

Department of Justice Studies

JUSTICE STUDIES MAJOR; JUSTICE SYSTEMS CONCENTRATION

Montclair State University
Dickson Hall, Room 348
1 Normal Avenue
Montclair, New Jersey 07043
tel: 973 655 4152
fax: 973 655 4186

Effective FALL 2008



The Justice Systems Concentration within the Justice Studies major prepares students for graduate study or for careers in the justice system. The last twenty-five years have seen a substantial growth in the field of criminal justice education. Prior to that time, it was unusual to find criminal justice professionals with college degrees in any field, let alone in job-specific fields. Now criminal justice agencies prefer, and increasingly expect, new recruits to have university degrees and routinely provide funds for their employees to seek further education.

The Justice Systems Concentration emphasizes the relationships among law, the justice system, and society. This takes the form of an inquiry into how the system is constructed and how people within its different branches (a) produce meaning, (b) make decisions, (c) interact, and (d) are socialized into their working roles. A major curricular theme, then, is how the occupational subcultures attached to the system are affected by, and deal with, issues of race, ethnicity, class, and gender--issues that workers increasingly face and for which they are seldom prepared. In addition, students will learn to use interpersonal techniques for the practical application of this knowledge, e.g., socio-dramatic and psychodramatic role-playing exercises in the classroom as well as the development and the application of mediation techniques. We also expect to work closely with community service and law enforcement agencies in the surrounding area. Indeed, we expect to be using these agencies as field work sites and for internship programs.

Students in the Justice Systems Concentration will be able to pursue either a traditional Criminal Justice program (which includes courses that focus specifically upon all areas prescribed in the Minimum Standards for Criminal Justice Education of the Association of Criminal Justice Sciences Committee on Education and Standards) or more focused areas of interest such as Juvenile Justice or Empirical Perspectives in Justice Systems. In contrast to the Criminal Justice major available at many other institutions in New Jersey, this program is a concentration within a wider multidisciplinary program in Justice Studies.

The Justice Systems Concentration will therefore prepare students for a variety of careers, including: research analyst, social worker, probation officer, police officer and/or administrator, corrections officer/supervisor/ administrator, and management consultant.

Justice Studies Major; Justice Systems Concentration

Required Common Core: 15 Credits

JUST 200 Perspectives on Justice Studies I

JUST 201 Perspectives on Justice Studies II

JUST 300 Research in Justice Studies: Social Science Perspectives

JUST 310 Theoretical Issues in Justice Studies

JUST 497 Senior Seminar and Field Experience in Justice Studies (Externship) *

* Variable credit allowed up to 8 credits. Credits above 3 credits are free electives, not included in the semester hours toward the major.

CONCENTRATION: 25 Credits

I. Additional Required Courses: 10 credits

JUST 101 Criminology

JUST 232 Introduction to Criminal Justice

JUST/SOCI 240 Statistics for Social Research

II. Choice of 5 Courses from the Following: 15 Credits

JUST 223 Ethnography in Justice Systems

JUST 230 Family Violence

JUST 250 Current Issues in Policing

JUST 313 Organized Crime

JUST 314 Environmental Justice

JUST 315 Restorative Justice

JUST 317 Race & the U.S. Legal System

JUST 318 Animals & Justice

JUST 319 Hate Crimes

JUST 320 Women and Prison

JUST 321 White Collar Crime

JUST 322 Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Justice

JUST 325 Police and Society

JUST 326 Death Penalty Perspectives

JUST 351 Juries and Justice

JUST 353 Corrections

JUST 360 Rights, Liberties and American Justice

JUST 400 Drugs & Society

JUST 496 Peer Mentoring for Justice Studies

JUST 499 Selected Topics in Justice Studies

PALG 301 Criminal Law and Procedure

PALG 317 Evidence

PSYC 330 Forensic Psychology

JUSTICE STUDIES MAJOR W/ CONCENTRATION IN JUSTICE SYSTEMS:

40 TOTAL CREDIT HOURS