

NOVEMBER NEWS

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (FPAC)

*Welcome to our first Newsletter!
It's great to have you here!*

MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

From Dr. Voula Marinos
Program Director, FPAC
Associate Professor, CHYS

As our first semester together draws to a close, I wanted to take the time to thank you for becoming a part of the first cohort of students in the Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Program (FPAC). I hope that your start at Brock University has been both a smooth and exciting transition.

This newsletter has been created to keep you up to date with important information, share upcoming Brock wide and program specific events, and bring our FPAC community together. While we continue to navigate this hybrid world of education, just know our department members are here for you throughout your studies.

My hope for all of you is that you continue to pursue your goals, become active members within the Brock community, and maintain your health and balance over the upcoming exam period. We look forward to continuing to grow with you over the course of your program and look forward to connecting with you in 2022.

Sincerely,
Dr. Voula Marinos



HERE'S WHAT'S UP!

1 - MESSAGE TO
STUDENTS

2 - IMPORTANT INFO
AND UPCOMING EVENTS

3 - SPOTLIGHT FEATURE:
DR. ANGELA BOOK

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: IMPORTANT DATES

- Dec 7: Last day of lectures
- Dec 9 to 22: Exam period
- Dec 24 (noon) to Jan 3: University closed (holidays)
- Jan 10: First day of Winter term (D1 resumes, D3 begins) & Tuition due
- Jan 21:
 - Last day for registration - web registration closes (D3)
 - Last day to withdraw from a Fall/Winter D1 course (without academic penalty / no grade)

See [Important Dates](#) for further information

RESOURCES (CLICK TO ACCESS)

- [Mental Health and Wellness](#)
- [Personal Counselling Services](#)
- [Transfer Student Connect](#)
- [A-Z Learning Services](#)
- [Academic Integrity](#)

ACADEMIC ADVISING: CONNECT WITH KATIE

Questions about your program? Looking to declare a minor or take a Spring/Summer course? Contact your Program Coordinator.

Email: kthompson3@brocku.ca

Office: Plaza 416

UPCOMING EVENT: FPAC SPEAKER SERIES

The Interface of Mental Disorder and the Law

Join us in welcoming our first featured speaker, **The Honourable Justice Richard Schneider** (B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D., LL.B., LL.M., C.Psych). Justice Schneider will reflect on his experiences with the forensic system in Ontario and issues



relating to criminal responsibility and fitness to stand trial. Justice Schneider is a Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice (appointed 2000), Deputy Judge of the Territorial Court of Yukon, and Chair of the Ontario Review Board, and Alternate Chair of the Nunavut Review Board. He was previously a criminal defence lawyer, certified clinical psychologist, counsel to the Ontario Review Board from 1994 to 2000, and certified by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a specialist in Criminal Litigation. His private practice was generally limited to the representation of mentally disordered accused. A great deal of his time has been spent presiding at the Mental Health Court in Toronto.

When?

January 26, 2022 from 2-3pm

Where?

Microsoft Teams

Interested in joining? [Register here.](#)

LOOKING FOR FPAC MERCHANDISE?

**[CLICK HERE](#) TO PRE-ORDER YOUR
DEPARTMENT HOODIE FOR \$59.99 (PLUS TAX)**



Pre-order deadline closes **Wednesday January 5th, 2022**
Merchandise will be available for pick-up or delivery approximately 6 weeks after the pre-order deadline closes in mid-February

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE: Q&A WITH DR. ANGELA BOOK



Dr. Angela Book is a Professor in the Department of Psychology and holds a Ph.D from Queen's University. She is an active member on the FPAC Program Committee. You can find Dr. Book teaching courses in the Department of Psychology relating to forensic psychology (PSYC 3P53).

What research topics are you interested in?

I love doing research that delves into the criminal mind. Most of my research focuses on psychopaths, particularly examining how they engage in victim selection, how they use social mimicry, and how their experience of fear relates to risk taking. I especially enjoy applying this to the real world and using the findings to prevent future victimization.

What drew you to this topic/field?

It always struck me as strange when perpetrators like Ted Bundy and Paul Bernardo were described by those around them as being so "normal", "nice" and "quiet". These descriptions seemed at odds with the awful crimes that were being committed. I was determined to try and figure this out!

What do you want to achieve with your research?

I think the main point of the research is to be able to apply it to real life. Our research has the potential to help in prevention. By knowing the cues being used to judge vulnerability, people can be cognizant of their own behaviors.

What is your favorite aspect of your research?

I really enjoy the creative process of figuring out how to design a study to get at the research question. Often, the methods and ideas have to come from different areas (not just psychology).

Are your methods generally accepted?

We use a lot of "out of the box" methods, such as video games. For example, we used The Sims 3 to examine how people with psychopathic traits behave towards characters with differing personality traits. We also used video clips to gauge reactions to emotional stimuli, and covert videotaping to examine how one's walk could indicate vulnerability. We also use traditional methodologies, including questionnaires.

Can you share a defining moment in your work?

This came before I got my undergraduate degree. I was in 2nd year at the University of Calgary when Paul Bernardo and Karla Homolka were arrested, and I was perplexed by how normal they seemed (at least superficially). I decided then that I wanted to study psychopaths and did an honours thesis with a forensic psychologist. Afterwards, I went to Queen's University to get an MA and PhD in Forensic Psychology. Being in Kingston, there were 11 federal penitentiaries in close proximity. I was able to go to multiple institutions, but I most enjoyed my time in Kingston Penitentiary.

What do you like to do when you aren't working on research?

I love watching scary movies and tv shows (and detective shows). "Dexter" and "Killing Eve" are my current favorites.

How accurate are these TV shows?

For the most part, not very! Shows like "Criminal Minds" and "CSI" have many inaccuracies, though they have their good points. "Dexter" and "Killing Eve" do a great job of portraying psychopaths, though. The entire "Law and Order" set of shows is fairly accurate, mostly due to having a forensic psychiatrist as their consultant.

If you have any questions regarding Dr. Book's research, please feel free to connect with her at abook@brocku.ca.