

CRIM Communiqué



Penn State University: Sociology Department, College of the Liberal Arts

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"Failures do what is tension relieving, while winners do what is goal achieving." ~Dennis Waitley

Please take a few minutes to read through the CRIM Communiqué—it contains important updates and information related to advising, academics, enrichment, and extra-curricular opportunities. You should receive two newsletters during the fall and two newsletters during the spring semesters via email. Please let us know if you do not receive them.



Advising Hours

FALL AND SPRING ADVISING HOURS

WALK-IN HOURS:
MONDAY/WEDNESDAY
1:00-4:00 PM
FRIDAY 9:00-11:00 AM

**ALL OTHER
ADVISING BY
APPOINTMENT ONLY**

You can schedule an appointment by going to www.la.psu.edu/advising-appt/.

*A note about making appointments: When scheduling an appointment, please be sure you make your appointment with your assigned Criminology advisor. If you schedule an appointment with a different Criminology advisor, you may be asked to cancel the appointment and reschedule with the advisor you have been assigned. *

Contacting your advisers

Kristie Kalvin
(klk16@psu.edu)
315 Oswald Tower

Karen Sones
(klo1@psu.edu)
317 Oswald Tower

Julie Willits
(jaw300@psu.edu)
316 Oswald Tower

Phone number: 814-865-2217

Department Web site:
www.sociology.psu.edu

Role of the advisers

The Criminology and Sociology advising offices are available to help you clarify requirements and choices, empower you to take charge of your education, and assist with career planning.

The undergraduate advisers can:

- Help you with class scheduling
- Help you create a long-term academic plan

- Explain College and University requirements
- Help you decipher your degree audit reports
- Advise you in planning an internship or study abroad experience
- Provide information on support services available at the University
- Keeping your long-range plan up-to-date
- Bringing in a draft schedule
- Thinking about career possibilities that we can explore together

You can enhance your advising by:

- Reviewing your audit and listing questions

The final responsibility for fulfilling major, College, and University requirements is yours. Students who self-advise may run the risk of discovering that they haven't met all graduation requirements! Don't let this happen to you.





CRIM Communiqué

Email Policy

To Email, or

Not to Email

Below are a few guidelines to follow when you write an e-mail to one of us, and to decide when you should:

1. Include your name, a greeting (ex. Hi Kristie), and your PSU ID number.
2. Please do not use text message lingo. We can't understand your emails if they include partial words. This is something you should get used to—your future

employers will expect the same.

3. We are happy to answer quick questions via email. We will not, however, replace an advising meeting with email correspondence. For example, discussing possible courses for the next semester is something that you should do in person, not through email. If we feel that something is too difficult to explain through email, or a reply would be too extensive, we'll ask you to come in and speak to us personally.

4. Please limit your emails. If you have several questions, send them all at once. Avoid sending multiple emails on the same day. We'll do our best to answer your questions as quickly as possible, but we might not be able to answer them on the same day. We also do not review emails during vacations, holidays, or on weekends.

Law School

Considering law school? If so, contact the pre-law adviser, Ed Wangler (ejw15@psu.edu), at the Division of Undergraduate Studies (DUS). He is located in the Grange Building, and can be reached at 865-7576.

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.

Withdrawals

Those who are experiencing significant difficulties this fall may consider withdrawing for the semester. The last day to withdraw from the fall 2012 semester is **Friday, December 14, 2012**. After this date, no student will be permitted to with-

draw. You can easily process a withdrawal using eLion at <https://elion.psu.edu>, but it is strongly recommended that you talk to Karen, Kristie, or Julie about your plans first.

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 CRIM 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, Alexandra Bedya (asb5237@psu.edu).

Internship Central

If you're considering a summer internship, the internship dates are planned for **May 6–August 9, 2013**. Be sure to contact the SOC department (sociology@la.psu.edu) by **January 23** regarding summer internships. Following are key deadline dates:

January 23

Indicate your intent to complete an internship by this date and email sociology@la.psu.edu to let the SOC department know your plans.

February 13

Letters must be sent to three possible internship sites by this date. Send an email to sociology@la.psu.edu with the names of the three sites.

April 10

Placements should be finalized by this date. Send an email to sociology@la.psu.edu with your internship site placement. 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, go to the departmental Web site: sociology.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/internships. Karen, Kristie, and Julie are available to discuss questions about internships including the internship process, how an internship fits into your academic plan, and potential sites.





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 22, 2012** 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!

Stay Tuned!

Seniors will be receiving an email from the department to participate in the senior survey. This is to allow the department to get some general information about the graduating class. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes and participants will be entered into a drawing to win a \$20 gift certificate to the Bookstore! Seniors, don't miss out on this opportunity!!

CAREER NEWS:

This year's People to People Fair will be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2013. The People to People Fair is geared towards service-oriented careers which include agencies related to Sociology and Criminology majors. We will be sending more information to you as the date approaches.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Alumni Hall - HUB-Robeson Cultural Center



Spring Scheduling Tips

Spring scheduling has is coming to a close, 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 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 for

departmental credit.

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, Kristie, or Julie about any scheduling concerns.

Still Need a CRIM Course?

The following CRIM courses are still open for the spring semester:
CRIM/SOC 012, CRIM 100, CRIM 113, CRIM 469, and CRIM 482

Student Spotlight – Alexandra Kirk - Study Abroad in Ireland

Living and studying abroad in Ireland for four and a half months was an experience I will always appreciate. Being there for an entire semester allowed me to immerse myself in the culture and get to know the people around me. Living with Irish students was amazing because they could show me around and help me pick up the local slang a lot faster than I would have on my own. One of my roommates was even fluent in Irish, which not everyone speaks these days, and would help me practice speaking before my Irish language classes. This really paid off later in the semester when I went to a region where they only speak Irish, called the Gaeltacht. The owner of a little coffee shop and I had an entire conversation in Irish, minus a few words here and there I had not yet mastered. That was definitely one of the coolest experiences I had during my time in Ireland.

As a Crime, Law & Justice major, I think the experience of living abroad was definitely a beneficial one. It made me even more independent than I already was, and I proved to myself that I can handle the situations that life will throw at me. What's more, I was able to learn in one of the most picturesque countries on Earth. I would highly recommend studying abroad in Ireland to anyone who wants to have an amazing semester in a beautiful country.





Linda Yevchak

Fun Fact.....Did you know?

Lecinda Yevchak recently finished her requirements for her PhD from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. Originally from Pennsylvania, after five years of living near Toledo, Ohio, she is happy to be back to her native PA enjoying the fall at its best. Currently she is working on revising her dissertation for publication and adjusting to new life here at PSU. In the little amounts of spare time available, Lecinda enjoys many outdoor activities with her two wonderful dogs (Jack and Dugan).

The Justice Association

The Criminology major has an active undergraduate student organization called the Justice Association (J.A.). Students are encouraged to join the organization and get involved in the many activities that are available throughout the academic year. These activities include faculty/student mixers, nationally known guest speakers who discuss topics related to the criminal justice profession, and trips to prisons and agencies. J.A. members also volunteer for various programs and activities in the local community and on the Penn State campus. The advisers will send an email once the next J.A. meeting is scheduled. Feel free to join the J.A. Facebook page for updates as well. Contact President Michael Bolze (mrb5175@psu.edu) if you have any questions.

Important Semester Dates At-A-Glance

December 14	Withdrawal deadline
December 14	Classes end
December 17–21	Final exams
December 22	Fall commencement
January 7, 2013	Spring semester classes begin



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