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DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CYBERSECURITY, AND SOCIOLOGY



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the Department of Criminal Justice, Cybersecurity, and Sociology!

We are glad you are considering the University as your academic home for the next few years. We appreciate the chance to share a little about our recent accomplishments.

But first, here are a few things that distinguish us from other types of similar academic institutions and programs:

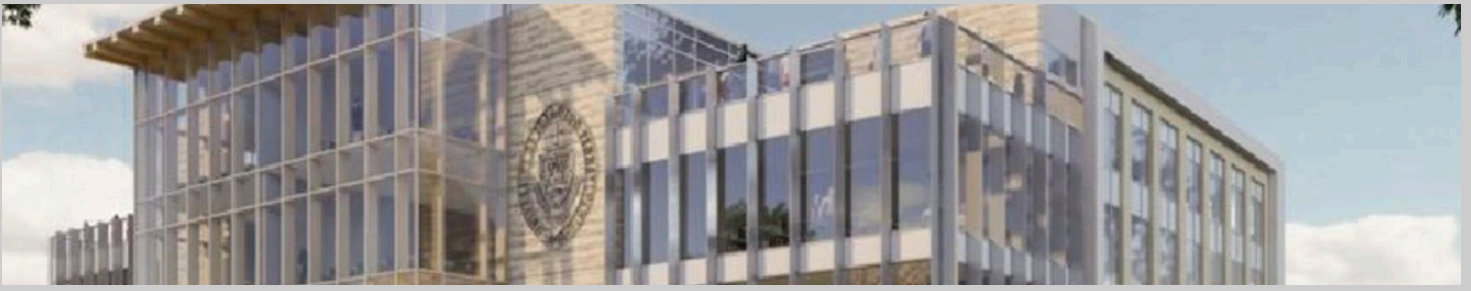
- We have a flexible curriculum that allows students to take advantage of multiple outstanding internship opportunities for credit and encourages them to complete a minor or double major.

- We collaborate with the University's Chemistry Department (Forensic Chemistry major) and Business School (Forensic Accounting track and Business 5yr BS/MS program).
- Our faculty are recognized nationally and internationally in their various professional organizations and also have relevant experience in the field.
- We have an active Criminal Justice Student Club that regularly brings in speakers, coordinates off-campus trips, and engages in community service.
- We are one of only nine criminal justice undergraduate programs in the United States to obtain certification from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS).
- Our Center for the Analysis & Prevention of Crime (CAPoC) combines faculty expertise, practitioner insight, and student learning to enhance the technological and analytical capabilities of students, police officers, and other criminal justice and social service agencies in the regional community.
- We are a Catholic and Jesuit University that is based on a 450 year-old intellectual tradition that strives for excellence and cares for each and every student.
- Weiss Hall, where our labs, offices, & classrooms are, is the University's newest building, thanks to a grant from the US National Institute of Standards and Technology and a generous donation from loyal Royals Robert S. and Marilyn A. Weiss.

If I can be of assistance in any way please feel free to contact me at michael.jenkins@scranton.edu.

Yours in Justice,

Michael Jenkins, Ph.D.

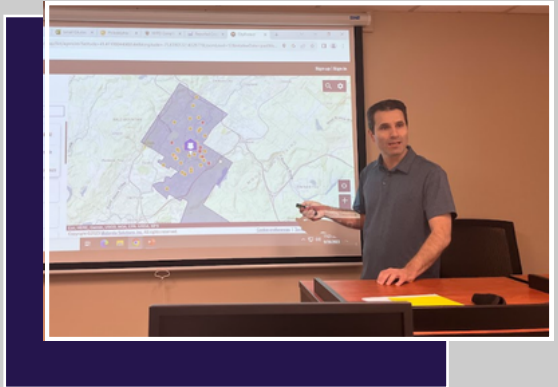


We prepare students for fulfilling careers in policing, courts, corrections, cybercrime prevention and investigation and social service. Our students develop critical thinking, research, analytical and technological skills while learning about equality and social justice. We are just one block from downtown Scranton, which means we have easy access to state and federal courts, law firms, social service agencies, and the police department. We incorporate the principles of Catholic, Jesuit and Ignation Education: especially with genuine care for each student and an emphasis on social justice.

OUR PROGRAMS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A degree in criminal justice at the University of Scranton can prepare you for a career in federal, state and local law enforcement, as well as community and institutional corrections. It can prepare you as well for advanced study in law, criminology and public administration.



"Our faculty are highly trained, professionally active, and at the top of their fields. All are doing research and taking students under their wing." - **James Roberts, Ph.D.**



Cybercrime is a serious threat to organizations around the world. Because of that, the cybersecurity industry is rapidly growing everyday. Our program in Cybercrime & Homeland Security is designed to prepare you to meet the growing demand for evaluating and managing and defending from complex cybersecurity incidents and threats, as well as learn about the effect of terrorism on our country.

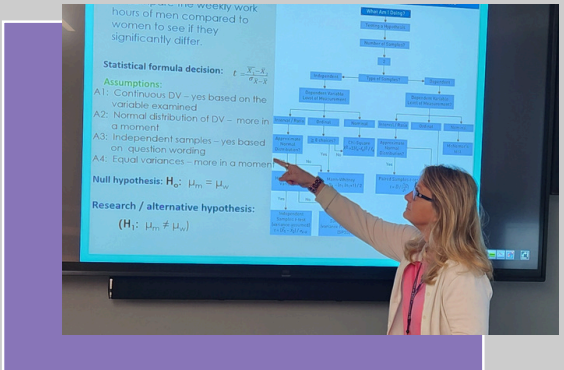
CYBERCRIME & HOMELAND SECURITY

"Our programs are not only providing students with a very rich curriculum, but also helping them gain experience and skills that can prepare them to compete with others in the job market." - **Ismail Onat, Ph.D, M.A.**

SOCIOLOGY

Sociology majors have a strong background in writing, theory, critical thinking and research. These skills, that come along with the understanding of the nuances of human interaction, are essential to a number of different occupations such as: research, administration, public health, human services, business, counseling, corrections, law, politics and public relations.

"Most students don't think they're going to be doing a lot of data collecting in their 'real' job. It helps them see the utility of what they're doing. It really drives home to students that what they're doing will be used by a real agency." - **Loreen Wolfer, Ph.D.**



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dr. Mehmet Bastug has launched a new project with our GAs, **Amelia Farry** and **Zoe Honney**. They are hosting a cybersecurity podcast called *"Hackademics: Decoding the World of Cyberspace"*.



The podcast is about how technology has become integrated into our lives, from our cars to our homes and into our everyday work. While technology allows for more efficiency and flexibility in our lives, it comes with great risks. In a study published by the FBI's IC3 (the Internet Crime Complaint Center), they received over 859,000 complaints of cyber incidents in 2024. Everyone listening to the podcast has probably experienced a cyber risk or threat once in their lifetime, but not everyone knows how to protect themselves from becoming victims of cybercrimes. We decided to create this podcast to bring more awareness about the dangers of technology, as well as educate others on how to stay safe online.

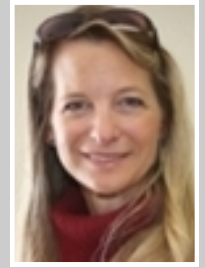


Dr. Ismail Onat recently published a research article titled "Exploring Support for the Black Lives Matter Movement: Racial Injustice, Attitudes Toward Police, Politics, and Media" with American Journal of Criminal Justice.

His most recent policy analysis titled *"Funding Gaps and Service Cuts: Reimagining Public Transit for an Equitable Future"* was published by the Orion Policy Institute.

Dr. Onat's recent research efforts aim the pursuit of social justice and the common good of the entire human community.

Dr. Loreen Wolfer's Research Methods and Statistics for the Social Sciences class is learning about statistical testing by working with the local agency Outreach to examine patterns in referral, attendance and successful completion of Outreach's GED program.



Outreach plans on using the results of Dr. Wolfer's students' analyses for guidance with internal programming and applications for external program funding.

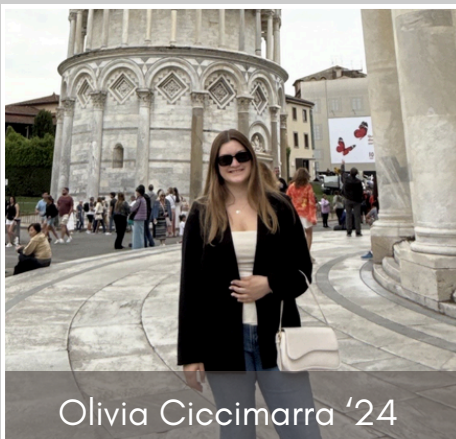
Eve Binder '27 is working with **Dr. Wolfer** through the Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Crime to help Lackawanna County's newly created Elder Justice Multidisciplinary Team (EJMDT) develop empirically observable input and outcome measures that will enable the EJMDT to track the multidisciplinary services provided for local elders experiencing social and behavior challenges, as well as track and design outcomes for community education projects sponsored by the EJMDT.

The Bronx District Attorney's Office partnered with our Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Crime (CAPoC) to deliver a CLE program on Emerging Cyberthreats, Cybercrime, and Cyberlaw. This collaboration highlights the growing role of our programs in connecting research with real-world criminal justice and cybersecurity practices.

Dr. Onat, Dr. Bastug, and Julia Ciaccio ('26), attended the ASC conference last November, and they had a co-authored paper: *"A Policy Analysis for Prevention of ATM and PoS Skimming"*.

The presentation was delivered by Julia.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Olivia Ciccimarra '24

*"While at Scranton, I was lucky to take part in meaningful internship opportunities and learn from some incredible mentors who really helped shape my path. With their support, along with everything I gained in the classroom, I received a full-time job offer from the **New Jersey State Parole Board** after graduating in May 2024. I'm still there today, working as an Administrative Analyst, where I help generate queries and work with data to support the Board's operations."*

*"I'm continuing my education at **Boston University**, pursuing a master's degree in Crime Analysis, Cybercrime Investigations, and Cybersecurity. I'm excited to be heading back to Boston this May to celebrate graduation! Outside of work and school, I've been making the most of my free time by traveling and enjoying living at the Jersey shore. Over the past year, I've visited Italy, Ireland, and the Dominican Republic, and have also explored places around the U.S."*

READY TO EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS? WE OFFER COURSES IN:

- Criminal Justice
- Criminology
- Ethical Hacking
- Sociological theory
- Cyber-intelligence
- Race & Ethnic Relations
- American Policing
- Terrorism
- Homeland Security
- Law and American Court System
- Sociology
- Digital Forensic Investigation
- Emergency Management
- Police Criminalistics

OUR CLUBS

- Criminal Justice Club (Chapter of American Criminal Justice Association)
- Cyber Investigation Club

ALPHA PHI SIGMA

The National Criminal Justice Honor Society

2025-2026 Inductees

James Roberts Ph.D., Advisor

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| • Krish A. Amin | • Kaci Kranson |
| • Chelsea Curran | • Nico Mancuso |
| • Sienna D'Ambrosia | • David McIntyre |
| • Andrew Foley | • Alexa Mulrooney |
| • Hannah Horn | • Emily O'Connor |
| • Katherine Hosko | • Sarayah Smith |
| • Juliana Janezic | • Nicholas Sokalsky |

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Pennsylvania State Prison
- Scranton City Police
- U.S. Secret Service and U.S Marshals
- County Probation
- J.P. Morgan
- District Attorney's Office
- Dunmore Police Department
- Lackawanna County Police
- Lackawanna County Sheriff
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- National Security Agency
- Community Intervention Center
- The Institute for Economic and Public Policy
- Cyber & Infrastructure Security Agency

WHERE ARE OUR ALUMNI?

- U.S. Secret Service
- U.S. Marshals Service
- FBI
- Counterterrorism
- Private Security Analysis
- U.S. Immigration and Customs
- Local & State Police Departments
- Federal Corrections
- Public Defenders Office
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Private Sectors for Cybercrime
- Civil Division in Courts



STUDENT RESEARCHERS DRIVE CYBERSECURITY INNOVATION AT UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON



Students in The University of Scranton's cybercrime investigation and cybersecurity master's program are on the cutting edge of financial fraud detection and ransomware research, as detailed in a series of articles on the University's graduate admissions website.

Buse Onat '26 is a triple major in Cybercrime/Homeland Security, Criminal Justice and Philosophy. **Julia Ciaccio '27** is a double major in Cybercrime/Homeland Security and Criminal Justice. Both are also pursuing their Cybersecurity master's degrees through The University of Scranton's accelerated BS/MS program.

<https://news.scranton.edu/articles/2026/02/news-cybersecurity-student-spotlight.shtml>



Atty. Jason Shrive had the privilege of presenting to Jerry Skotleski's Law & Citizen classes, at Scranton High School, about the legal profession & Criminal Law.