

PUBLIC JUSTICE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



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Professor Margaret Ryniker, Public Justice Department Chairperson

Professor Margaret Ryniker cannot be described in one word. She is a very devoted, determined, and intelligent woman. She not only excels at being an educator, but also as a friend. We all know her for her great sense of humor and creative ways of teaching.

One class that Professor Ryniker teaches is "American Non-criminal Law". How boring does that sound? This course seemed like it was going to be very dry. Being a brilliant professor, she was able to make it interesting. One of the best exercises she had us do for the class was to resolve a case as if we were the judge. Professor Ryniker handed out a sheet with a summary of facts about the interactions between people. We would then, based on the facts, write a conclusion of what we as the judge felt should be the outcome of the case. This exercise was a great way for students to become involved with the material.

Professor Ryniker is a strong motivator. My only suggestion to Professor Ryniker is to teach more classes! Overall, she is an admirable educator, helper, and friend.

Registration for Fall 2008

It's that time of the year already! Registration for the Fall 2008 semester is right around the corner. Here are some important dates to remember.

- Monday, March 17 – Fall 2008 course bulletins arrive on campus
- Monday, April 7 - May 9 – Registration for Fall 2008, for returning matriculated undergraduate and graduate students only
- Monday, May 5 – Registration begins for non-matriculated undergraduate and graduate students; Major Restrictions are lifted for continuing registration (you are now able to register for classes that were originally restricted for students within that particular major)

Don't know when you are eligible to register? Find out what day and time you will be able to register by logging on to My Oswego on the Oswego website. Eligibility to register is determined by the number of credit hours you have earned. Registering for your classes on time is very important in allowing you to enroll in the classes that you will need to graduate.

Meet Professor Ernest Nickels

Professor Ernest Nickels is a new Public Justice Department faculty member at SUNY Oswego. But where did he begin?

Professor Nickels started out by attending the University of Idaho where he received a double degree in criminal justice and psychology. After graduating from the University of Idaho, he worked at a mental health facility in Waterbury, Connecticut. This facility dealt with severe mental illness and drug abuse and helped transition the patients back into the community. Professor Nickels decided this career was not for him and he decided to go back to school. He focused on criminal justice at the Washington State University while receiving his master's degree. He will be obtaining his doctorate from Indiana University this year.

During our interview, we discussed the wonderful weather here at Oswego, and Professor Nickels does not seem to be a fan, but are any of us? Other than that, he is enthusiastic about his time spent in Oswego. Professor Nickels gave me some information on a new course the Public Justice Department is creating that should become a core class for the major called "Research Method and Statistics." Professor Nickels is also interested in inspiring students to continue with their education, since we are entering a more competitive world.

We are very glad to have Professor Nickels as part of our Public Justice Department. He has made a positive impact on both the staff and students at SUNY Oswego.

Bits and Bites

◆**SENIORS COMPLETE YOUR SENIOR CHECK LISTS!!

Register to graduate online and complete your Senior Check a semester before you graduate to avoid unpleasant surprises that might hinder your timely graduation.

◆Need Legal Advice?

James Eby, an Oswego County attorney, offers free initial legal consultations right here on campus. This service is provided by the Student Association. Mr. Eby is available Fridays from 12:30pm-1:30pm and Tuesdays from 7pm-8:30pm in Room 230 of the Campus Center. He can be reached at 342-1773.

◆Need a Tutor?

Struggling with that one class or subject?

OLS, the Office of Learning Services, offers free tutoring to all students in every subject. To obtain a tutor you will need to fill out a brief questionnaire about the areas in which you are struggling. To sign up for a tutor you have a few options: You can either visit their office in 106 Poucher Hall (ext. 3094), e-mail: ols@oswego.edu, or visit their website at <http://www.oswego.edu/~ols/rfsintro.htm>.

Need More Credits? Take a class this summer. The Public Justice Department is offering a wide variety to choose from! Class Registration began March 17th!!!

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|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| PBJ 300 Research Methods
M-R 1:00-4:25pm | Professor Nickels | Session 1 |
| PBJ 300 Investigation of Narcotics
M-R 5:30-8:55pm | Professor Mindell | Session 1
Phoenix Center |
| PBJ 300 Data Analysis
M-R 1:00-4:25pm | Professor Nickels | Session 2 |
| PBJ 330 Crime and the Media
M-F 1:00-3:45 | Professor Pieraccini | Session 1 |
| PBJ 345 Criminal Investigation
M-R 8:00-11:10am | Professor Diane Brand | Session 2 |
| PBJ 360 Discrimination in the Workplace: A Legal Perspective
Angel Online Course | Professor Ingram | |
| PBJ 377 Choosing to Die: Suicide, Assisted Suicide, and Euthanasia
Angel Online Course | Professor Sgroi | |
| PBJ 397 Practicum in Public Justice | | |

PUBLIC JUSTICE CLUB

The Public Justice Club is alive and active this semester. Watch for exciting events during the next few weeks, including a trip to the Auburn and Butler Correctional Facilities. See Professor Diane Brand (dbrand@oswego.edu) or Sarah Koch (skoch@oswego.edu) to join in the activities.

Civil Service Exams

Watch the bulletin boards outside the Public Justice Office, stop by the Peer Advisors Office in 319 Mahar or visit Career Services in the Campus Center to learn about up coming Civil Service exams. You might consider taking an exam for practice even if you are not ready for a job right now.

Would You Like to Help Other Public Justice Students As a Peer Advisor?



The Public Justice Department is looking for peer advisors for the Fall 2008 semester. You can earn 3 upper-division credits while assisting your fellow students and faculty. And it looks great on a resume! If you are interested, you can pick up an application from the PBJ Department in 446 Mahar or see Professor Young in 442 Mahar.

EBE, Service Learning

Looking for some extra credits?
...In real-life organizations?

Oswego offers Experienced Based Education!
Credit can be earned in three different ways:

- 1. Internship Program:** Intern off-campus in your major field, gain hands-on experience for your resume
- 2. Career Awareness Program:** Offers positions on or off campus in any field of interest to the student
- 3. Service Learning:** Serve within the local community and meet with a mentor about your personal experiences.

For more information about hours, credits, agencies:

Visit the EBE website <http://www.oswego.edu/academics/opportunities/service/experience/>

OR

Stop in to speak with the friendly staff in the COMPASS, room 142 Campus Center

Where Are They Now? - Public Justice Alumni

Miguel Chico graduated from SUNY Oswego in December 2006 with a Public Justice degree. While attending college, he took an assortment of Civil Service exams with hopes of landing a job in law enforcement by the time he graduated. Since January 2007, Miguel has been working for the Warren County Sheriff's Department as a patrolman.

Reneè Simmons graduated in December of 2007 as a Public Justice major. She is currently working with Oswego County Opportunities as a Human Service worker in the youth program. She is hoping that this type of work experience will benefit her as she continues to take Civil Service Exams for positions in the field of probation.

Websites of Special Interest to Public Justice Students

Here are a few Public Justice websites that may help you as you plan your professional and/or academic future:

<http://www.opm.gov/>

<http://www.studentjobs.gov/>

<https://www.sfs.opm.gov/>

<http://www.job-hunt.org/law.shtml>

<http://www.gradschools.com/law/>

Other websites of interest can be found on the Public Justice Department website.

Articles contributed by the Public Justice Peer Advisors

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