

CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

If you have news, views, reviews, or announcements relating to international or comparative criminology, including new books or conference announcements, please send it here! We appreciate brevity (always under 1,000 words), and welcome your input and feedback. –

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CELEBRATING MORE THAN 3 DECADES IN A GLOBAL CLASSROOM: VICTIMOLOGY, VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT THE INTER UNIVERSITY CENTRE – DUBROVNIK, CROATIA

Dawn Beichner, Illinois State University
Chadley James, California State University, Fresno

The post-graduate course on Victimology, Victim Assistance, and Criminal Justice has been held for more than three decades. The course was founded in 1984 by Dr. Gerd Ferdinand Kirchhoff, Dr. Paul Friday, Dr. Paul Zvonimir Šeparović, and Dr. Irvin Waller. Apart from the years in which the course was temporarily relocated to The Netherlands, due to the Croatian War of Independence, it has operated at The Inter University Centre of Dubrovnik, Croatia each May. The course was postponed in 2020 and 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but resumed this year and will be celebrating its 37th anniversary from May 15-27, 2023.

The interdisciplinary course provides students from around the world an opportunity to study current victimological issues, while building networks with scholars and fellow students. The instruction of the course is in English. Most years, there are thirty or more countries represented, spanning all regions of the world. The invited resource faculty prepare lectures based on their contemporary research and practices. Course lectures from the 2022 course included content on Missing and Murdered Indigenous People in the U.S., Internally Displaced Victimization by Conflicts in Africa, The War in Ukraine, International War Tribunals, The Quebec's Special Tribunal for Sexual and Domestic Violence Victims, Family Violence in Israel, and Violence in the Balkans, among others.

The Inter University Centre of Dubrovnik, Croatia is located walking distance from the Old City of Dubrovnik, one of the UNESCO World Heritage sites. In addition to the course curriculum, students and faculty participate in several excursions and cultural activities, including: a visit to the historical Trsteno Arboretum on the Adriatic Coast; a Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra concert; a boat ride to the Oyster Farms of Mali Ston; a boat cruise through the Dalmatian Islands; and a day trip to City Vid, which is located in the historic Dubrovnik-Neretva County.

The course is currently directed by four faculty members: Dr. Chadley James (California State University, Fresno - lead director and course coordinator), Dr. Dick Andzeng (St. Cloud State University), Dr. Dawn Beichner (Illinois State University), and Dr. Anna-Maria Getoš Kalac (University of Zagreb's Faculty of Law). Dr. Chadley James first participated in the course in 2010 and was invited to join the leadership of the course in 2015. Since taking the lead director role, Dr. James has endeavored to maintain the spirit and atmosphere of this very special course, contributing to the exchange of ideas and the growth of the subject of victimology. Dr. Dawn Beichner participated in the post-graduate course as a resource faculty member from 2010 to 2019, when she became a course director. She runs a study abroad course in conjunction with the post-graduate course, in which Illinois State University (ISU) students earn credit hours from ISU. The study abroad students have additional academic requirements, beyond the post-graduate course requirements, and also take day trips to the neighboring countries of Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Student participants range from undergraduate to doctorate levels and come from a variety of universities worldwide. Since course content varies each year, some students have participated in multiple years of the course. The course has given rise to many new ideas and collaborations. If you are a student and want to take part in this unique, global post-graduate course, please email Dr. Chadley James (chadleyj@csufresno.edu) to be added to the informational listserv for the 2023 course.

