

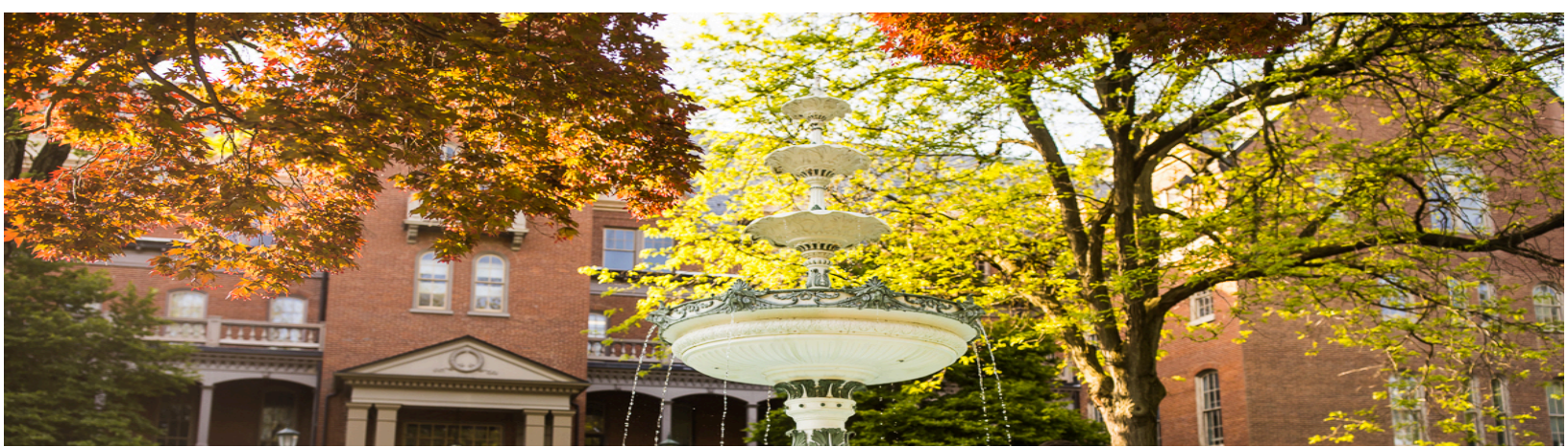
# Making Waves:

Highlighting the Graduate Programs in the  
Department of Criminal Justice  
NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2023 | Issue 6



## Beyond the Classroom: How Service and Training Enhance Teaching and Learning



*“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn”*

*Xun Kuang*

### **A Special Message from Dr. Arelys Madero**

It is my pleasure to write this farewell message. As I reflect back on the last five years of my tenure as Coordinator of the Masters in Criminal Justice Program, I am encouraged to see that the program is well and thriving.

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Each year we challenge dozens of students to reach their best potential, to engage in logical reasoning, problem solving, and critical thinking. We have seen growing enrollments; our classes are filled with students eager to learn. Yet, to me the best measure of our impact is the careers that our alumni pursue, the changes they make in the field through their hard work and dedication to excellence. We teach our students to face challenges with creativity and determination, something we see in the very evolution of this program. The program dates to the 1980s, but it has evolved throughout the years. Most recently, in 2018, the program transitioned to a fully-online format—one of the first social science graduate programs at our university to make the switch from a face-to-face format. The Department of Criminal Justice had experienced a decline in the number of students enrolled, and this factor, coupled with the demand for more flexible schedules for working professionals, presented an opportunity for the Department to move in a new direction. Once the program switched to online, we continued to deliver a high-quality education and have met all assessment benchmarks with respect to curriculum. Our students consistently report high levels of satisfaction with the program, commenting on how our outstanding faculty broadened their expertise and worked with them individually. This very newsletter emerged from our relentless push to grow and to spread the word about all the good the program has to offer. In the words of one of our esteemed alumni, this program is a hidden gem in Central Pennsylvania’s Higher Education.

Looking back, there were so many things I did not know when I took over as coordinator five

years ago. As David Brooks pointed out in his book *The Road to Character*, a person may have knowledge of how things work, but lack wisdom on how to do things. Knowledge comes with studying; wisdom is the capacity to realize our ignorance and discern ways to overcome it. During my tenure as coordinator, I had the privilege of working with hundreds of students, faculty, and staff at the university. Each of them taught me something new and many of them had to forgive my early mistakes. All of them reminded me that education is worth the investment of our time and effort. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as coordinator; I am a better human and professional because of it.



Dr. Madero’s message and impact as coordinator encapsulate the mission of Shippensburg University, “student learning and personal development through highly effective and innovative teaching, complemented by a wide variety of out-of-class experiences.” During my time at Shippensburg University, I have been struck by the integrity and dedication of faculty, staff, and administration to uphold the university’s mission. Born and raised in Central Pennsylvania, I have encountered a number of Shippensburg alumni. When they discover where I work, they

often remark with fondness on their time here, noting the influence that the faculty and university have had on their lives and careers. With this in mind, I am thrilled to introduce the theme of our newsletter's six edition - how service and training enhance teaching and learning. Many of our Criminal Justice Department's faculty are currently involved in projects that both serve and train professionals in the field and the community. Their connections, engagement, and passion enrich our graduate programs' curriculum and experience and provide unique learning opportunities for students. Our newsletter seeks to highlight some of the ways our graduate programs are committed to public service and connected to the community. In closing, I'll end on a quote by Mitch Albom, "The way you get meaning into your life is to

devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning."

*Dr. Laura Beckman, MAJJ Program Coordinator*



If you have any stories you would like to share with us for our Spring/Summer newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Carlos Rojas at [cerojas@ship.edu](mailto:cerojas@ship.edu).



# Academic Calendars

## MCRJ Program

<b>Spring Semester 2024</b>	<b>Summer Term 2024</b>	<b>Fall Semester 2024</b>
Term A: Jan 22 – March 15	Term A: May 20 – June 28	Term A: August 26 – October 18
Term B: March 18 – May 10	Term B: July 1 – August 9	Term B: October 21 – December 13



## MAJJ Program

<b>Spring Semester 2024</b>	<b>Summer Term 2024</b>	<b>Fall Semester 2024</b>
Classes Start: January 22	Term A: May 20 - June 28	Classes Start: August 26
Semester Ends: May 10	Term B: July 1 - August 9	Semester Ends: December 13
<b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS!</b>	<i>Weekend Classes - Spring 2024:</i> <b>January 27-28</b> <b>February 24-25</b> <b>April 20-21</b>	<i>Weekend Classes - Fall 2024:</i> <b>September 7-8</b> <b>October 19-20</b> <b>November 16-17</b>

## Alumni Spotlight: Sonya Stokes

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### Biography

- B.A. Political Science, Hampton University ('93)
- M.S. Administration of Justice, Shippensburg University ('03)
- 1994-1999: Youth Program Specialist, Dauphin County-Woodside Detention Center/Schaffner Youth Center
- 1999-2007: Juvenile Probation Officer, Dauphin County Juvenile Probation
- 2007-2015: Bridging the Gap Administrator, The Salvation Army
- 2015-2017: Curriculum and Trainer Development Supervisor, Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center
- 2017-present: Director of Professional Development, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

*Sonya holds a M.S. Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University.*



Shippensburg University helped me fulfill a goal that I had set for myself in obtaining a master's degree. By going through the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored program, I was able to be in a cohort where all members worked in the juvenile justice field, and we provided support to each other. Going through this program also allowed me the opportunity to continue my education without having to worry about the financial strain of paying for graduate school tuition. The criminal justice department faculty encouraged us to share our experiences, perspectives, and ideas while presenting us with new knowledge and skills to use in our jobs. I

gained so many invaluable things from being in this program and graduating from Shippensburg University: advancement in my career, networking opportunities, personal development, and specialized skills and knowledge. I would encourage other professionals in the juvenile justice field to participate in this great program at Shippensburg University.

## Faculty Spotlight: Special Feature on Service and Training

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By Dr. Melissa L. Ricketts, Professor



I believe that community outreach and service enhance my personal and professional approach to the classroom by allowing me to build a stronger connection between the academic content I teach and its real-world relevance. With a passion deeply rooted in intimate partner violence, I have dedicated much of my career to understanding the dynamics, consequences, and prevention strategies associated with this pervasive issue. My expertise in this domain has been cultivated through years of research, teaching, advocacy, and service to Randi's House of Angels (RHOA), a local agency dedicated to helping children and families who are exposed to and/or are victims of domestic violence.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), it is estimated that one in fifteen children are exposed to IPV each year, and 90% of these children are direct eyewitnesses to this violence. Further research shows that witnessing IPV has been associated with a broad range of physical and mental health problems, health risk behaviors, social consequences, and is often cited as a major risk factor in the lives of youthful offenders. After years of research, the piece of information that really resonated with me was the lack of societal awareness given the prevalence of IPV and the extensive impact it has on the people we may have the ability to reach out and help. Thus, I made it my mission to end the silence on intimate partner violence by creating educational opportunities not only at Shippensburg University but also through my service with Randi's House of Angels. Thus, I am thrilled to introduce two of my latest projects that integrate my love of teaching, research, and service.

### Podcast



Since the beginning of 2023, I have had the opportunity to help create and develop a podcast with RHOA entitled, "Recovery, Healing, Outreach, Awareness: A Podcast About Domestic Violence." This podcast was launched in October 2023 to create a safe space for survivors, advocates, and experts to share their stories, insights, and knowledge. A series of important topics will be discussed throughout multiple episodes of the podcast that can offer vital support and resources to victims and survivors, helping them realize that they are not alone, and that help is

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available. The goal of the podcast is to serve as a catalyst for raising awareness and encourage necessary conversations within families, communities, and institutions. Further, we hope to empower listeners, foster empathy, and inspire collective action towards eradicating domestic violence while creating a safer, more compassionate society. To listen to the podcast, please visit the following link: <https://randishouseofangels.org/podcasts/>

## **Training**

Recognizing the profound influence of training and education in shaping institutional responses, I will help to develop specialized training sessions for juvenile justice employees across the state of Pennsylvania during my sabbatical in the spring 2024 semester. My goal is to equip these very dedicated professionals with the tools and knowledge they need to effectively identify and address cases of intimate partner violence among the youth and families they serve.

Engaging in these partnerships not only enriches my understanding of the subjects I teach but also helps me connect with my students on a deeper level, as I can share real-world examples, experiences, and the impact of those experiences on the local community. Moreover, it instills in me a sense of social responsibility and empathy that I can pass on to my students, fostering a more holistic and meaningful educational experience. These projects also enable me to be a role model for my students, demonstrating the importance of giving back to the community and making a positive impact beyond the classroom.



## Faculty Spotlight: Special Feature on Service and Training

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By Stephanie Jirard, Professor

"Oh my, what am I in for today?" The look of excited apprehension as I begin a day-long training for Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs) on the techniques of powerful oral and written courtroom presentations, is a look I embrace. I ask the assembled JPOs who among the group has ever had a recommendation for a specific young person denied by the court, and virtually all raise their hands. The purpose of the training is to offer tried and true courtroom strategies of persuasion - reinforced by interactive speaking and writing exercises - that, if practiced and implemented, can strengthen a JPO's chances of success in influencing the court to adopt probation's recommendations.

The 40-year plus relationship between the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) and Shippensburg University means that when there is an identified need for a specific training to improve JPO performance in the field, Ship faculty are the first called. The shift in criminal justice to evidence-based practices proven to reduce recidivism has meant practitioners "speak to the instrument" rather than speak about the person whose life hangs in the balance. We have all been in courtrooms where professionals (judges, lawyers, contractors, and probation) speak to domains, scores, and risk factors while the person under the court's jurisdiction sits as a spectator in their own proceeding; there is a growing disconnect between Johnny the person and the professionals' arguments of how the court should treat Johnny.



The courtroom presentation skills training for JPOs offers suggestions to reintegrate the person into evidence-based presentations. While JPOs are the bridge between the prosecutor and defense counsel, JPOs can still offer objective summaries and recommendations in a persuasive manner. The key to persuasion is storytelling. All juvenile court participants recognize the JPO as the expert on the young person and their families. The JPO is the one who spends the most time with the juvenile and best knows the juvenile's circumstances. To

increase the JPOs' persuasive chops (slang for abilities), I lead the JPOs through a series of drills.

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We start with an exercise of how to keep focus in the courtroom when there are competing interests that may derail the JPO from achieving the court's attention to act in the best interest of the youth. While the Commonwealth is decreasing reliance on detention and secure bed availability is as rare as a Willy Wonka golden ticket, the exercise helps the JPO stay on point and keeps their recommendation(s) at the forefront of the courtroom presentation. The training segues into writing exercises designed to make JPO report writing clear, concise, and crisp and, using intake sheets from hypothetical juveniles' case files, we end the day with storyboarding and practice in how to respectfully engage the court when a JPO's recommendation is denied without cause.

Preliminary reviews indicate the training is helpful. I hope in a year's time, those JPOs who received the training will reach out to me and let me know if the JPO used any of the training's suggestions and, if so, did the new techniques of persuasion work? The JPO courtroom presentation skills training is but one example of Ship faculty bringing our course content into the field to keep improving the delivery of JCJC services to all Pennsylvania youth and families in need. I am proud to work alongside my outstanding Ship criminal justice colleagues in our JCJC training endeavors.



# Meet our Graduate Assistants (GAs)

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## Paije Koller



### **Why did you choose Shippensburg University?**

I earned my bachelor's degree at Shippensburg and enjoyed my academic experience at the university. Even though my undergraduate degree was in a different discipline, I knew I could expect the same compassion and support from the faculty in the criminal justice department. The master's program for criminal justice seemed flexible with it being offered online, yet enjoyably challenging. Shippensburg University has always made me feel supported and welcomed throughout my academia.

### **What opportunities has the GA position provided you?**

During my initial interview for the job, I was informed that as a GA would be able to undergo any independent research project relevant to the criminal justice field. I took advantage of this opportunity and began my quantitative study on public perceptions of mass incarceration and how political media can influence these perceptions in February 2023. The study involved 520 respondents and taught me invaluable information about the IRB process, applying for grants, collecting data, utilizing SPSS, and conducting research in general. Further, because of this opportunity, I will be presenting my research findings in Chicago this spring at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conference.

### **Share your experience in the MCRJ program to date, and a valuable lesson learned.**

The MCRJ program provided me with a strong foundation of knowledge regarding criminological theories, the criminal justice system as a whole, legal trends, and current events issues. Each professor in the department has unique experiences and insights that they bring into their teaching styles which served as a valuable lesson in itself. My experience in the MCRJ program taught me that there are many ways to make a difference in the world.

## Meet our Graduate Assistants (GAs) (Continued)

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### Alasia Stevenson



#### **Why did you choose Shippensburg University?**

In December of 2022, I received my Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice here at Shippensburg University. The moment I stepped on SU campus for the first time, I instantly fell in love with its homey atmosphere. Continuing my education at Shippensburg University was an easy decision to make given the encouragement I received from fellow CJ faculty. I unregretfully embrace the opportunity because everyday I wake up in the morning, I express my gratitude for being given the chance to further excel my academic career goals in the Criminal Justice field at Shippensburg University.

#### **What opportunities has the GA position provided you?**

Educational burnout is a real thing in college but both the academic and encouraging support I have received from faculty inspires me to continue to strive towards achieving my career goals so that one day I advocate for others just like CJ faculty always have for me. While the college journey may seem relatively short-term, the connections I built and continue to build with both CJ faculty and other fellow graduate students reminds me to always cherish every single part of my criminal justice academic journey.

Since beginning my GA position, the position itself has helped me to practice my networking skills through interacting with criminal justice agencies and organizations all over the state of Pennsylvania. Also, I was able to join the Randi's House of Angels committee dedicated towards promoting awareness of domestic violence that occurs in family settings.

#### **Share your experience in the MCRJ program to date, and a valuable lesson learned.**

Graduate school is a whirlwind of emotions and the MCRJ program can sometimes be challenging but very invaluable. Being the first member in my family striving to obtain a CRJ Master's degree is a very rewarding experience. The biggest lesson I learned from the MCRJ program is to openly embrace failure and always take accountability. It is always important for me to prioritize my mental health so I can be there to assist CJ faculty with important projects/deadlines.

## Meet our Graduate Assistants (GAs) (Continued)

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### Savannah Turcol



#### **Why did you choose Shippensburg University?**

I received my Bachelor's degree in criminal justice in the spring of 2023 at Shippensburg University. I decided to come here because the atmosphere was welcoming, and I had various opportunities to expand my education. I chose to stay at Shippensburg University for my Master's because I developed strong ties with the professors. One of the criminal justice professors influenced my decision to continue my education, and it has broadened my knowledge and allowed me to explore different career options. Shippensburg University has been home for the past four years, and I wanted to stay on a campus where I felt comfortable and encouraged to do my best.

#### **What opportunities has the GA position provided you?**

The GA position has allowed me to participate in professional experiences with students and the faculty and gain expertise in the criminal justice field. Through my time as one of the criminal justice GAs, I have built stronger relationships with all of the faculty and staff within the department. The GA position has provided me with connections with outside criminal justice agencies to explore more career options. Expanding my education and getting my undergrad and graduate degrees in 5 years has pushed me closer to my career goals.

#### **Share your experience in the MCRJ program to date, and a valuable lesson learned.**

The MCRJ program has been an adjusting journey compared to an undergraduate level. Overall, the experience has been amazing, and I am excited to continue my educational journey. With the MCRJ entirely online, time management is a crucial skill. Creating a to-do list and weekly goals allows you to spread out the workload. Allowing yourself the room for flexibility will enable you to adapt to change. Change may be uncomfortable, but it is a sign of growth.

# New Initiative from the Center for Career and Workforce Development: Employer Engagement Summits

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The Center for Career and Workforce Development began hosting Employer Engagement Summits in Spring 2023. The Employer Engagement Summits are organized around a theme and bring regional employers to Shippensburg University to voice their short-term and long-term needs. Participants include employers, faculty, staff, and students. For faculty, this provides the opportunity to hear what students in their discipline may be lacking as they enter the job market and how the industry is shifting. Accordingly, faculty can address shifting trends and needs, such as embedding employer long-term needs into department curriculum and individual courses. For staff at the Center for Career and Workforce Development, this means developing relevant training programs and workshops to address employers' short-term needs. For example, if employers note a demand for technical writing, the Center can address this by offering technical writing workshops, training, and certifications. For students, the summits inform them on what employers are looking for in their field, which can help them in choosing courses, internships, and training that are aimed at acquiring marketable skills and highlighting them in their resumé. The Graduate School and the Center for Career and Workforce Development work to connect graduate students and departments to employers. The Employer Engagement Summits are an additional means to building these important relationships.

Past Employer Engagement Summits		Upcoming Employer Engagement Summits	
Leadership	April 19, 2023	Manufacturing	February 28, 2024
Public Service	October 18, 2023	South Central Business Summit	April 10, 2024

**For more information contact Lorelee Isbell, Associate Vice President and Executive Director Career and Workforce Development**  
**Phone: 717-477-1502**  
**Email: [lisbell@ship.edu](mailto:lisbell@ship.edu)**



## MCRJ Practicum Projects

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Congratulations to our MCRJ students for the successful completion of their **Practicum Projects** (CRJ 595) this past summer!

● Black, Brittany	“Does Supervision Actually Matter?” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cyndi Koller.
● Brown, Ciara	“A Qualitative Study on Incarcerated Mothers and the Impact of Separation.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Melissa Ricketts.
● Devlin, Luke	“Bucks County Mental Health Court and Recidivism: A Sample Comparison.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cyndi Koller.
● Hockenberry, Kelsey	“The Impact of Conducted Energy Weapons on Subject Compliance.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Melissa Ricketts.
● Holsopple, Haylee	“The Assessment of Mental Health Disorders Among Juveniles and the Effect that these Disorders have on Individual Recidivism.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Matthew Fetzer.
● Keller, Sarah	“Human Trafficking’s Connection to Social Media.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cyndi Koller.
● Koller, Paije	“Lessons Learned Through Incarceration: A Qualitative Study on Prisoners’ Experiences with Incarceration.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cyndi Koller.
● Kunkel, Sydney	“A Proposed Analysis of Ely State Prison’s Solitary Confinement Experiences.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Melissa Ricketts.

● Miller, Erin	“Juvenile Fire Starters.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cyndi Koller.
● Purcell, R.D. Alexandre	“Can Societal Perceptions of Children with Incarcerated Parents Cause Juvenile Delinquency?” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Cyndi Koller.
● Salvatore, Vin	“Major Crime and Guns.” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Matthew Fetzer.
● Shaughnessy, Morgan	“How Prevalent are Murders Motivated by Illegal Drug Use in Pennsylvania?” Faculty Advisor: Dr. Melissa Ricketts.

**The CRJ faculty are proud of the hard work of students in these projects. The knowledge gained will help our alumni bring evidence-based practices (EBPs) to their workplaces. And it will contribute to our mission of equipping individuals to make transformative contributions to their communities.**

**Congratulations!**



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## Award Announcement

We are pleased to announce the student selected as the winner of the:  
**2023 Dr. Anthony F. Ceddia Award**

Join us in congratulating,



Janelle Torres and Dr. Charles Patterson, SU President, at the 2023 JCJC James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

For her academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to the juvenile justice profession as demonstrated throughout the Masters of Administration of Juvenile Justice Program.

**Congratulations, Janelle!**



## Annual Tulip Planting Ceremony



Each fall, Ship takes a stand against intimate partner violence (IPV) with a tulip planting ceremony hosted by the PAGE Center. This year, on October 4, the event featured representatives, one CRJ student representative from the undergraduate program (right: Victoria Carroll) and one student from our MCRJ program (left: Alasia Stevenson) who shed light on the impact of IPV, and to discuss how the criminal justice department at Shippensburg University is actively raising awareness about this pervasive problem. The goal is to empower individuals to recognize and respond to domestic violence in their own lives and in the lives of those around them.



## Meet Our New Department Chair!

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### Dr. Matthew Fetzer, Professor

My name is Matthew Fetzer, and I am an alumnus of Shippensburg University having graduated with a bachelor of science in criminal justice and a master of science in administration of justice. I left Shippensburg to earn my doctorate at the University of Albany in New York. While in New York, I worked as a policy analyst for NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services where some of my responsibilities included managing UCR/NIBRS data and producing the annual reports on domestic violence, homicide, and hate crime for the state. In 2011, I came back to Shippensburg University as a faculty member of the Criminal Justice Department. Since then, I have had an active role in teaching students in our undergraduate program as well as our two graduate programs. At the undergraduate level, I often teach courses on research methods, hate crime, homicide, and policy. At the graduate level, I typically teach courses on research methods, statistics, and practicum. My research agenda aligns with many of the courses that I teach, as I have publications on the topics of juvenile justice, homicide, and hate crime.

My vision for the Criminal Justice Department is to provide high quality educational experiences for our students that are impactful for them both professionally and personally. My goal is to provide knowledge and skills through our academic programs that will allow our graduates to excel in their careers in the field. It is my hope that while they are students in our programs, our faculty can establish bonds through classroom interaction and mentorship that our students will carry with them as they move on from this institution. As it is these connections with our students that build strong partnerships with agencies across the criminal justice field and enhances the reputation of our programs.



## Criminal Justice Faculty/Staff Kudos

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### Dr. Arelys Madero

- ★ Recently published an article in the Latin American Journal of Criminology, CENIPEC. Her article, written in Spanish is titled “Victimology: Development, methodological and theoretical claims, and a summary of the current state of scientific studies.” The article is accessible online at <http://www.saber.ula.ve/handle/123456789/49811>
- ★ Served on the organizing committee for the Annual Meeting of the [Criminology Consortium](#), held October 16-20. She oversaw the area of the program dedicated to developments in Victimology. This conference is free and open to criminal justice and criminology researchers, practitioners, and the public.

### Dr. Carlos Rojas

- ★ Won the TIPS (Teaching Innovations in Pedagogy and Scholarship) award for his AJJ 505: Quantitative Analysis course. Dr. Rojas was recognized as a TIPS recipient for incorporating highly effective teaching practices in his development of this course, such as weekly synchronous zoom sessions, a 47-page Q&A guide, a resource library of tutorials and videos as part of his YouTube channel specifically designed for this course, and learning tools that guide students through the process of conducting evidence-based research and evaluation of juvenile justice programs.

### Drs. Laura Beckman, Arelys Madero, and Melissa Ricketts

- ★ Participated in a roundtable discussion titled, “Maximizing Student Success: Best Practices in Academic Advising” at the American Society of Criminology conference held from November 15-18, 2023 in Philadelphia, PA. The roundtable included faculty from other PASSHE schools and examined the connection between quality academic advising and undergraduate student success.





# Meet Our Faculty

## Department of Criminal Justice

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**Dr. Laura Beckman**

**Areas of expertise:**

Race, ethnicity, and immigration in the juvenile justice; criminal justice systems.



**Dr. Arelys Madero**

**Areas of expertise:**

Victimology; crime prevention; communities and crime; race/ethnicity.



**Dr. Matthew Fetzer**

**Areas of expertise:**

Measurement of crime and delinquency; hate crime; violence and juvenile justice.



**Dr. Melissa Ricketts**

**Areas of expertise:**

Intimate partner violence; substance abuse; school violence; correctional issues.



**Stephanie Jirard**

**Areas of expertise:**

Constitutional law; capital punishment; race and gender in popular culture.



**Dr. Carlos Rojas**

**Areas of expertise:**

Race, ethnicity, immigration, and crime; environmental criminology.



**Dr. Cynthia Koller**

**Areas of expertise:**

Juvenile justice; white collar crime; judicial corruption; sentencing disparities.

# Interested in one of our Masters Degrees?

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## MCRJ Program

Be the change you wish to see in the world with a Master of Science in Criminal Justice. This program is a 100% online program and meets the needs of both traditional graduate students and working professionals. Full-time students can earn their degree in one (1) year, while part-time students can do so in two (2) years.

### What will I learn?

The program's major strengths are its applied perspective and strong emphasis on theory, policy, research and analysis. Courses provide you with the knowledge and skills to undertake independent, critical investigation of issues related to crime control and justice policy.

### What are the requirements?

- A bachelor's degree in criminal justice, administration of justice or related social science field from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Minimum grade point average of a 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with less than a 2.75 undergraduate GPA will be required to take the Graduate Requisite Examination (GRE) and provide a sufficient score before they are eligible for admission. They may also take the Millers Analogies Test (MAT) and provide a sufficient score.
- A statement of interest (500 words or less) indicating your reasons for pursuing this program, your professional goals and how this degree will help fulfill said goals.
- A resume is optional.

### Ready to Apply?

Go to <https://www.ship.edu/programs/criminal-justice-ms/>

### Questions?

Please contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Carlos Rojas, via email at [cerojas@ship.edu](mailto:cerojas@ship.edu) or call (717) 477-1770.

## MAJJ Program

The Master of Science in Administration of Juvenile Justice program represents a unique collaboration between the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, its Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research and the Criminal Justice Department of Shippensburg University. This one-of-a-kind program offers classes through a hybrid format, combining face-to-face sessions and online course content. Classes meet three weekends each semester during the fall and spring semesters. During the summer terms, all coursework is completed online.

### What will I learn?

The program is competency-based. The faculty who teach in the program are committed to providing a high quality education that will prepare you to provide evidence-based services that are ethical, impartial and effective in a rapidly changing and increasingly diverse society.

### What are the requirements?

- Full-time county juvenile probation officer or juvenile justice provider who graduated from an accredited college with at least 18 credits in the behavioral or social sciences.
- Minimum grade point average of a 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with less than a 2.75 undergraduate GPA will be required to take the Graduate Requisite Examination (GRE) or Millers Analogies Test (MAT) and provide a sufficient score before they are eligible for admission.
- A letter of interest for Endorsement and Admission to the JCJC-sponsored Graduate Education Program and the Shippensburg University School of Graduate Studies, addressing a) why you are a strong candidate for endorsement; b) any reasons why you may still be a strong candidate despite having an undergraduate GPA below 2.75/4.00; c) complete description of juvenile justice work experience; and d) how you expect to use the graduate education experience to improve practices in the county from which application is made.
- A letter of recommendation form completed by the chief juvenile probation officer in your county.
- A resume.

### Ready to Apply?

Go to <https://www.ship.edu/programs/administration-juvenile-justice-ms/>

### Questions?

Please contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Laura Beckman, via email at [lobeckman@ship.edu](mailto:lobeckman@ship.edu) or call (717) 477-1763.



## 4 + 1 PROGRAM

Department of Criminal Justice



# 4+1 Program

Complete your bachelors and master's degrees in criminal justice at Shippensburg University, in just five years.



### BENEFITS

*Save time* by starting graduate school earlier

*Save money* by paying a portion of your graduate courses at the undergraduate tuition rate



### ELIGIBILITY

- 3.0 minimum GPA
- 75 credits
- Satisfactory completion of CRJ 309 and CRJ 310



### APPLICATION

- Personal statement
- Updated resume
- Detailed plan of study

Applications are due by April 1st.



**QUALITY** education in a school you **TRUST**

### CONTACT US

✉ [crimjust@ship.edu](mailto:crimjust@ship.edu)  
☎ 717.477.1558

