

UCIRVINE | ONLINE MASTER OF ADVANCED STUDY IN CRIMINOLOGY, LAW AND SOCIETY

Fall 2013 Newsletter



Dear MAS Students,

My personal welcome, again, to all of our new students who I recently met in our introductory class, and an equally warm welcome back to our returning second-year students! Our entering class is the largest in the history of the Program, and pushes us into a second decade of excellence with the MAS, the University of California's first online degree program. What began as a worthy experiment years ago has proven to be one of the finest online masters programs in the country and our students continue to benefit immensely from a first-rate curriculum designed by, and taught almost exclusively by our faculty. I encourage you to share your experiences in the program with us as we continue to enhance the MAS experience for students.

We are currently in the process of having new courses approved and developed which will provide more choices for electives. We are also in the midst of planning for our mid-year meet and greet event which will be held in February on campus. Adrianna will be in touch with you once details are finalized, but we have tentatively scheduled Emerita Professor Kitty Calavita as our guest speaker. Professor Calavita is a major figure in law and society and criminology, and was one of the CLS faculty who helped make the MAS



Save the Date for the MAS Meet & Greet!

Prospective students, alumni, faculty and current students, are cordially invited to an open house and Meet and Greet event showcasing eleven years of excellence in the MAS program.

February 4th, 2014
University Club
University of California, Irvine

This is an excellent opportunity for prospective students to learn more about our program as well as a chance for current students and alumni to connect. Don't miss this opportunity to interact with other students and alumni while enjoying light refreshments and learning more about what the MAS program has to offer. Details for the event can be found [here](#), or you may contact the MAS Assistant Director, Adrianna Lopez, at adriannl@uci.edu.

Accepting Applications for Fall 2014!

Are you ready to take the next step in your education and career goals? If so, UC Irvine is currently accepting applications for the MAS Criminology, Law and Society program.

Applications will be accepted until June 1, 2014. [Visit our website](#) to read about admission requirements, program curriculum, course descriptions, etc.



*****NEW*****

* The GRE *

As of April 12, 2012 the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) is **no longer required** for MAS applicants. Instead, a **writing sample will be required**. However, should you feel that it would make your application materials stronger, you are welcome to submit GRE scores.

* Financial Aid *

Prospective students intending to apply for admission for Fall 2013, please remember to fill out a FAFSA form in early January in order to be eligible for financial aid.

For more information on financial aid, or **specifics on the required**

Program a reality. You'll see her work in various courses, especially the Legal Institutions course which she helped create. She is a former President of the Law and Society Association, and her research has spanned the areas of immigration, white-collar crime, regulation, gender and law, and prison litigation. We look forward to welcoming her back for this event, and hope that you will be able to join us for what is sure to be an engaging and enlightening presentation by one of the very best law and society scholars in the world.

We'll be in touch on more program matters and events as they develop, and in the meantime please feel free to let us know how you are doing. Again, best wishes to you all for a successful and productive fall quarter, and I look forward to seeing you in classes later this year!

Henry N. Pontell

MAS Director

Professor of Criminology, Law and Society, and Sociology

Veteran Application Fee Waiver



The office of Diversity in the UCI Graduate Division has announced the new deadlines for the application fee waiver for eligible veterans of the United States armed forces who are applying for Fall 2014 admission. Proof of service must be submitted to the Graduate Division office within 7 days of submitting an application, or by March 4, 2014 (whichever comes first). For more information, including eligibility requirements, please visit the fee waiver page on the Graduate Division [website](#), or contact the MAS program Assistant Director, Adrianna Lopez, at adriannl@uci.edu or at (949) 824-5462.

writing sample contact the MAS Assistant Director, Adrianna Lopez, at adriannl@uci.edu or visit our [website](#).

Congratulations Class of 2013!



On June 14, 2013 the MAS graduates of Cohort 9 participated in the UCI School of Social Ecology commencement ceremonies held at the Bren Events center on campus. Following the ceremony the graduates and their families attended a lunch reception in Aldrich Park. Department faculty and lead staff attended the event to give their congratulations and support to the graduates. The highlight of the event was the presentation of three research excellence awards given to Cohort 9 students who demonstrated exemplary performance in their Capstone research papers. Logan Morff received the Stephen M. Rosoff Award for Outstanding Research and MAS Research Excellence Awards were given to Allison Jacobs and Paloma Garcia.



Dr. Henry Pontell presents the Stephen M. Rosoff Award for Outstanding Research to Logan Morff.



TED Talk by Beth Loftus

Distinguished Professor of Criminology, Law and Society, Elizabeth Loftus, recently spoke about her extensive research on false memories at the TEDGlobal 2013 in Edinburgh, Scotland. "I don't study when people forget," she says. "I study when people remember things that didn't happen. I study false memories." After decades of research, Loftus has shown that memory is both constructed and reconstructed. She describes it like a "Wikipedia page - you can go change it, but so can other people."

View the talk [here](#).

Read the article [here](#).

UC Irvine Again Ranks First in Nation on List of Top 100 Universities Under 50 Years Old

For the second year in a row, UC Irvine ranks first in the U.S. and fifth in the world among the 100 best universities less than 50 years old, according to an analysis by Times Higher Education.



Allison Jacobs accepts her Research Excellence award.



Dr. Pontell presents a Research Excellence award to Paloma Garcia.

Welcome MAS Class of 2015!

The MAS program welcomed its largest class ever in September during the week long, on-campus orientation and course. With 68 students of varied ages, background and experience the class of 2015 kicked off the week with a Welcome Dinner at Prego Restaurant in Irvine. Then, students participated in the C210 Introduction to Criminology, Law & Society course taught by Henry Pontell and Dean Valerie Jenness. On behalf of the MAS program, we welcome these new students and wish them the absolute best as they begin their graduate studies.

Founded in 1965, UCI also is the youngest university to gain membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities. The "100 Under 50" list aims to show which countries are challenging the U.S. and the U.K. as higher-education powerhouses and offers insight into which institutions are poised to become future world leaders.

Read the full article [here](#).



MAS Director Featured On NPR

Dr. Henry Pontell, MAS Director and Professor of Criminology, Law and Society, was recently featured on an NPR Marketplace broadcast on the return of sub-prime loans in Orange County. It aired in mid-September to mark the 5th anniversary of the collapse of Lehman Brothers, which was the official beginning of the 2008 US and global financial meltdown. Read the article and listen to the broadcast [here](#).



Quick Links

[MAS program website](#)

[Admission requirements](#)

[Graduate Application](#)

[UCI Graduate Division](#)

[UCI home page](#)

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What is Social Ecology? Mystery Solved



Dr. Valerie Jenness, Professor of Criminology, Law & Society and Dean of the School of Social Ecology recently published an article in the Orange County Register to answer a question she often is asked by the community and prospective students - "What is Social Ecology?"

Relating People to Their Environment

As the Dean of the School of Social Ecology, I'm often asked, "What is social ecology?" It's a fair question because we are a unique feature of the University of California, as we were when the school was established more than 40 years ago. For some, the words don't seem to go together: we borrow from the German word *okologie*, but even then ecology is really a word belonging to biology. There, it describes the study of relationships between organisms and their environment. So where's the social? A quick, simple definition is that social ecology is the study of the relationship between people and their environment, often the interdependence of people, collectives, and institutions. But the school is more than that. Much more. It's a compelling idea accompanied by a set of research, teaching, and service commitments that, when put into practice, leave a unique signature on the university and the many diverse communities we serve.

Read the rest of the article [here](#).

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