



Faculty highlight

Dr. Arthur H. Garrison is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice here at KU. He has focused his instruction on the history of criminal justice, constitutional law and history, national security law, constitutional civil liability law, as well as race and policing, the focus of his new book titled “Race and Criminal Justice History: Rhetoric, Politics, and Policy.”

This book, first conceived as a lengthy law review article that is now the book’s opening chapter, has evolved over the last three years into a text he plans to use in his teaching. Timely in its analysis, it will provide a thorough examination into how negative racial narratives and the resulting criminal justice policies

While securing his Master’s degree, he worked for the Delaware Family Court as a pre-sentence investigation officer writing reports for the court to aid in sentencing juvenile offenders. Upon graduating, he began working as a research policy coordinator for the Delaware Criminal Justice Council, an agency focused on criminal justice planning and policy. It was during his decade-plus tenure there that Dr. Garrison worked on developing various criminal justice and law enforcement strategies and initiatives to facilitate the reduction of crime and support community-based criminal justice programs.

Having spent much of his professional career writing and publishing an extensive list of academic articles and policy reports, Dr. Garrison brought his stint in government to a close, and pursued his Doctoral Degree in Law and Policy from Northeastern University.



Dr. Arthur H. Garrison | Criminal Justice

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have all led to the criminalization and disproportionate incarceration of African Americans.

Prior to becoming a professor, Dr. Garrison journeyed through Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education, received his Bachelor’s degree in Political Science with a minor in History from Kutztown University, and his Master’s degree in Criminal Justice from West Chester University.

In 2011, the release of his first book, “Supreme Court Jurisprudence in Times of National Crisis, Terrorism, and War: A Historical Perspective,” coincided with his doctoral graduation and his desire to remain in academia. “Kutztown had a tenure-track position, I applied, and was able to come home,” said Dr. Garrison.

Dr. Garrison is using research he has conducted throughout his own education and professional career in the classroom. He has not only crafted a textbook for course use, but also developed new courses based on

insights gained from his research. “Like with most of the faculty, the research usually bleeds into a book and that bleeds into creating a course,” said Dr. Garrison. Now he approaches teaching by telling students, “It’s not about the grade because once you get your first job nobody cares what your grades are. It’s about whether you’ve learned how to learn and learned how to think.”

Dr. Garrison is currently generating new research, partnering with the department Graduate Assistant and his fellow colleagues from Criminal Justice. Together, they have begun enhancing the data in The Washington Post’s Police Shootings database to improve upon it, in hopes of answering some of the most pressing questions with regard to police use of force and gun fatalities. And once completed, his department plans to present the findings at national criminal justice conferences and use the knowledge gained to update current curriculum and create new course offerings.





Hailey Fleishman | Social Work

Kutztown University's Social Work program teaches students to become skilled personnel capable of alleviating some of the most difficult circumstances facing our communities, such as the opioid epidemic and our nation's growing homeless population. Hailey Fleishman '19, a junior Social Work major from Philadelphia, has made it her career ambition to help lessen suffering.

While the desire to help is ingrained in her character, she hadn't considered Social Work as a major when she originally registered at KU. In fact, she didn't even want to go to college; and had it not been for her twin sister filling out her application, the first of many guiding hands that helped create her path, she may have never found her calling.

Shortly after Fleishman enrolled here, she received another nudge. "I took a social work class because at the Kutztown orientation the tour guide was a Social Work major, and I thought she was really rad," said Fleishman. "I talked to her, and she talked about her major, so I asked if I could take an intro class as an undeclared... I took Dr. Yoon Mi Kim's Introduction to Social Work... and she told us she was going to make our brains sexy."

Prior to coming to KU and trying out Social Work as a major, Fleishman believed the erroneous stereotype of the field. "In my head, social workers were just the people who took your kids away," said Fleishman. But once she realized all of the career possibilities in the field of Social Work, she declared it her major.

The Social Work Department pairs students with others in the department who act as preceptors, or guides, to help less experienced students navigate the major. During Fleishman's sophomore year in Social Work, she was paired with a senior who already had an internship. It was through this mentorship that Fleishman realized she wanted to help the homeless, as her preceptor had been interning with Hope Rescue Mission of Berks Country.

Student highlight

Toward the end of Fleishman's sophomore year, it became clear that Dr. Kim had noticed her dedication to the major. As a result, Dr. Kim organized to have Fleishman and fellow Social Work major, Alexandria Blackman, work together with her on a KU BEARS research grant opportunity titled, "Understanding and Reducing Student Departure in the Social Work Program: Empirical Assessment of Student Retention." This project sought to understand the reasons behind student departure from the Social Work program in order to develop concrete solutions to improve student retention. As a research assistant on the project, Fleishman conducted extensive research and collected data from both archives and human subjects.

Upon graduating, Fleishman hopes to work for a non-profit organization in the Philadelphia area that helps the homeless, and she has been considering the possibility of pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work.

Dean's Outstanding Faculty Award

In March, the CLAS Dean's Office hosted the Dean's Scholars' event to recognize the achievements of a select group of students. Also in attendance were the faculty members who had mentored the honorees. Additionally, Dr. Dale E. Parson was recognized as the latest recipient of the Dean's Outstanding Faculty Award.

Dr. Parson has an impressive research record, has been a member of several university committees, and most importantly, has shown immense dedication to both his department and his students. His commitment to our university is unquestionable, and the work he has produced has greatly benefited our community. For these reasons and more, Dr. Parson has been named the 2018 Dean's Outstanding Faculty Award recipient.



Dr. Parson accepting his award from Dr. Beougher.