

Criminal Justice and Legal Studies

N e w s l e t t e r

Fall 2007

August 20, 2007

A New Semester - Fall 2007

Welcome to our first department newsletter for the Fall of 2007. The department has some timely news to share with you in this newsletter, and we hope you find it useful. This issue contains information on scholarships, study abroad programs, internship opportunities, and our one-day seminars. If you have any questions about the information in this newsletter, please contact the receptionist in Criminal Justice and Legal Studies at 407-823-2603.

If you know of someone who would like this information, please feel free to forward it on. If you know of someone who is a CJ or LS major or a CJ masters student who is not receiving this letter, please let them know that we send this list to all registered students in those programs as recorded by the Registrar's Office. If a student does not have their current e-mail address with the registrar, they cannot receive this e-mail directly from the department. We do also have printed copies available in HPA 311.

Welcome to Our New Department Chair

The Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies welcomes our new department chair, Professor Robert Langworthy. Dr. Langworthy was previously a professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage, where he served as director of the Justice Center and the Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center. He also held a 14-month assignment as director of the Crime Control and Prevention Division at the National Institute of Justice, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice, in Washington, D.C. From 1987 to 1997, Dr. Langworthy was a faculty member at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio, where he was instrumental in the development of the university's doctoral program in criminal justice. From 1983 to 1987, he was an assistant professor of criminal justice at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

"I look forward to the continued development of the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies," he said. "I hope to be instrumental in building the department's capacity for both community engagement and community-relevant research by

developing doctoral study within the department and establishing a research center focused on community explanations of crime and justice."

Parking and Transportation

The good news: The former dirt parking lot behind the Health and Public Affairs buildings is becoming a permanent, paved, and striped lot!

The bad news: The construction on those lots behind HPA1 and HPA2 will not be complete by the beginning of the fall semester; we are therefore missing nearly 300 spaces where students and faculty parked during the spring semester. Students are encouraged to park in the front of campus in the Education Parking Garage (Parking Garage A) and walk or catch the shuttle (see below) to their classes. Students without parking decals, parked on roadways, parked on grass areas, or parked in lots or spaces not designated for students will receive parking citations. Be sure to arrive to class early, and look for parking in garages and lots on the west (Alafaya) side of campus.

Students should also consider using the free shuttle service on and around the UCF campus. For more information, visit <http://parking.ucf.edu/Shuttle.html>.

Late Fee Deadline Changed

The deadline for registering without a late fee has been extended to August 21, 2007 at 11:59 p.m. Any registrations occurring before this time will NOT be charged the \$100 late registration fee.

September Deadline for Scholarships

Information on scholarships for Criminal Justice and Legal Studies students can be found on the College of Health and Public Affairs website. After entering www.cohpa.ucf.edu please note the link in the photograph for "Scholarship Opportunities in Health and Public Affairs" on the left-hand side. By clicking on this link, students will be able to obtain information about available scholarships in all departments of Health and Public Affairs; look under Public Affairs for scholarships pertaining to legal studies and criminal justice. Most of the listings will also have applications for download in .PDF format from the site. If you need more information on any of these scholarships, please contact the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies at 407-823-2603. Most scholarships have September deadlines, so apply

now!

Hispanic Heritage Scholarship

The Hispanic Heritage Scholarship Fund of Metro Orlando (HHSFMO) supports the educational development of outstanding Hispanic students in Central Florida through scholarship awards. There are currently a number of \$2500 scholarships available to UCF students of Hispanic origin. Requirements and application are available at <http://hispanicchamber.net/events-scholarship.htm> . The application must be received by 5:00 p.m. on September 7th, 2007. For questions or concerns please email Maritza Martinez at mamartin@mail.ucf.edu .

Fall One-Day Seminars with 1-Credit Hour Option

Register before the end of Fall Add/Drop for CCJ4934 (undergraduates) or CCJ5934 (graduates)! The UCF Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies and the UCF Division of Continuing Education announce our two one-day seminars for fall 2007. Students in these seminars have the opportunity to learn about exciting contemporary topics in the criminal justice field from leading local, regional, national, and international experts, and earn one college credit at the same time!

The fall seminar "Criminal Street Gangs" will be held on September 8, 2007 from 8:00am to 5:00pm. The fall seminar "Electronic Control Weapons" will be held on November 10, 2007 from 8:00am to 5:00pm. These seminars are held on the main campus of the University of Central Florida. Students interested in these seminars should visit the Division of Continuing Education website at www.ce.ucf.edu , and look under "credit courses" or visit the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies in HPA1 311 to obtain a flyer. Seating is limited. For more information about these seminars, or to learn about future seminars, please contact Dr. Ross Wolf, at 407-823-2603 or rwolf@mail.ucf.edu .

US Marshals Service Internship Opportunity

The US Marshals Service will be holding interviews for interns for the Spring, 2008, term, on Wednesday, Sept. 26th, from 8am until 5pm. If you will be academically qualified to complete an internship during the Spring, 2008, term, and you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Dr. Eastep at meastep@mail.ucf.edu

SOON!

Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Student Organizations

Get involved!! As a criminal justice or legal studies major or minor you can develop your skills in your chosen career path! Learn more about these organizations!

LAE Criminal Justice Pre-Professional Fraternity

Lambda Alpha Epsilon invites all Criminal Justice majors, minors, and students interested in Criminal Justice to get involved in one the most active criminal justice organizations anywhere! Participate in ride-alongs, jail tours, the UCF Career Fair, criminal justice crime-scene competitions, and volunteer at events (such as SWAT roundup). Everyone is welcome to attend, feel free to join us to learn more about exciting opportunities in our national pre-professional criminal justice fraternity. Contact our faculty advisor, Dr. Mark Winton at mwinton@mail.ucf.edu or LAE chapter president Dave at ucfbarkeep@cfl.rr.com for more information.

APS Criminal Justice Honor Society

Students interested in the Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society can visit the web-site www.alphaphisigma.org and can contact Dr. Cory Watkins at 407-823-2603 or at rwatkins@mail.ucf.edu for more information. Benefits include: 1) Access to job opportunities, 2) Association with other like minded serious criminal justice students, 3) Involvement in a nationally recognized professional organization, 4) Exposure to a wide range of criminal justice related activities outside of the academic environment. The following are the requirements for Alpha Phi Sigma Membership:

Undergraduate students must maintain a minimum of 3.0 overall GPA on a 4.0 scale, a 3.2 GPA, on a 4.0 scale, in criminal justice courses. The student must also rank in the top 35% of their classes and have completed a minimum of four courses within the criminal justice curriculum. The Honor Society is open to those with a declared criminal justice major or minor. Graduate students are required to maintain a minimum of a 3.4 GPA in both Criminal Justice courses and overall courses, on a 4.0 scale. Student must have completed a minimum of four courses within the criminal justice curriculum.

PAD Legal Studies Pre-Professional Organization

Phi Alpha Delta is a professional, co-ed fraternity geared to those people wanting to enter the legal field. We participate in a variety of activities, including those necessary

for admission to law school such as: community service, leadership opportunities, law school visits, and introductions with the deans of admissions. We also go on conventions, sit in on law school classes, compete in mock trial competitions, and have socials. Other benefits include: \$100 off Blackstone LSAT Prep class (Join PAD and get \$10 back!) To sign up for PAD, you can get an application and newsletter in the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies in HPA1 311. Applicants should submit an application form along with a \$90 check (\$60 national + \$30 local). You do not need to attend all events or all meetings to join; you can participate as much or as little as you like. Our web address is www.geocities.com/UCF_PAD. Or national page is www.pad.org. Should you have any other questions please feel free to contact our faculty advisor, Dr. Kathy Cook, at 407-823-2603.

The UCF Mock Trial Team

The Mock Trial Team at UCF holds try-outs for team membership. For more information, Contact Dr. Margarita Koblasz at 407-823-2603 or at mmruiz@mail.ucf.edu

Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Alumni Club

Are you graduating soon? The CJ/LS Alumni Club would like to remind you to keep in touch when you graduate. There are plenty of leadership opportunities available. You receive automatic membership in this club when you join the UCF Alumni Association (NO EXTRA DUES!). Contact Debbie Phillis at phillis@mail.ucf.edu for more information, or call 407-823-2723.

Omicron Delta Kappa

ODK, one of the nation's premier Leadership Societies has a chapter at UCF which can be accessed on the web at <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~odk/>. Dr. David Gray Ross of the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies is one of the advisers to the UCF Chapter and invites all students to review the qualifications and consider learning more about this wonderful organization. Dr. Ross can be reached at dross@mail.ucf.edu to answer your questions.

Criminal Justice Study Abroad in Russia

The Russia Study Abroad program has been scheduled for next summer. The trip is scheduled to take place in early July, 2008. The program consists of 4 days in Moscow, then by overnight train to Volgograd (was Stalingrad) where cadets and faculty members from the Volgograd Law Academy will host the group. The program

includes visits to significant cultural sites, criminal justice agencies, and Academy faculty presentations pertaining to Russian history, culture, issues related to substance abuse, delinquency, and a detailed overview of the Russian criminal justice system. The Russian police (MVD) will provide support and assistance in Moscow.

The course will be limited to 22 students. If you are interested, and as long as seats are available, a \$500 deposit is required no later than February 28 th, 2008. This is a 3 credit-hour course and is open to all majors. There are undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral course sections available. More information is available from the main CJ office, Ms. Marva Ellington, Ms. Debbie Phillis, Dr. Mary Ann Eastep at 407-823-2603, or the program director Dr. Mike Reynolds (HPA1-330, kreynold@mail.ucf.edu). Alex Lubimov (a Russian) is a program assistant and is located in HPA1-330 and can provide detailed information as well: alubimov@mail.ucf.edu . If you think you may want to go and do not have a passport, you should apply now.

Criminal Justice Study Abroad in Costa Rica

Study Abroad in Costa Rica Summer A, 2008! A new CJ service-learning course, Social Justice, plans to take students to the Pacific coast of Costa Rica and engage in community activities to better understand linkages between social policy, social justice and justice policy. If you think you may want to go and do not have a passport, you should apply now. To register, or for more information, contact Dr. Eastep at meastep@mail.ucf.edu . More information is also available from the main CJ office in HPA1 311, or from Ms. Marva Ellington or Ms. Debbie Phillis at 407-823-2603.

UCF Research and Mentoring Program (RAMP)

Students are strongly encouraged to apply to the UCF Research and Mentoring Program. RAMP is a very exciting and valuable opportunity to advance your academic career. This prestigious and competitive program prepares selected UCF undergraduates for graduate study at the doctoral level. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2007-2008 Academic year. Applications are due by 5:00 P.M on August 31, 2007. For more information, review the application at <http://ramp.ucf.edu/application.html> and speak to your faculty advisor.

Did You Know?

1. The number of publications by our Criminal Justice faculty ranks sixth among criminal justice departments nationally.
2. Sponsored Research approved funding for the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies exceeds \$1.14 million.
3. The Florida Integrated Network for Data Exchange and Retrieval (FINDER) data information sharing system was created for use by law enforcement agencies by faculty in the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies; currently FINDER supports 140 local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. More than 700 arrests and over \$2 million in property recovery have been attributed directly to the system.
4. The Mock Trial Team at UCF, which has been hugely successful during the past several years, won UCF's first ever bid to a Gold National Championship Tournament at Stetson College of Law and won their division at the 11th Annual Yale Mock Trial Invitational Tournament.

Are You Ready For Fall And Spring Classes?

We encourage all students to speak to an academic advisor as often as necessary to ensure their academic success, but no less than once a year. Make an appointment with a faculty member or program advisor today, by contacting the Criminal Justice and Legal Studies office at 407-823-2603.

Write Better! Free Guide on Grammar

The book "Grammar, etc: The handbook for writers," contains all the basic information on punctuation, research papers, and grammar. Once published by McGraw-Hill, the book is now available as a free download through Freeload Press, Inc. The book can be ordered as a print text for \$14.95 or downloaded free of charge.

To download:

1. Go to <http://www.freeloadpress.com/bookDetail.aspx?bId=1091>
2. Register (information provided is confidential)
3. Download (PDF format); it comes in groups of chapters since the book is lengthy.

Need Help On Your Research?

Students can get an individual appointment with a librarian at <http://library.ucf.edu/Reference/ResearchConsultations/Default.asp>

UCF Football

In an effort to inform fans about the Knights inaugural season at Bright House Networks Stadium, the UCF Athletics Association (UCFAA) has launched a comprehensive football event day Web site www.UCFGameDay.com . The Web site has detailed information about the stadium, including a map and seating chart, game day rules and procedures, parking, tailgating, transportation and more.

OUR DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies at the University of Central Florida provides excellence in teaching, research, and service. Dedicated to our students, the faculty delivers outstanding instruction at the undergraduate and graduate levels, incorporating learning, service, and inquiry. We conduct quality research and pursue local, state, and federal funding to advance knowledge in our disciplines. By actively developing meaningful partnerships we provide exemplary service to the university and the broader professional and academic community.

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