CRIME, LAW, AND JUSTICE STUDIES

Visiting Associate Professor: Tanya Erzen, Chair

About the Program
In the Crime, Law and Justice (CLJ) Interdisciplinary minor program, students gain expertise in how crime, policing, and prisons intersect with questions of justice and structural inequality in the United States. Students examine the law, policing and carceral systems from multiple disciplines while retaining a critical lens on these systems and institutions. The minor provides students with a background on the complex histories, policies and societal implications of crime, law and justice. By looking at practice, policy and research, students explore questions such as: When do an individual's rights matter more than a group's rights? Is the criminal legal system just? What is the role of police in a democratic society? How has the US criminal legal system defined justice over time and in different contexts? The minor explicitly examines questions of social justice and issues such as equality, fairness, and freedom.

Students in the minor have multiple opportunities for experiential learning in joint accredited classes, research partnerships, and study halls with students in the University of Puget Sound Liberal Studies BA degree program in the Washington Correction Center for Women. The connection to the college in prison program enables main campus students to co-learn with people most directly impacted by crime, law and justice systems. The program fosters a culture of collaboration, empowerment and critical engagement between undergraduate students inside and outside the prison.

In the introductory course, students directly connect with people in the field such as judges, prosecutors, police, formerly justice-impacted people, restorative justice advocates, legislators and activists. In the introductory course, students choose an organization in the field to research in order to analyze people-centered, empirically-informed, and sustainable solutions to social problems in communities and institutions. The minor equips students to be leaders, professionals, and agents of change in justice-related institutions and in diverse local and global communities.

The minor consists of a set of scaffolded courses that begins with a required overview of the criminal legal system in relation to the question of justice. The next required class (there are two options) provides a theoretical and historical grounding in crime, law, and justice that includes an opportunity for experiential learning. There are three areas of electives: law, social justice, and carceral systems. Students must take classes in at least two different elective areas. Students can take EXLN 350 as one of the three electives. This class will enable them to do an internship or capstone project related to crime, law and justice in consultation with the CLJ director.

General Requirements for the Minor
General university degree requirements stipulate that 1) three units of the minor be taken in residence at the University of Puget Sound; 2) students earn a GPA of 2.0 in courses taken for the minor; and 3) all courses taken for the minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the minor degree requirements listed below.

Requirements for the Minor in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies
1. CLJ 220 Introduction to Crime Law and Justice Studies
2. CLJ 307/REL 307 Prisons, Justice, Education or CLJ 370 Prisons and Public Memory
3. Three Electives (in at least two different areas one of which may be EXLN350)

Other courses may be added to this list on a semester-by-semester basis.

Law
AFAM 346 African Americans and American Law
COMM 346 Rhetoric and the Law
PG 313 American Constitutional Law
PG 315 Law and Society
PG 316 Civil Liberties
PG 333 International Law in Political Context
PG 348/PHIL 378 Philosophy of Law
REL 320 Law and Religion

Social Justice
AFAM/REL 265 What is Justice?
AFAM 304 Capital and Captivity: African Americans and the U.S. Economy
AFAM/LTS 320 Race, Power, and Privilege
PG 304 Race and American Politics
PG 345 Intersectionality as Theory and Method
REL 270 Religion, Activism and Social Justice

Crime, Policing and the Carceral State
CONN 318 Crime and Punishment
ENGL 247 Introduction to Popular Genres
ENGL 358 True Crime in the U.S.
PG 311 Politics of Detention: Criminal Justice, Immigration, and the War on Terror
PG 330 Peace, Justice, and Reconciliation in Latin America
PHIL 370 Social and Political Philosophy
SOAN 206 Theories of Deviance and Social Control
SOAN 314 Criminology
STHS 354 Murder and Mayhem under the Microscope

Course Offerings
Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year. Please see “Frequency of Course Offerings” on page 20.

Crime, Law, & Justice Studies (CLJ)
220 Introduction to Crime, Law and Justice The class serves as an introduction to the Crime, Law and Justice Studies minor through an interdisciplinary approach. The course uses approaches from history, sociology, ethnography, critical theory and literature to examine the sequence of events that occur in the criminal legal system to address the following questions and topics: Is our system just? What is crime, and what are some theories that claim to explain "criminality"? How did the US criminal legal process and procedures emerge, and how do they function today? What is the history of policing and the police, and what are current issues that shape policing today? What happens once a person is caught up in the criminal legal process, and what role do judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and forensics play in that process? In the small percentage of cases that proceed to trial, what happens, and what are the options for the person? What happens after, and do prisons administer just punishment? What about after prison? The driving question of the course is what it means to have and create a just system and for whom, and how does race, gender, sexuality and other categories of identity shape how a person experiences this sequence of often inevitable events. To understand complex issues like Crime, Law and Justice, we will use numerous case studies and stories such as Kalief Browder, a 16-year who spent years in Rikers Island
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Prison without a conviction, and whose case spurred the movement to close Rikers. We look at how judges and prosecutors make decisions in a Cleveland Courthouse, how one man experienced the death penalty, and read short stories that imagine societies with different ways of administering justice. This class will have multiple class visits including a Juvenile Prison superintendent, a police officer, people who have been in prison, a lawyer with the Clemency project and others. *Offered every year.*

307 Prisons, Gender and Education  What is the relationship between the university and the prison? How does college in prison raise questions of authority, power and privilege? This is an experiential learning class that combines involvement in a college program at the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) and academic classes and readings. Students read texts on the history of prisons, theories of punishment, higher education in prison, and how the intersection of race, gender and sexuality impact the experience of incarceration and education in prison. Students also participate as research partners and study hall co-learners with students at the prison in collaboration with the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound (FEPPS), a signature initiative of the University of Puget Sound. Through collaboration with FEPPS students, students in this class will gain knowledge about the challenges and benefits of the liberal arts in prison. *Cross-listed as CLJ/REL 307. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, Power graduation requirement. Offered frequently*.

410 Capstone in Crime, Law and Justice Studies  0.50 units.  The purpose of this .5 seminar is to provide students with guidance and a supportive environment in which to pursue an independent research project that will serve as the culmination of their minor in Crime, Law and Justice Studies. The course allows students, in consultation with the CLJ director, to reflect upon, evaluate, and apply the knowledge they have gained in their course work with an institution, group or organization related to crime, law and justice. Students conduct research for or about the organization, which might include archival research, interviews or participant observation. Students identify themes, as well as particular questions and/or methodological comparisons to create connections between their coursework and the organization. The culmination of the seminar is project in a paper or non-paper format that they present to the class. For example, a student who focused on carceral systems might choose to work with an organization or with a legislator involved in prison reform and write about that experience. A student focusing on forensics and policing could examine how the Tacoma police utilize forensic science through a video, zine or slide presentation. A student focused on law and race in the US could shadow a lawyer at the Defenders Association or Civil Survival and create a video about it or write a paper, short story or art installation. *Prerequisite: Admission to the CLJ minor or instructor permission. Cannot be audited. Offered every year.*