Welcome to the University of Scranton and our Sociology, Criminal Justice & Criminology Department!

We are very glad that you are considering the University of Scranton and our Department as a possible choice to continue your education. While you are in this very important process, we would like to tell you a little about the current accomplishments of those affiliated with our Department. Hence this brief news-letter. Please consider what we believe distinguishes us from other types of similar academic institutions and programs.

- We provide outstanding internship opportunities; we have revised our majors to encourage students to choose a minor or double major,
- We have developed collaborations with the University's Chemistry Department (Forensic Chemistry track), and Business School (Forensic Accounting track), and Business 5yr BS/MS program.
- Nationally and internationally known faculty with experience in the criminal justice profession.
- 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 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.

We hope your brief stay on campus is a positive experience. If I can be of assistance in any way please feel free to contact me at james.roberts@scranton.edu.

Yours in Justice,
James Roberts, Ph.D, Professor and Chair

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, community and institutional corrections or for advanced study in law, criminology, and public administration.

Sociology
Sociology majors also have a strong background in writing, critical thinking, theory, and research.

These skills, along with the understanding of the nuances of human interaction, are essential to a number of different occupations in areas such as: research, administration, public health, human services, business, counseling, corrections, law, politics, and public relations.

Follow us on Facebook and visit our website:
www.scranton.edu/soc-cj/

CAPOC

Two student analysts, Garrett M. Boyd and Katherine Denig, have been working with the Scranton Police Dept. under Dr. Onat’s supervision to create digital maps of patrol zones and analyze crime by the zones. “This has been a great opportunity to work hands-on with real data aimed at making a difference. I can get creative with the questions I ask and apply different aspects of my major when solving problems.” Garrett ’20

“Being able to have this experience has really opened my eyes to a more hands-on approach in the Criminal Justice field. Not only is it a hands-on experience, it’s an area that is currently new and thriving. Being able to take part in something like this is exciting and I encourage students who major or minor in the CJ field to check out the classes and work along side Dr. Onat.” Katherine ’20
Inaugural Royal Invitational Mock Trial Competition

On October 19th & 20th, 2019, the University of Scranton Mock Trial Team will host its Inaugural Royal Invitational Mock Trial Competition, where Universities from across the country will converge on Scranton, in order to compete, in real life courtrooms, at the Lackawanna County Courthouse, in Scranton, PA. The Scranton Mock Trial Team is led by Co-Captains, Zoe Rodriguez and Margaret Westerman, advised by University Criminal Justice Department Assistant Professor, Jason A. Shrive, Esq., and coached by University Alum and former Lackawanna County Chief Public Defender, Sidney Prejean, Esq.

Alumni Spotlight

My name is Jailene Panarella and I graduated from the University of Scranton in 2017 with a B.S. in Criminal Justice. After I graduated I moved back to New York City, where I was born and raised, to pursue my career. I worked as a Crime Victim Advocate for the NYPD in Manhattan for a little over a year before I started my current position.

I now serve as the Senior Special Victims Division Advocate in the Bronx. I work for Safe Horizon, which is the largest non-profit organization in the U.S. that works with thousands of children, adults, and families that have been affected by crime and abuse. Safe Horizon collaborated with the NYPD to place Crime Victim and Domestic Violence Advocates in police precincts throughout New York City.

My role is to support victims of sex crimes who come forward during a criminal investigation. New York state guarantees every crime victim has the right to have an advocate present during the criminal investigation, to sit in on interviews or observe crime scene re-enactments and suspect line-ups. Advocates can also connect the victim to counseling services or shelters.

It has been an honor to watch such brave individuals come forward and tell their stories. People typically think of an arrest or conviction as justice, but here, justice means so much more than that. I think of justice when I see someone share their story, use their voice and take back the control that was taken from them. And I, an advocate, am here to support these victims in reclaiming their lives.

Faculty

Dr. Ismail Onat presented the results of his research on "Post-ISIS Era: Regional and Global Implications" at the NATO Advanced Research Workshop in Washington D.C.

Dr. Onat serves as the principal investigator of the project entitled "Exploring Dynamics of Jail Population in Lackawanna County". The project has been awarded an In Our Backyards Community Grant of the Vera Institute of Justice to provide data analysis and public information around the need to reduce incarceration in Lackawanna County. The Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Crime was among 16 organizations in the nation to be awarded. Four student analysts will be working in the project with Dr. Onat.


Dr. Meghan Ashlin Rich served as organizer and presider of a research paper session entitled, Community Neighborhood Revitalization versus Gentrification.” Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, New York, NY. She also co-presented a research paper at above panel: “Reimagining Baltimore For Whom?: Community Coalitions, Gentrification, and Corporate-driven New Urbanist Redevelopment.” Co-presented with Dr. Nicole King (University of Maryland Baltimore County). Dr. Rich also serves as the Faculty Coordinator for the Office of Community Based Learning. She led a two-day workshop in May. The goal of the workshop is to give faculty the opportunity to discuss, explore, and share resources on Community-Based Learning and Community-Based Research (CBR).

Internship Opportunities

U.S. Marshals DEA Scranton Police Bergen County Sheriff's Dept. U.S. Secret Service Office of Local Judges County Probation (Juvenile and Adult) Numerous Law Firms FBI Summer Program J.P. Morgan District Attorneys Office Dunmore Police Department Lackawanna County Police & Sheriff’s Department

Where are our Alumni?