

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Justice Studies

An interdisciplinary view of law, the justice system, and society.

Americans envision a nation “with justice for all.” Montclair State University’s Department of Justice Studies offers academic programs that focus on the policies, procedures, and institutions our society has in place—and should develop—to achieve this goal. The programs use an interdisciplinary approach to study issues of justice. The course of study emphasizes the relationship between laws, the justice system, and society to provide students with:

- A comprehensive grounding in the social, cultural, and political issues relevant to understanding the US justice system;
- The ability to apply theoretical perspectives to issues of justice;
- An empirical approach to questions about justice;
- An appreciation of ethical issues relating to justice; and
- Competencies in knowledge, methods, and applications needed for careers and professional development in these areas.

Programs

Justice Studies Undergraduate Major

This 39-40 credit major has a core liberal arts curriculum and field-specific concentrations that offer a wide interdisciplinary course of study to meet new professional challenges in the justice and legal systems. The Justice Studies major offers an internship experience that provides an opportunity for graduating seniors to apply theory to practice in an approved work setting.

International Justice Concentration

This concentrated area of study examines issues of criminal justice, social justice, and law that transcend national borders. The concentration covers transnational and global justice topics including human rights, terrorism, cybercrime, transnational crime, immigration, genocide, war,

and human trafficking. It prepares students for careers in law enforcement, international or transnational law, human rights advocacy, government, defense, and security. The program is the only four-year undergraduate degree program of its kind in the State of New Jersey.

Justice Systems Concentration

This concentrated area of study focuses on relationships among law, the justice system, and society, with special attention to theories of crime, law enforcement, comparative justice systems, and the administration of justice. It prepares students to work in criminal justice, security, agencies administering justice, social services, and related settings.

Paralegal Studies Concentration

This concentrated area of studies emphasizes both theory and practice in areas such as civil litigation, real estate, criminal law, family law, corporate law and probate. It prepares students to work as paralegals in law firms, corporations and government agencies. This program is the only four-year undergraduate degree Paralegal Studies program in New Jersey approved by the American Bar Association.

Undergraduate Minors

The Justice Studies Department offers four minors for undergraduate students:

- Criminal Justice Minor* (18 credits)
- Environmental Justice Minor* (18 credits)
- Justice and Families Minor* (18 credits)
- Paralegal Studies Minor* (21 credits)
(Approved by the American Bar Association)

Post-baccalaureate Certificate Program in Paralegal Studies

Montclair State’s post-baccalaureate program in

Paralegal Studies (21 credits), is approved by the American Bar Association.

About the College of Humanities and Social Sciences

The motto of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences is “We build minds; minds build everything else.” A liberal arts education—with its focus on critical thinking, problem solving, effective written and oral communication, and the cultural, political, and historical context of the world—serves as the foundation for life-long learning. Students graduate ready to enter a variety of careers as well as to take advantage of advanced educational opportunities.

About Montclair State University

Founded in 1908, Montclair State University is New Jersey’s second largest university. It offers the advantages of a large university—a comprehensive undergraduate curriculum with a global focus, a broad variety of superior graduate programs through the doctoral level, and a diverse faculty and student body—combined with a small college’s attention to students.

Information

For general program information, contact:

Justice Studies Department
Dickson Hall 348; 973-655-4152

Visit our website at:

<http://chss.montclair.edu/justice>



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