Welcome Our New CRJA Professors!

Dr. Amanda Matravers came to CSU East Bay from CSU Stanislaus, where she was director of the master’s program in criminal justice. She previously taught at American University, Washington, DC, and, prior to that, at the University of Cambridge, UK.

Dr. Matravers’ interest in criminal justice was stimulated by her work as a prison teacher in the UK during the 1990s. Her professional criminal justice experience includes group work facilitation for the probation department and with at-risk youth. As a research associate for the UK Prison Service, Dr. Matravers carried out research studies on a range of topics including prison violence, treatment for property offenders, domestic violence, and literacy problems among women prisoners. She also served as an assessor for correctional officers undertaking professional development training. In a voluntary capacity, Dr. Matravers has served as a youth worker, a “Big Sister”, a counselor for women survivors of childhood sexual abuse, and, most recently, as a resettlement advisor at San Quentin State Prison.

Dr. Matravers received her Ph.D. in Criminology from the University of Cambridge in 2001. Her research interests include female criminality, women’s involvement in serious crime, sex offending & offenders, sociological theories of crime, corrections, and qualitative research methodology. Her work has appeared in peer-reviewed journals including *Deviant Behavior* and *Theoretical Criminology*, and her edited book *Sex Offenders in the Community: Managing & Reducing the Risks* was published in 2003.

To date, Dr. Matravers has taught core criminal justice courses including critical issues in justice, research methods, policing, and corrections. Other teaching includes criminological theory, qualitative research methods, sex crime, the role of the police in society, imprisonment, and theories of punishment. Dr. Matravers is a keen advocate for applied criminal justice, and has supervised students on projects at a wide range of criminal justice agencies and community organizations. Her teaching philosophy is based around active learning strategies, and she is also committed to facilitating and improving student writing.

Michelle Rippy came to CSUEB in 2006, teaching for over 10 years as an adjunct faculty member in the Criminal Justice Department prior to being hired as an Assistant Professor. After graduating CSU Hayward with an undergraduate degree in the Special Major of Forensic Science, Professor Rippy continued to graduate school at National University focusing on Forensic Science. During graduate school, Professor Rippy’s research focus was on proper training of law enforcement, emergency medical personnel and emergency department physicians in forensic science. Professor Rippy previously taught in the Emergency Medical Technician Program at Chabot Community College.

For the past 15 years, Professor Rippy has been active in law enforcement working both as a Supervising Deputy Coroner in San Mateo County and as a Reserve Police Officer. During her time at the Coroner’s Office, Professor Rippy handled high profile death investigations, trained personnel, worked with forensic pathologists in an autopsy setting and spearheaded a highly interactive internship program. Professor Rippy has also worked in a law enforcement patrol setting, undercover operations and tactical environments – serving as a tactical medical provider. Professor Rippy is also a member of the Region IX Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Team (DMORT) - which is a federal level death investigation task force.

Professor Rippy’s main teaching and research interests include forensic science, investigations and policing. She teaches Basic Criminal Investigation, Evidence in Corrections and Law Enforcement, Administration of Justice,
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Ethics in Justice Administration and Crime Prevention and Control. Professor Rippy is also the coordinator of the Internship in Criminal Justice course and has organized Criminal Justice Internship and Job Fairs.

Professor Rippy is a member of the following professional organizations: American Society of Criminology, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, California State Coroners Association, California State Homicide Investigators Association, California Reserve Police Officers Association, International Tactical EMS Association and the International Coroner and Medical Examiner Association.