

Maria L. Simonetti, M.A., CFE
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EDUCATION

- 2024 - **Ph.D., Criminal Justice**
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
 CUNY Graduate Center, New York
In Progress
- 2023 **M.A., International Crime and Justice**
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice – New York, NY
Master of Arts Awarded with Distinction
 Capstone: *Police Reform Efforts in Post-Conflict Ukraine*
 Supervised by John F. Hussey, Ph.D., MG US Army (Ret)
- 2022 **Advanced Certificate in Transnational Organized Crime Studies**
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice – New York, NY
- 2020 **B.S., Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement Technology**
 Farmingdale State College – Farmingdale, NY
Magna Cum Laude
 Capstone: *How does 'Smart Surveillance' aid law enforcement in crime prevention? The Acceptance of Surveillance Technologies in Our 'Smart World.'* Supervised by Rinat Shangeeta
 Study Abroad Project: *'Hospitality and Nature in Iceland, An Ethnographic Study of Culture in Iceland.'* Supervised by Dr. Clare Forstie
- 2011 **A.A.S., Culinary Arts-Restaurant Management**
 Suffolk County Community College – Riverhead, NY
 Study Abroad: Florence University of the Arts, Apicius International School of Hospitality
 Internship and Certificate (2010)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Punishment and corrections, recidivism, comparative and international penology, Scandinavian correctional policy, sentencing, fraud risk and detection, fraud prevention.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2025- John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York
 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Law, Police Science & Criminal Justice

- 2025- John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York
Graduate Research Assistant
- 2024- Center For International Human Rights at John Jay College of Criminal Justice
City University of New York
Assistant to the Director
- 2023-2024 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York
Adjunct Instructor, Department of Political Science
- 2022-2024 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York
Academic Advisor, Master of Arts Program in International Crime & Justice

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

January 2026 -

Assessing Drug Court Programs

Role: Graduate Research Assistant

Supervisor: Dr. Debi Koetzle

Funding: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (\$4,000)

January 2025 - December 2025

Gender-based violence in Latin American Countries: A Scoping Review findings.

Role: Graduate Research Assistant

Supervisor: Dr. Mangai Natarajan

Funding: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

September 2023 - December 2023

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Project with NGO Partners;

The project included identifying data sets of interest, refining and editing risk cards, and identifying risks related to IUU fishing.

Role: Research Consultant, Financial Crimes

Supervisor: Dr. John Stockton, Co-Founder

Funding: Quantifind, LLC (\$1,720)

August 2022 - December 2022

The Impact of COVID-19 on Victimization Risk and Service Needs for Domestic Violence Victims and Survivors.

Role: Research Assistant

Supervisor: Dr. Mangai Natarajan

Funding: Research Foundation, City University of New York (\$1,235)

March 2022 - June 2022

Incarcerated Women: An International Perspective.

Role: Research Assistant

Supervisor: Dr. Katarzyna Celinska

Funding: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (\$2,000)

March 2022 - June 2022

The Impact of COVID-19 on Victimization Risk and Service Needs for Domestic Violence Victims and Survivors.

Role: Research Assistant

Supervisor: Dr. Mangai Natarajan

Funding: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (\$2,000)

PRESENTATIONS

- Gender-based violence in Latin American Countries: A Scoping Review findings. American Society of Criminology (ASC), Washington, D.C. 2025. (with Dr. Mangai Natarajan).
- A comparative study: Prison officer training in Norway, Sweden, and the U.S. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), National Harbor, MD. 2023. (with Dr. Katarzyn Celinska)
- Collaborative Research: Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Victimization Risk and Service Needs for Domestic Violence Victims & Survivors. American Society of Criminology (ASC), Atlanta, GA. 2022. (with Dr. Mangai Natarajan, Dr. Yasemin Irvin-Erickson, Brittany Suh, Bryce Kushmerick-McCune, Lindsay Smith, Emely Martinez, and Anika Amdahl)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Law, Police Science, & Criminal Justice

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, New York, NY

- Comparative Corrections (Spring 2026)

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Political Science

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, New York, NY

- Introduction to International Crime and Justice (Fall 2023; Fall 2024)

AWARDS AND FUNDING

2026	Assessing Drug Court Programs <i>CUNY Graduate Center</i> Amount awarded: \$4,000
2025	Criminal Justice Doctoral Funding Grant 2025 <i>CUNY Graduate Center</i> Amount awarded: \$1,500
2025	Criminal Justice Tithe Fellowship for Travel <i>CUNY Graduate Center</i> Amount awarded: \$773

- 2024 Criminal Justice PhD 5-Year Fellowship and Tuition | *CUNY Graduate Center*
- 2023 Cheryl Williams Memorial Scholarship | *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
Amount awarded: \$1,000
- 2023 Student Travel Funds to Present at a Conference | *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
Amount awarded: \$500
- 2022 Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund HEERF II Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) | *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
Amount awarded: \$1,215
- 2021 Ritchie-Jennings Memorial Scholarship | *Association of Certified Fraud Examiners*
Amount awarded: \$1,000
- 2019 – 2020 Global Ambassador | *Farmingdale State College*
- 2019 – 2020 President’s List | *Farmingdale State College*
- 2019 Diversity Abroad Honors Scholarship | *State University of New York*
Amount awarded: \$3,000

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Fraud Examiner, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
 CITI Program, Certificate - Human Subjects Research Protection Training
 New York State licensed Notary Public, Suffolk County (01SI6338704) 04/30/24-04/30/28)
 Intuit QuickBooks Bookkeeping Professional Certificate (QBO, Enterprise)
 Social Media Marketing: (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat, TikTok, X, Mailchimp)
 Graphic Design: Canva, Adobe Workshop
 R, ArcGIS, Encase, SleuthKit + Autopsy

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) (2022-present)
 Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society (2020-present)
 American Society of Criminology (ASC) (2022-present)
 Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE); ACFE Long Island Chapter (2019-present)
 Golden Key International Honor Society (2019-present)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Compliance & Operations Consultant/Certified Fraud Examiner Long Island, NY
Independent Consultant 2014-Present
 Provide consulting services to small businesses in the landscaping and construction industries, specializing in compliance, financial management, and operational efficiency. Help clients strengthen internal controls, meet regulatory standards, and improve profitability.

Services include:

- Conduct compliance audits and fraud risk assessments
- Advise on H-2B processes, Department of Transportation, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and state/federal compliance
- Maintain OSHA 300 logs and workplace safety documentation
- Implement Safety Toolbox Talks and promote safe workplace practices
- Manage AIA billing, certified payrolls, and contract compliance
- Prepare and file NYS sales tax, highway use tax, and US DOT biennial/federal motor carrier reports
- Develop employee handbooks, policies, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) manuals
- Guide human resources, benefits, insurance, and fleet management
- Build pricing and cost models to support bids and budgeting
- Identify and pursue bid opportunities in county, town, village, and NYS Contract Reporter platforms
- Streamline bookkeeping and administrative systems
- Provide Notary Public services and certified document preparation

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Gohar Petrossian, Ph.D.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Email: gpetrossian@jjay.cuny.edu

George Andreopoulos, Ph.D.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Email: gandreopoulos@jjay.cuny.edu

Mangai Natarajan, Ph.D.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Email: mnatarajan@jjay.cuny.edu