

Proposal

On

Victimology and Victim Services Minor (September 14, 2015)

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## **1. Overview**

### *a. Definition*

Victimology is a multidisciplinary branch of criminology that examines the nature of the victimization process; the relationships between victims and offenders; the emotional, physical, and economic impact of crimes on victims; the interactions between victims and the criminal justice system; and victim services. Victimology also explores the connections between victims and other social groups and institutions, including the family and school (Karmen, 2013; Burgess, Regehr, & Roberts, 2013; Doerner, & Lab, 2012). The field of victimology includes victim profiling and forensic victimology, which is the scientific study of victims that focuses on the victims' lifestyles, circumstances, the events leading up to the crime, and the nature of the victimization (Turvey, 2013). In general, the field of victimology offers evidence-based practices for understanding victim-offender dynamics, victim services, and the prevention of victimization. The field is multidisciplinary, relying on research from academic disciplines that include criminal justice, psychology, public health, anthropology, history, and economics.

### *b. Rationale and Goals of the Minor*

In the early 1960s, victimology, as a subtopic of sociology, criminology, criminal justice, and social work, became an integral part of university courses. The early courses focused on basic concepts of victimology but today, "these courses are much more sophisticated and now provide students and practitioners with information from more advanced studies and a wide range of sophisticated victimology textbooks" (Dussich, 2014, p. 491). In addition, the number of victimology courses has increased tremendously over the years, with most focusing on the victims of crime and their role in the criminal justice system. Stockton students from a variety of majors would benefit from the in-depth knowledge about victimization, victims, and victim services that a Victimology Minor would provide. It will prepare students for entry into a wide variety of positions in fields such as criminal justice, social work, counseling, gerontology, and nursing.

## **2. Needs Assessment**

### *a. National Trends*

Although the growth of Victimology as an academic field has been much slower in the United States than in other parts of the world, the importance of victimology is evident in the establishment of the American Society of Victimology (2003) and the emergence of Victimology sections in The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (2010) and the American Society of Criminology (2012), which are national organizations for academics in criminal justice and criminology. Moreover, there are a several institutions that offer victimology or a related field as a minor or a degree program (see Appendix A):

There is no available information to indicate a linkage between the completion of the Minor and the employability for regional jobs. Only a few institutions in the region (four in *Massachusetts*, one in *Connecticut*, and one in *New Jersey*) offer victimology or victim services as a certificate or minor (see Appendix B). Many of the institutions indicate the usefulness of their victimology programs. The University of New Haven, West Haven, for example, indicates that its program "prepares graduates for entry into a wide variety of positions in law enforcement, criminal justice, the courts, corrections, and victim services programs as well as professional settings involving work with victims of crime, their families, and the community at large." Mea Community College states that "Our certificate is also useful for police officers, firefighters, counselors, social workers, probation officers, and others who deal with victims." However, none of these institutions has provided any data on the placement of their victimology graduates.

#### *Victims and Victim Services Conference*

In 2014, the "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" (NCVRW) was held the week of April 6-12, 2014. In honor of victims of crimes, the Committee working on the Victimology and Victim Services Minor held a one-day conference titled *Victims and Victim Services* Stockton University

on April 11, 2014. The goal of the conference was to discuss different types of crime victims and the services that are provided for them.

Speakers from Stockton University included faculty members from the criminal justice and psychology departments and Dr. Harvey Kesselman, Provost and Executive Vice President. Presenters from criminal justice fields included Kathleen Friess, Human Trafficking Program Coordinator at NJ Division of Criminal Justice - Office of the Attorney General, Dawne Lomangino-DiMauro, Tamu King-Lewis, and Erin O'Hanlon from the Atlantic County Women's Center. The Victim Witness Coordinator for the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office of Victim Witness Advocacy, Jacqueline Simonson, also presented. Two other speakers, Allison Woolbert and Deborah Duncan, discussed the *Transgender Violence Tracking Portal*. The conference was a success and attracted more than 70 participants, including police officers, detectives, victim advocates, victim service providers, prosecutors, women's groups, faculty members, staff members, and students from criminal justice, social work, psychology, and sociology. A follow up to the conference took place on July 6, 2014 when two faculty members from criminal justice at Stockton University made presentations to police officers at the Atlantic City Police Department who could not attend the campus event.

The number of students who attended the conference was impressive. Students who attended gained in-depth knowledge of victimology, victimization, and victims. They received a certificate of attendance for their participation in the event. Networking is vital to the advancement of a person's career so students at the conference were able to network with professionals in criminal justice fields who shared their interests.

The Learning Outcomes for students who attended the conference included:

- Understanding the concept of victimization;
- Identifying the forms of victimization and victims;
- Understanding the scope of victimization in the United States;
- Identifying economic, political, social, and cultural factors that contribute to victimization;
- Understanding the social environment within the United States that contributes to victimization;
- Understanding the experiences of victims; and
- Identifying resources available to victims.

The success of the first victims and victim services conference clearly indicate a high level of interest in the topic among students and criminal justice practitioners (see Appendix C). The conference will be an on-going event for the proposed program in Victimology and Victim Services. Dr. Joseph has already been contacted by Jacqueline Simonson, Victim Witness Coordinator for the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office of Victim Witness Advocacy, regarding the next conference on victims, which is tentatively planned for April 2016.

#### *b. Student Interest*

In keeping with the Victimology Minor Proposal Committee's commitment to the process of consultation and building a critical mass of support for the Minor at Stockton, the Committee conducted a survey with students to determine their interest in the Minor. The results of student surveys are presented below:

Results of Students' Surveys (N=260)

Table 1: Profile of Respondents

<i>Students Status</i>	%
Freshmen	11
Sophomore	25
Junior	38
Senior	26
<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>	
Caucasian/White	75
African American/Black	7
Hispanic/Latino	9
Asian/Pacific Islander	3
Other	6
<i>Age</i>	
18-21 years	75
22-25m years	21
Over 25 years	4
<i>Course of survey</i>	
Major	66
Minor	6
Cognate	7
G-course	17
ASD	4
<i>Residency</i>	
on campus	46
off campus	54

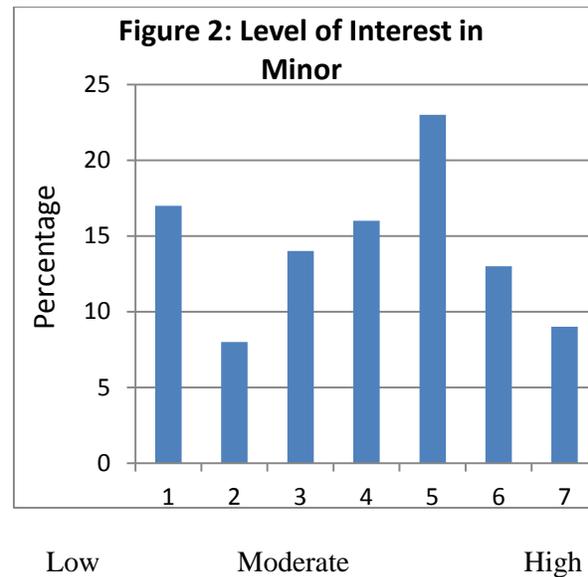
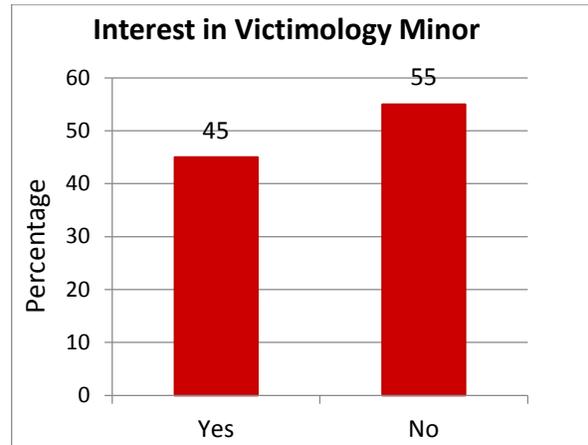


Table 1 shows the demographics of the respondents. Figure 1 shows that 45% of respondents indicated an interest in pursuing the Minor. This is less than 50%; however, this may be due to the fact that 26% of the respondents were Seniors. A few Seniors made statements such as, “Won't be around to pursue it, but it is something I really wish was at the school;” “I am almost finished my education;” “Due to graduation should this have been offered sooner, I most likely would have taken it;” and “Graduating this semester, but it is a good idea.”

The level of interest in the Minor is reflected in Figure 2. It is clear from the chart that students indicated some level of interest in the Minor. Just as important is the qualitative information the respondents provided in the survey about their support for the Minor. Below are some of the comments:

- Could be helpful for my future job.
- Expand my knowledge in my career, broader opportunity.
- I am a cj major and I think it would help me better understand nature of crimes. I also am interested in helping victims and the psychology of it all.
- I am a cj major hoping to pursue victim advocacy and I feel a minor in victimology could really benefit me in terms of my career path as well as improve interpersonal skills.

- I am a psych major w/a forensic concentration in which half of the role of a forensic psychologist is dealing with the victim, therefore a victimology minor would be very appropriate.
- A victimology minor sounds very interesting and it is something I would def like to learn more about.
- I am interested bc no other major or minor elaborates on the victimization process.
- I am interested in graduating with 2 degrees and a minor in victimology would suit me well, because I am highly interested in it.
- I believe this is a minor that would be useful in the job market.
- I have always been interested in victimology, I would love to understand why certain people become victims and how they get into that situation.
- I have recently been a victim of home invasion/burglary and I feel as though the knowledge from the minor would be beneficial to my field of study.
- I think it will benefit me in the future when it comes to breaking down criminal cases.

Many of the criminal justice majors in the survey were in favor of the Minor because they believed it would be useful for them in the future. On the other hand, many of the students who were not interested in the Minor indicated that they were not interested because they already had a minor, were not interested in pursuing any minors, would be graduating soon, or felt that the minor did not relate to their future career. However, based on the overall results from the survey, this Minor would be popular with a large number of Stockton students.

Victimology and Victim Services is rapidly growing academic sub-discipline. A few institutions in New Jersey, such as Felician College, the College of New Jersey, Rowan University, and Thomas Edison State College offer one or two courses on victimology and victim-related topics, but no concentration or certificate or minor. The College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ, with a population of 1,874, offers a Minor/Concentration in Victim Services but not in Victimology or Victimology and Victim Services. Stockton can take the lead by being the first institution in New Jersey to offer a minor in victimology and victim services as part of its curriculum. Such a Minor would be much broader than the one offered by the College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown. This would make Stockton more attractive to potential students who would be able to combine this Minor with any major of their choice.

*c. Target Groups*

The minor is well-suited to students who are currently enrolled at Stockton. Matriculated undergraduate students of any major would be able to earn a Victimology and Victim Services Minor in conjunction with their major program at Stockton.

**3. Curriculum of Proposed Victimology and Victim Services Minor**

*a. Goals/Outcomes of the Minor*

The goal of the Minor is to provide students with a coherent set of interdisciplinary courses that will give them broad competency in victimology and victim services. The broad curriculum will give students the specialized knowledge required to work with a variety of victims, such as women, men, children, the elderly, and the LGBTQ population. The Minor will also provide students with opportunities to conduct research, learn from guest speakers, and engage with the community.

*Learning Outcomes of the Minor*

The Minor will enhance the opportunity for students to achieve greater depth and understanding of victimology and victim services. It will expose students to cross-disciplinary approaches to victimology through courses from various disciplines that are integral to the Minor (see list of courses). On completion of the Minor, students are expected to:

- Have acquired an informed and balanced knowledge about victims, victimization, and victim services;
- Demonstrate proficiency in a range of theoretical perspectives in victimology;
- Understand the impact of victimization on various populations of victims, such as elderly, children, etc.;
- Develop an understanding of victims' rights and the criminal justice response to victim and victimization.

b. *Faculty*

The proposed Victimology and Victim Services Minor is multidisciplinary. The courses included in the Minor will be drawn from a variety of programs from across the college. Virtually all of the curricular elements for the Minor are already in place. The program will have a critical mass of faculty members who have either research or teaching interests in victimology. For example, all of the faculty members who will be contributing to the Minor have either taught or conducted research on several aspects of victimology and victimization. A number of other faculty members have either primary or secondary research interests in victims and victimization. Faculty members who will teach in the Minor will, therefore, come from several disciplines across the university (see list of faculty members in Appendix A).

c. *Outline of Courses for Minor*

There are three basic requirements for the minor: 1) two required courses; 2) two courses selected from a list of courses; and 3) a capstone course. Students will be expected to complete a minimum of 20 credits of coursework with substantial victimology and victim-service content. They will also be required to complete an introductory course, a theory course, a Capstone Seminar, and general electives that will be selected from an approved list of courses related to victims and victimization. At least 8 credits required for the Minor must be at 3000 level or above.

*Required Courses*

The introductory course, *Introduction to Victimology*, is mandatory. The course will examine the history of victimology, basic concepts and consequences of victimization, offender-victim relationships, and the victim's role in the criminal justice system. Students must complete this course in order to complete the Minor.

*Elective Courses*

There is an array of courses available at Stockton with substantial content that focuses on victimization and victims. Students will select elective courses from an approved list. The courses will be divided into two major thematic categories: (a) Types of Victimization and Victims, and (b) Contemporary Victim-Related issues. These thematic categories are constructed around a common theme that will provide students with a wide choice of topical courses. The two thematic categories will expose students to a combination of different forms of victimization, types of victims, and current issues related to victims and victimization. These categories are not tracks, but rather provide guidance to students as they select their elective courses from the approved list of elective courses for the Minor.

*Capstone*

The Capstone for the Victimology and Victim Services Minor will be a senior-level, four-credit, interdisciplinary course that could be taught by one faculty member or several faculty members with one faculty member serving as the seminar coordinator. It will focus on victim services, which include victims' roles in the criminal justice system, victim assistance programs, victim-witness services, victim-offender programs, victim rights, victim advocacy, and national organizations for victims. The capstone will be offered every semester. Alternative experiences can be approved by the

Coordinator (one a case by case basis) in lieu of the capstone. Students must complete this course to complete the Minor.

*List of Courses for the Minor*

The courses were selected by the Minor Committee. The faculty members who presently teach each course have given permission for their courses to be included in the Minor. As the program develops, more courses will be added to the list. For a new course to be included in the program, the instructor will have to submit the course description to the coordinator of the program for approval by the program members.

*Mandatory Courses:* Students must take the following courses

- CRIM (2327): Introduction to Victimology\*
- It will be offered every semester once program approved. It was taught in Fall 2014 and is scheduled for Fall 2015 as well). At least four criminal justice faculty members can teach the course.

*Student will choose at least one course from the following:*

- CRIM/GERO 2160 - Aging, Crime and Criminal Justice (every other year)
- CRIM 3110 - Gangs In America (every other year)
- CRIM (2328) - Theoretical Approaches and Perspectives in Victimology (once a year)+
- CRIM 2236 - Violence Against Women: An International Perspective (once a year)
- CRIM 2235 - Violence in Correctional Institutions (periodically)
- GAH 2119 - History & Memory of the Holocaust (once a year)
- GAH 2113 – Non-Jewish Victims of Nazis (once a year)
- GEN 2308 - Children of the Holocaust (once a year and summer)
- GIS 3600 - Holocaust and Genocide (every semester)
- GIS 3658 - Women and Genocide (will be taught Spring, 2015)
- GIS 3667 -Families and Genocide (once a year)
- GSS 2648 - Sexual Assault: Victims and Perpetrators (once a year)
- GSS2321/GSS 1071 - Peace and Conflict Studies (once a year)
- GSS 2451 - South Africa Now (once a year)
- GSS 3244 - Children and Crime (once a year)
- GSS 3278 - Study Tour: Holocaust (GSS 3278: offered once a year)
- GSS 3640 - Sexuality, Crime, and Criminal Justice (once a year)

*Contemporary Issues Related to Victim:* This category allows students to focus on social issues related to victims and victimization.

*Student will choose at least one course from the following*

- ANTH 2245 – Race, Ethnicity and Immigration (new, Nazia Kazi)
- GAH 1037 – Philosophy of the Other (new, Ann Pomeroy)
- GAH 2334 – Representing Race (new, Adam Miyashiro)
- GAH 2356 – Disability Rights and History (periodically)
- GAH 2372 – Cultural Stereotypes in the Media (every semester)
- GAH 3206 - Race and U.S. Culture (every year)
- GSS 2264 – Race and Islam in the United States (new; Nazia Kazi)
- GSS 3234 - Human Rights in Global Perspective (once per year)

- GSS 2310 Sex Discrimination and the Law (once or twice per year)
- HLTH 2301 – Cultural Diversity in Healthcare (once a year)
- POLS 3225 – Civil Liberties (once a year)
- PSYC 2201 - Adolescence (once a year)
- SOWK 2504 - Race, Ethnicity, Diversity (every semester)
- SOCY 2210 – Sociology and Family Law (every semester)
- SOCY 2213 - Minority-Majority Relations (periodically)
- SOCY 2355 – Sociology of the Black Experience (new; Christina Jackson)
- SOCY 3630 - Studies in Family Relations (once a year)

Students must take the following course (Mandatory)

*Capstone: GIS: 4xxx - Victim Services\*\**

This is an advanced level research and discussion course focusing on common themes in victimology. This will include an advanced level research project. This will be a POI course. It will be offered every semester. Two criminal justice faculty members have agreed to share the responsibility of teaching the course so that it can be taught every semester. One faculty member will teach it in the Fall semester and the other faculty member will teach it in the Spring semester. This course will replace one of the G-courses that the faculty members are presently teaching.

\*This course must be taken by students in order to complete the Minor.

\*\*The capstone will be created after the program has been approved. Alternative experiences can be approved by the Advisory Board (Coordinator will be a member of the Board), on a case by case basis, in place of the capstone.

*Options in Program*

Credits from the Study Tour courses GSS 2451: South Africa Now and GSS 3278: Study Tour: Holocaust will count towards the Minor. In addition, the international course: *Victimology, Victim Assistance, and Criminal Justice, Dubrovnik, Croatia* - as an independent study course - minor (See Appendix D for more information about these options). In addition, any fieldwork related to victims can be accepted as an elective course by the program, with the Advisory Board's approval.

*4Assessment*

Apart from the regular meetings, the faculty members in Victimology and Victim Services Minor will meet at the end of each Spring semester to assess the programmatic success in that year. The primary focus of the assessment will be based on the student learning outcomes in the Minor, related course goals, and evaluation of courses. Adjustments to the program will be undertaken, if necessary, to ensure that the program is meeting its goals. In addition, at the end of the first five years, an overall program assessment will be carried out in conjunction with the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, where it will be housed.

The Program will also establish an Advisory Committee to:

- a) design policies/standards for the program,
- b) implement academic policies as legislated by the Faculty Senate/Stockton,
- c) develop strategies on how to expand the program,
- d) recommend long- and short-term goals for the program,
- e) review and evaluate new courses,
- f) review and evaluate program curriculum on a regular basis,

- g) facilitate the development and implementation of strategic academic, and
- h) conduct on-going academic program assessment

*d. Resources*

Since most of the courses offered in the proposed Victimology and Victim Services Minor will be drawn from currently available courses at Stockton, no new faculty members or library resources are necessary for the program. Therefore, the cost to administer the Minor will be minimal. Victimology and Victim Services is a multidisciplinary subject. Information on the topic can be found in a great variety of social sciences books and journals. A review of the EBSCO database at Stockton revealed that there are over 1,000 full length journal articles on victimology, some as recent as 2014; over 20 books on victimology; and 65 books on various types of victims. The information in the library appears to be adequate for the Minor. In addition, other resources on the topic can be requested through inter-library loan.

This new program will need a coordinator. Coordination of this program will require compensation as negotiated by the Union. The role of the Coordinator of the program is to administer the program, advise students, and improve the capacity of the program. The Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences will take the necessary steps to hire a coordinator.

*e. Possible Concerns and Solutions*

*Impact on Other Programs*

The impact of this undergraduate minor in Victimology and Victims Services on other programs will be minimal. No reassignments of faculty will be necessary. Since the courses for the Minor will be drawn from a menu of existing courses taught regularly in various disciplines, students will have the ability to complete the Minor with minimal disruption to their major course path. In other words, students interested in the Minor should have no difficulties enrolling in the courses needed to complete it. In addition, the Minor will not impact on faculty members' workload because the courses will contribute to faculty members' normal program or General Studies' teaching responsibilities. No overload teaching will be required.

*f. Housing and Timeline*

*Housing of Minor*

The most logical place to house the minor is in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Most of the required courses listed in the Minor are either offered in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences or are taught by faculty members in that School.

*Schedule and Proposed Timeline:*

- May-July 2015: Present proposal to Academic Programs and Planning Committee
- September-October, 2015: Present proposal to the Faculty Senate for approval
- November/December, 2015: Present proposal to Deans' Council for Approval
- January-February, 2016 : Necessary steps will be taken by the Dean to appoint a Coordinator
- March-April, 2016: Preparation of program and distribution of brochures with Information about the program.
- September 2016: Start of Program

**References**

Burgess, A. W., Regehr, C., & Roberts, A. (2013). *Victimology: Theories and Applications*. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Publishers (Second Edition).  
 Doerner, W. G., & Lab, S. R. (2012). *Victimology*. Burlington, MA: Anderson Publishing.

- Dussich, John P. J. (2014). Teaching victimology in America: From on the job training (OJT) to PHD. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 25(4), 486-500.
- Karmen, A. (2013) *Crime victims: An introduction to victimology*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning
- Turvey, B. E., & Wayne. P. (2013) *Forensic victimology: Examining violent crime victims in investigative and legal contexts*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press

## **Appendix A**

*Associated Faculty – All the faculty members listed here have consented to have one or more courses that they teach to be included in the Minor.*

Daniel Alsofrom, Adjunct Professor, Sociology and Anthropology  
Robert Barney, Assistant Professor of Social Work  
Jessica Bonnan-White, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice  
Deeanna Button, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice  
Guia Calicdan-Apostle, Assistant Professor of Social Work  
Shawn Donaldson, Associate Professor of Sociology  
Joshua D. Duntley, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice  
Lydia Fecteau, Adjunct, General Studies  
Sonia V. Gonsalves, Professor of Psychology  
Arleen Gonzalez, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice  
Michael Hayse, Associate Professor of Historical Studies  
Marion Hussong, Professor of Literature and Holocaust and Genocide Studies  
Christina Jackson, Assistant Professor of Sociology  
Janice Joseph, Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice  
Nazia Kazi, Assistant Professor of Anthropology  
Melaku Lakew, Professor of Economics  
Esther Lawrence, Adjunct Professor, School of Business  
Manish Madan, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice  
Steven Marcus, Adjunct Professor, General Studies  
Sara Martino, Associate Professor of Psychology  
Adam Miyashiro, Assistant Professor of Literature  
Anne Pomeroy, Associate Professor of Philosophy  
Patricia Reid-Merritt, Distinguished Professor of Social Work  
William Reynolds, Associate Professor of Social Work  
Laurie Shanderson, Adjunct Professor, School of Health Sciences  
Franklin Smith, Professor of Sociology  
Allison Sinanan, Associate Professor of Social Work  
Yingyi Situ-Liu, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice  
Connie Tang, Associate Professor of Psychology  
Christine Tartaro, Professor of Criminal Justice  
Linda Wharton, Associate Professor of Political Science  
Judith Vogel, Associate Professor of Mathematics  
Kaite Yang, Assistant Professor of Psychology

## **Appendix B: Victimology and Victim-Related Programs**

### *Certificate*

- *California State University*, Fresno was the first university in the nation to develop and conduct a program of study which resulted in a Victim Services Certificate Program.
- *Cypress College*, Cypress, CA offers a victimology certificate in human services.
- *Maricopa Community College*, Tempe, Arizona, offers a The Certificate of Completion (CCL) in Victimology.
- *Mea Community College*, Mesa, AZ offers a Victimology certificate.
- *University of Central Florida* offers The Certificate in Victim Advocacy
- *University of New Haven*, West Haven, CT offers a Victim Services Administration Certificate.

### *Undergraduate Degree*

- *Sam Houston University*, The College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University offers a bachelor's degree in Victim Studies.
- *St. Charles Community College*, Cottleville, MO has a victimology program where students work toward the completion of an associate's of applied science degree.

### *Minor/Concentration/Option*

- *Bridgewater State University* - Bridgewater, MA allows criminal justice majors to develop a concentration in victimology.
- *California State University*, Fresno offers a victimology option in the Department of Criminology.
- *College of St. Elizabeth*, Morristown, NJ offers a Minor/Concentration in Victim Services within the Justice Studies (Criminal Justice) program.
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- *Endicott College*, Beverly, MA provides students an option to minor in victimology while earning their bachelor's degree.
- *Washburn University*, Topeka, Kansas, Human Services Department offers concentration in victims/survivor services as an academic certificate and a bachelor degree option.

### *Offered in Graduate Program*

- *Algonquin College*, Ontario, Canada offers a Victimology Graduate Certificate program.
- *Alliant International University*, California School of Forensic Studies has a concentration in Victimology for Clinical Forensic Psychology PhD students.
- *Anna Maria College*, Paxton, MA offers a Graduate Victims Studies Certificate.
- *Boise State University*, Boise, offers a Graduate Certificate in Victim Services.
- *California State University*, Fresno and Davis, offers a Joint Doctorate in Forensic and Behavioral Sciences with emphasis on victimology.
- *Durham College*, Ontario, Canada offers the Victimology Graduate Certificate.
- *Georgian College*, Ontario, Canada offers the Ontario College Graduate Certificate in victimology.
- *Lambton College*, Ontario, Canada offers the Victimology Ontario College Graduate Certificate program.
- *Seattle University*, Seattle, WA offers a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice with Specialization in Victimology.
- *University of Massachusetts*, Lowell, MA offers a Graduate Certificate in Victim Studies program (online).

*Joint Center on Violence and Victim Studies*

- Fresno State University, Washburn University, *and the* University of New Haven have formed an inter-university consortium and created the Joint Center on Violence and Victim Studies addresses issues of violence and victimization.

+ A student sent this email to Dr. Button who taught CRIM (2328) - Theoretical Approaches and Perspectives in Victimology course Spring 2015:

Mainly I just wanted to express my thoughts about your course that I didn't get a chance to display on your course evaluation and the fact this is a first time class being held at Stockton. I have had one summer of law enforcement under my belt before entering the class. So being new to law enforcement I was just really adjusting to the field and observing what other officers do and how they handle situations.

On a first-hand experience I would like to let you know this course was very eye opening.

Especially working in law enforcement this class is essential to take and a great tool to have. I myself feel like I will be a better police officer after taking this class and understanding about the victim and aspects surrounding them. I had a situation this summer where I dealt with a repeat victim in a domestic abuse situation. I recall telling her and almost interrogating her saying stop going back to the guy, stop letting him drink too much etc. Having no understanding of the situation, just my human instincts telling me to tell her to do that. Obviously in taking your course I now feel like I could handle situations a hell of a lot better and know what the proper things to say and act within similar situations.

So basically thanks for being a great teacher and making me a better police officer.

### Appendix C : Victims and Victim Services Conference

The overall feedback from the conference was very positive; 87% of attendees completed the evaluation. Below are the responses based on 5-point scale:

ITEM	Score On 5-Point Scale
The instructor communicated ideas and concepts clearly.	4.64
The instructor demonstrated a thorough grasp of the course material.	4.58
The instructor explained the material in an interesting manner.	4.32
The instructor was well organized.	4.46
The pace of the course met my needs (too fast? /too slow?).	4.14
The stated objectives for the course were met.	4.48
Materials/handouts/links used were helpful to me.	4.33
The course was educationally sound and scientifically balanced.	4.50
The course avoided commercial bias or influence.	4.69

Many attendees identified specific benefits, both personal and professional, that they received by attending the conference. Here are a few excerpts of what attendees identified as most beneficial at the Victims and Victim Services Conference:

What did you find most useful about the program?

- All speakers and presentations
- I gained a broader understanding of victimization and human trafficking.
- This was a great program; the most useful part of this program was the experts that presented at the event.
- Everything was useful.
- Experiences of the presenters and visual assisted presenters. Excellent training overall wealth of knowledge; really took a lot away from this and will reflect on it. Organized professionally, materials presented in an understandable manner.
- The variety of topics presented- a lot of the information was previously not largely considered.
- Everything in regard to providing services to victims.
- Useful information – applicable to practice.
- I really enjoyed learning about the link between victimization and immigration.
- All speakers were knowledgeable and so engaging. Would love more time hearing each.
- I like how the presenters were so lively and interactive the whole entire program- was great.
- The amount of speakers with different backgrounds that provided us with information.
- All the presentations were excellent. The conference was properly organized and outstanding.
- You were all great!!

What topic(s) would you recommend for future programming?

- Bullying
- Secondary trauma for service workers
- Compassion fatigue
- Agency collaboration
- At-risk youth

- Domestic violence between LGBT couples
- Child abuse victims
- Male victims
- Elder abuse
- Teen dating violence
- Gang violence

Other (unwritten) comments include:

- I enjoyed the conference; let me know when you are having another one.
- Your committee did an excellent job.
- Hope you can have another one soon

## **Appendix D: Options in Program**

### *Study Tours*

A study tour is a short-term travel program with specific learning objectives and goals. It offers students the opportunity to travel to an area to study pre-determined topics as a component of a college course. Study tours emphasize experiential learning and offer both group and self-directed activities that enable students to explore new cultures. It provides students with first-hand experiences by visiting in a foreign country. Students enroll in the course at Stockton and travel to the country of study for a few weeks. There are a few study tour programs, such as South Africa Now and Study Tours by the Holocaust Resource Center, at Stockton that focus on victims or contain victimological content.

#### *South Africa Now by Professor Melaku Lakew (GSS 2451; taught once a year)*

The South Africa Now study tour has been in operation for over 10 years and involves a two and a half week visit to South Africa. While in South Africa, the students must attend lectures, keep a daily journal, and will be exposed to the horrific injustices and victimization of the apartheid system that was instituted in South Africa from 1948 to 1993.

#### *Study Tour: Holocaust by Gail Rosenthal and Michael Hayse (GSS 3278: offered once a year)*

This tour focuses largely on the history and legacies of the Holocaust. The group leaders often take at least one Holocaust survivor on the trip and match the itinerary, where possible, with the survivor's experiences. All trips are linked to coursework in the context of GAH 2119, "History and Memory of the Nazi Era." The group leaders have taken students to visit Poland, Germany, Lithuania, Hungary, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

#### *International Course: Victimology, Victim Assistance, and Criminal Justice, Dubrovnik, Croatia (Independent Study)*

This course is taught in the month of May in Dubrovnik, Croatia with the cooperation of the World Society of Victimology. Students who participate in the course come from various countries in Europe, Africa, South America, United States, Canada, and Australia. The instructors for the course also come from all over the world, including the United States, Canada, Germany, South Africa, Israel, Brazil, Argentina, and countries in Europe. The course covers subject areas such as victim assistance, victim compensation, restorative justice, women as victims of violence, theoretical concepts of victimology, crisis intervention, crisis management, current developments in victim assistance programs, economic victimization, international victim surveys, victim impact statements, and other related topics. It also uses an international perspective. For the Minor, this course can be conducted as an independent study. Dr. Janice Joseph has been one of the instructors for this course for over 10 years.