

# Justice Studies Department



New Student Day



**MONTCLAIR STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

# The Justice Studies Major

## What is Justice Studies?

- ✓ An *interdisciplinary* approach to the understanding of societal problems, criminal justice, legal systems and social injustices.
- ✓ Students engage in the exploration of contemporary social issues.
- ✓ Offers a rigorous course of study that examines the intersection of justice, law, policy and social change.



Justice Studies incorporates and exposes students to the disciplines of Criminology, Sociology, Political Theory and Legal Studies

# Concentrations

# Justice Systems Concentration



Prepares students to work in criminal justice, security, agencies administering justice, social services and related settings. Focuses on:

- ✓ relationships among law, the justice system and society
- ✓ special attention to theories of crime, law enforcement, comparative justice systems, the administration of justice and social injustices

# American Bar Association (ABA) Accredited Paralegal Studies Concentration

This concentration prepares students for work as a Paralegal/Legal Assistant & for law school.

- ✓ The Paralegal Studies concentration focuses on theory and practice in civil litigation, criminal, family, corporate and probate law
- ✓ 2.75GPA requirement overall & in the major/concentration.



The Paralegal Studies program is the first program in the state of New Jersey to become ABA Approved.

# International Justice Concentration

This concentration prepares students for careers in law enforcement, international or transnational law, human rights advocacy, government, defense and security.



- ✓ discusses human rights, terrorism, cybercrime, transnational crime and genocide, as well as , examines issues of justice, and the law that transcends national borders
- ✓ only four-year undergraduate degree program of its kind in NJ

A selective program, students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in order to graduate from the International Justice concentration.

# Minors

# Why declare a minor?



- ✧ Enhance and support your major
- ✧ Maximize your credits
- ✧ Most minors are only 18 credits
- ✧ Options for a minor within your department or anywhere in the University



# Criminal Justice

- ✧ provides students with the concepts and research methods needed for a successful career in criminal justice agencies and for graduate work in criminology and criminal justice
- ✧ Prepares students for a career in police work, corrections, parole, youth work, public and social service administration.
- ✧ 18 credits/6 classes



*(Cannot be combined with the Justice Systems concentration)*

# Environmental Justice



- ✧ emerging interdisciplinary field that offers students a theoretical and applied course of study in environmental justice
- ✧ provides a solid foundation for those pursuing a graduate degree in Environmental Law, as well as careers in federal, state and local agencies.
- ✧ 18 credits/6 classes

# Justice & Families

- ✧ multidisciplinary minor that offers students an opportunity to focus on issues of justice as they affect the family within social, political and economic institutions
- ✧ provides the first stepping stone to a career in public welfare, social research and family policy, grassroots community initiatives, family law, immigration services and gerontology
- ✧ 18 credits/6 classes



# Paralegal Studies



GPA requirement: 2.75

*(Cannot be combined with the  
Paralegal Studies concentration)*

- ✧ ABA approved program that offers students a balanced and varied background in theoretical and practical aspects of law which are necessary for work as a legal assistant/paralegal
- ✧ develops intellectual and analytical skills, educates students for direct employment opportunities in the field, and provides additional career possibilities in combination with other majors
- ✧ Certificate of Completion awarded to all students who meet program standards/requirements
- ✧ 21 credits/7 classes

# The Department

# Faculty & Staff



The Department of Justice Studies has 15 full-time faculty members, with advanced and professional degrees in the following areas: Criminology, Sociology, Political Science and Law.

The Justice Studies Department has 4 full-time Professional Staff members.

- Department Secretary
- Department Administrator
- Applied Learning Specialist
- Paralegal Studies Program Director

Our adjunct faculty hold graduate degrees in related fields and bring their applied experience to the classroom.

# What can I do with a BA in Justice Studies?

Recent graduates of the major are now working in:

- local, state and federal law enforcement agencies
- superior and federal court
- prosecutor's office
- public defender's office
- law firms
- human welfare agencies

Many of our students pursue graduate and professional degrees including law school.

# GET INVOLVED!!!

## JOIN THE JUSTICE STUDIES CLUB!

- ❖ Our focus is to share views, increase awareness of social injustice and provide student with events and guest speakers that will help enhance their knowledge of the field.
- ❖ We host networking events, organize community service projects and help build relationships.





# Tips for successful degree completion...



- ❖ Meet with your academic advisor on a regular basis to review your academic progress and choose the proper courses.
- ❖ Set up your MSU mail account and check email daily for important announcements.
- ❖ Communicate with your professors and get involved on campus.

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