trafficking she thought this internship would be great for me and it is! I interviewed with the director and lead case worker and the rest is history.

How did this internship enhance your learning?

This internship is going to be invaluable to me in the future. Not only am I learning more about human trafficking and its victims/survivors, I am also working towards opening a new center. Some of the things I have and will work on are strategic plans to partner with local organizations, researching grants and grant proposals, standard operating procedures, outreach to local police agencies, creating intake forms, creating standards of care and drafting donation letters. These experiences and skills will make me more marketable to potential employers in the future.

What would be your advice to the new students who have not yet done this internship?

Internships as a whole are an amazing thing! They help get you experience in the field of your choice, help you make connections with others in that field, and let you explore different options before you choose a career. An internship at the SAFE Center gives you a variety of experiences that you'd be hard pressed to find anywhere else. This internship is nothing like I've experienced before and for anyone interested in interning with the SAFE Center in the future I would suggest you have a passion for helping survivors and an interest in the anti-trafficking field. This is a great internship and I definitely recommend it for anyone with a passion in the anti-trafficking field.

Alumni Interrogation: Corrine Lloyd



Corrine is a graduate of the CCJS program at USG and currently working at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) here in Gaithersburg. Corrine stopped by to answer some questions about her post-graduation journey.

Where are you currently working? What is your job title and duties?

I'm currently working at the National Institute of Standards and Technology an entity of the Department of Commerce, as a Management and Program Analyst. I work within the National Security Standards group and my job primarily consists of managing and coordinating projects relating to Homeland Security. I coordinate Interagency Agreements which provide funding to our scientists from various federal agencies including the Department of Homeland Security, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Bureau of Prisons, Federal Bureau of Investigations, among others. I ensure our scientists are meeting milestones according to their contracts, manage their budgets, analyze project completion, and assist with travel, conference, and meeting requests.

How did you find out about your current job? Describe the hiring process.

I was speaking to a family friend at a function and indicated my interest in the criminal justice field. This friend happened to be the Administrative Officer for the Law Enforcement Standards group at NIST. She suggested that I apply through the pathways program to become a paid intern providing administrative support to her group. I applied via usajobs.gov and was hired as an intern. The pathways program is an excellent opportunity for students to experience and gain knowledge in the work setting. Although I did not initially have any desire to work in the administrative area, I recognized this as a great opportunity to network and gain exposure in my field of interest. I ended up interning various schedules part-time to full-time for the four years of my undergraduate degree. After establishing myself as a competent employee and valuable resource I was able to be converted to a full time employee as a Management and Program Analyst with the National Securities group upon completion of my degree.

How has the CCJS program prepared you for your career?

The CCJS program helped me discover my specific interests within the criminal justice arena and exposed me to the wider set of opportunities and jobs within the area.

Were you able to apply and translate classroom knowledge to your current job? Can you provide an example?

As a student I was absolutely dreading the required technical writing course as I hadn't taken an English course in some-time. Surprisingly the skills I learned in that particular course I utilize on an almost daily basis; from correspondence to official reports and interagency agreements and contracts. Although the course wasn't directly CCJS related and didn't initially appear to be as exciting as the other course the skills developed are critical.

How do you suggest current students maximize potential job opportunities after graduation?

My opinion would be to try to obtain as much intern experience as possible. It's not only a great way to discover what you like doing but equally as important what you DON'T like doing. Being immersed into the real world while under intern status gives you the opportunity to network, explore, and learn to function in a work environment with a bit of buffer you wouldn't otherwise have.

What are the next steps for you, in terms of your career?

For now, I am content with my current employment and enjoying a small break from schooling. I intend to go back to school for my Master's Degree next year.

Any words of wisdom for current CCJS students at USG?

Take advantage of internships and any possible opportunities for networking. Don't be afraid to take those entry level positions, you are probably not going to land your dream job right away. These entry level positions are the perfect way to establish yourself just don't forget you have a long term goal in mind while you are there!



Program Highlights: Why Study Abroad?

There are multiple opportunities for the students in Criminology and Criminal Justice program at USG to participate in Study Abroad. Why and how to participate in Study Abroad? Please contact your program Director or Coordinator for up to date info. Now read on to learn about CCJS current student **Kendra Grimmett's** Study Abroad experience.

1. Where was your study abroad and how did you apply for it?

The winter 2016 study abroad program I completed was in “The Land of Smiles”, Thailand. I applied for this program by completing an application on the education abroad website that is administered through University of Maryland, College Park main campus. I first received information about this program through Universities at Shady Grove (USG) weekly emails and also from advertisements posted around campus. The emails and advertisements encouraged me to speak to my department director, Dr. Stickle to gain more insight about the trip and determine if studying abroad is a good fit for me. The application process was beneficial because the questions allow you to think about how participating in this program will serve your long term personal and educational goals.

2. What was your experience (take away) from this opportunity?

As a Criminology and Criminal Justice student, the trip was a useful educational tool for studying human trafficking more in depth. I was first introduced to the topic specifically when I took “Slavery in the Twenty First Century: Combating Human Trafficking” during the spring 2015 semester. This was the beginning of my journey for enhancing and developing skills that are applicable to my career interest in victim assistance with the FBI. The variety of activities from cooking class to visiting hill tribes enhanced my visit in ways that only a study abroad program can do because of its authenticity. Not only did I learn a lot about Thai culture, I also gained insight and knowledge about the human trafficking challenges faced in Thailand. I gained this by listening to expert testimony and interacting with at risk youth. Most importantly, I learned a lot about myself and adopted Thailand ways of life here at home by making more of an effort to live in the moment without worrying about tomorrow.

3. Why should other students participate in Study Abroad?

Studying abroad can be beneficial to students who want to explore meaningful subjects because it helps one gain understanding on how much the world is deeply interconnected. If a student is passionate about a specific topic, studying abroad will enhance their knowledge by opening their eyes to the fact that one country's issues are all country's issues. The best advice I can give perspective study abroad students is to first, consider your purpose, goals, and expectations of the trip, then speak to the program coordinator before applying. This communication will help determine if studying abroad is right for you. It is important to have the right intentions before committing to studying abroad to ensure a successful learning experience. The funding aspect of the trip may seem overwhelming at first but, there are scholarships available to help facilitate such factors. Aside from the scholarships, I created a personal fundraiser by sending out donation letters that told my story of why studying abroad is important to me. Friends, family, classmates, coworkers, even strangers, helped assist in making this trip possible. My passion is my purpose and studying abroad reaffirmed my aspirations of combating human trafficking.