A member of The University of Scranton’s Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program, Olivia Salama earned her bachelor’s degree, magna cum laude, in 2014 in philosophy and political science with a minor in criminal justice. Her Fulbright scholarship to the University of Turku in Finland will allow her to study the policing of white-collar crime in Finland after the 2008 global financial crisis. Professor Anne Alvesalo-Kuusi will supervise her research.

“It is an incredible honor to receive a Fulbright,” Salama said. “I am the first person in my family to attend college, so to be a Fulbright Scholar is something I never would have even dreamed of.”

Salama’s interest in white-collar crime stems from her work with Professor David O. Friedrichs of The University of Scranton’s Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice. With him, she co-authored a chapter on U.S. white-collar crime policies in “U.S. Criminal Justice Policy: A Contemporary Reader.” In the future she would like to attend law school and become a prosecutor specializing in white-collar crime.

A Dean’s List student at the University, Salama was a member of the Alpha Phi Sigma (the national criminal justice honor society), Phi Sigma Tau (the international honor society for philosophy) and the Pi Sigma Alpha (the national political science honor society). She was a member of the University’s Pre-Law Society, Criminal Justice Club and Philosophy Society. She was named to “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.” She also volunteered with renovating the homes of low-income families and at the Jewish Home of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Salama was born in Greece and emigrated to the United States at the age of four. Throughout her youth she visited grandparents in Poland and Egypt many times. Those experiences led to her curiosity about the differences in culture among different countries.

She is a graduate of Bayonne High School and the daughter of Mike and Dorothy Salama of Bayonne, N.J.