

Sociology Department, College of the Liberal Arts

"I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go, if you really want to go." ~Langston Hughes

Please take a few minutes to read through the CLJ Communiqué—it contains important updates and information related to advising, academics, and enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities. You should receive two newsletters during the fall and spring semesters via e-mail—please let us know if you don't.

Advising Hours:

Appointments Only:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

To schedule an appointment, please visit:
www.la.psu.edu/advising-appt/

Walk-in Advising:

Monday–Thursday
1–4 p.m.

Contacting your advisers

Karen Sones (klo1@psu.edu) 317 Oswald Tower	Courtney Orr (cro3@psu.edu) 316 Oswald Tower	Lisa Brooks (ldb125@psu.edu) 315 Oswald Tower
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Phone number: 814-865-2217



Department Web site:
www.sociology.psu.edu

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Scheduling an appointment versus walking-in:

Walk-in advising is great option if you have questions that can be answered in a relatively short amount of time. Appointments are meant for issues that you know will take longer than 10 or 15 minutes. Examples of topics that could be covered in an appointment include:

1. Change of major or concurrent major paperwork
2. Long-range planning
3. Study Abroad plans
4. Major/career exploration
5. Class schedules for the upcoming semester
6. Other topics that you want to discuss in detail and would like a designated time to do so

A few important points about scheduling an appointment:

- Appointments are made in ½ hour blocks.
- If you are assigned a specific adviser, you must schedule an appointment with that adviser. You can see any adviser during walk-in advising hours.

Important Fall Semester Deadlines

Late Drop Deadline

The deadline to late drop a course for this semester is **November 14, 2008**, and it is a firm deadline. If late-dropping a class sounds like an option you want to consider, make an informed decision about it. Meet with your professor to accurately assess your progress in a course before you late-drop it. Discuss with your adviser the possible consequences of late-dropping a class, such as the amount of late drop credits available to you and how it may affect your full-time status (which can, in turn, affect your student aid and/or health insurance). If you determine that late-dropping a course is in your best interest, you can late-drop through eLion at <https://elion.oas.psu.edu> or in the advising or Registrar's offices.

Withdrawals

Those who are experiencing significant difficulties this fall may consider withdrawing for the semester. The last day to withdraw from the fall 2008 semester is **December 12, 2008**. After this date, no student will be permitted to withdraw. You can easily process a withdrawal using eLion at <https://elion.oas.psu.edu>, but please consider talking to Karen, Courtney, or Lisa about your plans first.

Please note:

The Advising Offices will be closed on Friday, November 28

Spring Scheduling Tips

Spring scheduling has begun, so please review your audit and consider the degree requirements that you still need to satisfy. Below are a few scheduling tips to keep in mind:

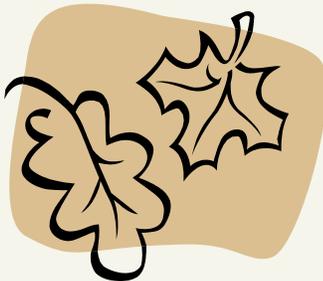
- CRIM 100 is the SAME course as CLJ 111. You will not get credit for both!
- CRIM 250W is required for most of the 400 level CRIM courses.
- CRIM 250W must be scheduled and successfully completed before you are permitted to complete an internship.
- Strive for some balance in your schedule. In other words, don't load up on 400-level CRIM classes if you can help it.

As always, please feel free to contact Karen, Courtney, or Lisa about any scheduling concerns.

Still Need a CRIM Course for the Spring?

The following CRIM courses are still open for the
spring semester:

012	100	250W	422
429	433	435	



I N T E R N S H I P C E N T R A L

Spring Internship Information

If you haven't already contacted Dr. Howard Smith about completing a spring internship, you will need to postpone your plans until the summer session or next fall semester. For those students who have discussed their plans with Dr. Smith, the remaining deadline date for the spring internship is as follows:

November 11 Placements should be finalized by this date. Send an e-mail to Dr. Smith (hbs103@psu.edu) with your internship site placement. See Sheri Miller in 214 Oswald to complete the orange placement card.

Summer Internship Information

If you're considering a summer internship, the internship dates are planned for **May 18–August 12, 2009**. Be sure to contact Dr. Menard by **January 25** regarding summer internships. Following are key deadline dates:

January 25 Indicate your intent to complete an internship by this date and e-mail Dr. Kim Menard (kmm157@psu.edu) to let her know your plans.

February 15 Letters must be sent to three possible internship sites by this date. Send an e-mail to Dr. Menard with the names of the three sites.

April 12 Placements should be finalized by this date. Send an e-mail to Dr. Menard with your internship site placement. See Sheri Miller in room 214 Oswald to complete the orange placement card. We will then send a letter to your internship site with information and instructions about your internship duties/activities.

For more information about the internship process, take a look at this section of the departmental Web site: www.sociology.psu.edu/undergraduate/internships.shtml. Dr. Howard Smith (hbs103@psu.edu) and Dr. Kim Menard (kmm157@psu.edu) are the internship coordinators. Karen, Courtney, and Lisa are available to discuss the internship process, how an internship fits into your academic plan, potential sites, and answer questions you have about internships.

Did you know...

...that **Dr. Lori Burrington** likes to make (musical) noise? When not teaching or working on her research, Lori enjoys playing her 1965 Gibson SG Standard electric guitar. The guitar has special meaning for her since she purchased it from the former bandmate (and sociology professor) who first inspired her to become a sociologist. As a cautious new resident, however, Lori has yet to fully test the limits of State College's noise ordinance (and her neighbors' patience!) Lori also enjoys listening to music (The Who, David Bowie, Wilco, and Steve Reich are favorites), playing tennis, and vintage pinball and arcade games.

Want to Get Involved?

Alpha Phi Sigma

Applications for Alpha Phi Sigma, the national criminal justice honor society, are available outside of room 315 Oswald Tower. To be eligible, CLJ majors must have completed a minimum of four justice courses, have an overall grade point average of 3.2 as well as a major grade point average of 3.2. For more information about Alpha Phi Sigma, contact the APS president, Mike Houlihan (mch5031@psu.edu).

The Justice Association

All meetings are held at 7 p.m. in room 358 Willard. Contact Alanna Penecale (anp138@psu.edu) with any questions.

On November 19, Thomas Innamorato, a retired CIA Agent and current employee of the Department of Defense on Intelligence, will speak. He spent 26 years in the CIA, 23 of them under cover. Innamorato had seven overseas tours, five in Africa and two in Europe, and a European tour while in the Army. He worked on Counter terrorist targets, Counter Intelligence, Counter Narcotics, classical Cold War Espionage targets and a few other things. His presentation will focus on "Intelligence, Terrorism and the Future".

If you are interesting in **helping out with THON**, please contact Nicole Miller at nmm5030@psu.edu. There are 3 canning trips left, along with helping raise money on and around campus!

Center County Youth Center (CCYC) is a juvenile detention center located about fifteen minutes off campus. Every Thursday night, members drive to the center and play Walleyball (similar to volleyball) with the youth there. Any questions, contact Bridget (bkw5014@psu.edu) or Cole (cem5055@psu.edu).

This year, JA is pairing up with **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Centre County** for a program called the JUMP-Site Based Program. Twice a month, members travel as a group to a specific location and spend time with a child as a positive influence in their life. If you have any questions, you can contact Megan Evans (mevans@ccysb.com).

A Message from the Mock Trial President:

Penn State is proud to have the largest Mock Trial Association in the nation. We host two on-campus IM tournaments every year on campus and send teams to Invitational Tournaments throughout the fall semester. In the past, we've competed at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, the University of Pittsburgh, Yale University in New Haven, and Columbia University in New York City. The teams in both the IM Tournaments and the Invitational Season are captained by seasoned members of Penn State Mock Trial who coach and lead their teams.

Penn State is equally proud of its track record. In the past seven years, 4 teams have placed top-20 at the National Championship, 5 teams have placed top-5 at the National Tournament, and we have brought home over 35 individual awards, including 4 All-Americans. This is all accomplished through student leadership. We have no faculty adviser and we retain no attorneys as coaches. These opportunities are available to all Penn State University students, regardless of year, major, or experience. Our organization has members from nearly every College at University Park and dozens of academic programs. For more information on how to join, feel free to contact the Mike Thomas (MikeThomas@psu.edu).

Student Spotlight - Courtney Walter

Often times, during our life as a college student, an opportunity may present itself to us that has the potential to drastically alter our world perspective, whether through a job offer, an internship, a volunteer experience, etc. My opportunity arrived in spring of 2008 when I ventured across the Atlantic Ocean to study at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland for six months. Though the Irish way of life is a far cry from the American way, I had to view Ireland with an open mind to discover the culture and appreciate all that it had to offer.

In comparison to Penn State University, Trinity College is similar in that it exists as one of Ireland's premier and prestigious universities. However, the two are anything but similar. Whereas

"...I matured, I expanded my worldview, and I had the best six months of my life while I lived in Europe"

Penn State provides a rigorous and demanding course load throughout the semester, Trinity mandated only one subjective final examination in each of my six Sociology classes. Many, if not all, of my classmates were pursuing careers in some form of social work or legal profession. The educational system was not the only aspect of my experience that required adjustment – my entire daily routine was facing adaptation to the Irish way of life.

With the exception of the somewhat familiar, yet broken, English language, everything else in Dublin appeared foreign to me. For breakfast, in place of toast were pudding cakes. Crossing the street proved to be a dangerous and difficult task because of the opposite trend of traffic.

When I spent five euro in currency, I quickly realized that \$7.50 would be taken from my account due to the United States' dwindling economy. Though many things differed from the American way of life, I never once felt out of place. I was welcomed with open arms into Irish society and it became my home for the six months I lived there.

With firm confidence, I can say I matured, I expanded my worldview, and I had the best six months of my life while I lived in Europe. I learned that an Irish pub serves as more than just an alcohol provider; it is a meeting place and family establishment. I learned the incessant Irish rain does not damper an Irish spirit, though a rugby loss to Wales may do just that. I learned a weekend trip to Paris from Dublin is just as plausible as a road trip to Ohio State from Penn State. But, most importantly, I learned there is a whole world outside of State College, Pennsylvania. It is up to each and every one of us to take full advantage.



Graduating Seniors



Seniors, you're in the home stretch! The fall graduation ceremony for the College of the Liberal Arts is scheduled for Saturday, **December 20, 2008** at 12:30 p.m. in the Bryce Jordan Center. Tickets are not required for family and friends to attend the ceremony. However, we recommend you and your supporters arrive early to find your seats. Caps and gowns can be purchased at the Penn State Bookstore.

Any last minute questions about the ceremony? Be sure to check out this Web site:
<http://commencement.psu.edu/future.html>

Congratulations!



Considering Law School?

If so, consider contacting the Pre-Law Coordinator, Barbara Rayman. She's located in 121 Grange Building, and she can be reached at 865-7576 and bbr1@psu.edu.

Visit www.psu.edu/dus/prelaw/ for Pre-Law information including LSAT prep courses, law school resources, and other upcoming events. Also check out www.lsac.org to get more information regarding law school.



Career Expo Announcement



The Sociology Department and the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing are co-sponsoring the 33rd annual Crime, Law, and Justice and Sociology Career Expo on **November 5, 2008 from 12:00 –3:30 p.m. in the HUB-Robeson Center Heritage Hall**. The Advising Staff is coordinating this year's expo with assistance from our student organizations, the Justice Association and Sociology Club. The Expo provides a fantastic opportunity for students to network and explore internship and career options with employers in varied fields. This year promises to have a greater variety of agencies and organizations, so plan to attend!

Important Semester Dates At-A-Glance

November 11	Finalize sp09 internship site
November 14	Late drop deadline
November 24–28	Thanksgiving holiday
December 12	Withdrawal deadline
	Classes end
December 15–19	Final exams
December 20	Fall commencement

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