## TRENT UNIVERSITY DURHAM'S EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:

# POLICING AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING





## POLICING & COMMUNITY WELL-BEING (B.A.)

## BE A PART OF A TRULY UNIQUE DEGREE EXPERIENCE:

The only communityinclusive policing and community well-being program of its kind in Canada

### PROGRAM OPTIONS

- 3 YR-GENERAL
   BA
- 4 YR HONOURS
   BA
- MINOR

Interested in playing a vital role to keep members of your community safe, well, and healthy? Trent's Policing & Community Well-Being degree is designed to shape the skills of tomorrow's policing and helping professionals in Canada. At Trent, you can prepare to be part of a transformation that keeps society healthy and secure by taking advantage of Trent's partnerships with social service, mental health, and policing agencies across Ontario. You will also gain handson experiences that put your course learning into meaningful practice, and give you an edge in the job market by solidifying social networks and enhancing future career development.

#### **Experiential Learning Opportunities**



Experiential Learning is an intentionally collaborative approach to teaching that benefits not only the student but also the community in which the learning takes place, as we engage with the most pressing and important challenges of modern life.

https://www.trentu.ca/careerspace/get-experience/what-experiential-learning

PLCW 2002H: Community Problem-Solving

- Develop collaborative problemsolving skills
- Research local community safety and well-being problems

#### PLCW 3007H: Problem Solving in

Diverse & Complex

**Communities** 

- Work directly with community partners
- Create solutions to contemporary community safety issues
- Current Topic: Human Trafficking

#### PLCW 4004Y:

Experiential
Placement BasedLearning

- Learn to bridge theory to practice
- Work directly community organizations

## Community Engagement

#### C.A.R.E Initiative

The C.A.R.E Initiative is a volunteer group that focuses on building community engagement and involvement by helping those in need. This initiative was developed in 2021 by the PLCW program, but all Trent students are welcome to participate

#### **Clothing Drive**

In Winter 2022, PLCW collected over 1800 pieces of clothing to support Back Door Mission, a local organization supporting those impacted by poverty and dislocation.





#### Food Drive

PLCW collected enough food to provide 239 meals to individuals accessing services at Feed the Need Durham.



## Community Engagement

#### **Cell Phone Drive**

The C.A.R.E Initiative collected 50 cell phones to donate to the Human Trafficking Unit at Ontario Works and Victims Services of Durham Region.



#### International Women's Day



PLCW spearheaded a collaboration with another Trent Durham program and Student Services to provide students with an opportunity to listen and learn about a local Women's life/career journey in social services.

#### New Community Engagement Opportunities

- Meals on Wheels Delivering to local residents in Durham Region
- Create for a Cause Paint night hosted to raise money for Victims
   Services of Durham Region
- Stuck In Traffick: Human trafficking educational walk and community events in support of Victim Services -- May 27, 2023



## PLCW Faculty

Dr. Amy Spendik, Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator Inaugural recipient of the Trent Durham GTA Award for Teaching Excellence for 2021–2022

My research engages with and contributes to the advancement of knowledge in criminology, sociology, public policy, and socio-legal studies. My previous research focuses on the role that risk-based thinking, neo-liberal governance, and risk management play in how criminal justice and mental health policy are developed and implemented. I have published work in mental health policy development, the use of segregation in prisons, prisoners' rights. My previous research examined how provincial correctional officers were trained to understand prisoner behaviour, how to identify threat cues, and the strategies used to reduce danger in institutional settings. My current research examines the risk factors associated with human trafficking. This research examines the role that the social determinants of health play in the luring phase of human trafficking to better understand how young women get caught up in trafficking and what life contingencies increase the risk of being involved in trafficking.

## PLCW Faculty

Dr. Nicholas Cristiano, Assistant Professor

I am a trained sociologist with a substantive focus on criminology, criminal justice, and public policy. I specialize in the areas of illicit substance use, addiction, harm reduction, drug law enforcement, and research methods. My research focuses on developing contextualized understanding of drug use behaviours by exploring conceptions and patterns of risk in relationship to contexts of use and structural constraints. I have researched extensively the Electronic Dance Music (EDM) community and the associated "club drug" culture. Currently, I am a lead investigator on a research grant looking at the effects of legalization and Covid-19 on use patterns and cannabis-related risk behaviours.



### **Student Testimonials**





The PLCW faculty are approachable and care about the success of all Trent student.

PLCW is a great program if your focus is to change the way the policing institution thinks and acts

"If you enjoy both the experience of theory and hands-on all in one, this is the program for you!!"

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## Popular Courses

Course Code	Description
PLCW 1001: Introduction to Policing and Community Well-being Part I	Examines the nature of safety and security in the community by focusing on the role of the police as an agent of social control and safety, including how police forces have changed over time in Western countries and the various challenges facing modern police forces in Canada
PLCW 1002H: Introduction to Policing and Community Well- being Part 2	Provides understandings of community and policing and how community policing develops and can be implemented. Exploration of how the nature of policing has changed from strictly enforcing law to working with community organization, services, and offices to develop models of shared responsibility for providing safety and well-being for all community members
PLCW 2003H: Social Determinants of Health	Introduces social factors which protect communities and individuals from crime and social disorder. Provides a history of the social determinants of health movement and draws parallels to the challenges of stemming crime and social disorder in community. Draws parallels between "health promotion" in the health sector and safety promotion in community
PLCW 3002H: Mental Health, Addiction, and Community Well-Being	Focuses on mental health and addiction and their impacts on community safety and well-being. Explains these disorders using real case scenarios. Students will become aware of victimization and stigma associated with mental health and substance abuse disorders, and have a better understanding of the etiology of addictions and mental health problems
PLCW 4002H: Prisons and Punishment	Exploration of trends and approaches within the correctional system in Canada, including the historical and contemporary context of correctional practices.  Attention is paid to the differential impact of Canadian corrections on Aboriginal people and other minority groups

#### **Coming Soon**

#### Potential Course Topics In:

- Marginalization and Social Control
- Crime, Law, and Social Policy
- Surveillance and Technology in Policing and Community Well-Being

#### Join us for a PLCW class

Want to know what it is like as a "Day in the life of a Policing and Community Well-being student"? Take part in the experience of the Policing and Community Well-being program by joining a class and gain the opportunity to connect with current Policing and Community Well-being students.

#### Classes Visits Available:

- Introduction to Policing and Community Well-being Part I and 2
- Community Problem Solving and Analysis
- Social Determinants of Health
- Prisons and Punishment.

\*Please note, class visits are subject to change and availability\*

If you wish to join a class, please submit a request to policing@trentu.ca and more information will be provided to arrange your visit.



Trent Talks – The Police are Watching and Being Watched: Technology and Social Media in Policing



## Contact Us

Dr. Amy Spendik Assistant Professor, Program Coordinator amyspendik@trentu.ca

General Inquires, policing@trentu.ca

For more information on the PLCW program and to hear from current students, check out our virtual Winter Open House



Follow us on Instagram: @plcwattrent

