It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the fall semester! We recognize that our greatest number of graduate program referrals comes directly from individuals who have been through our programs themselves and can attest to the quality of a Niagara graduate education. If you are a current student or alumnus, or a friend of the university, we could really use your help in connecting to people who might be interested in a graduate education at Niagara. Below is a list of the graduate programs offered at NU. If you know of anyone considering a graduate degree in one of these areas, I would greatly appreciate it if you would contact me directly at the number below or fill out the “Make a Referral” form at www.niagara.edu/graduate.

Thank you for your continued support of Niagara University!

Carlos E. Tejada, Associate Dean for Graduate Recruitment
(716)286-8769 or (800) 462-2111

MA-IS Program

Niagara University’s newest graduate program (Master of Arts—Interdisciplinary Studies) crosses disciplines, student age levels, fields of interest, curricular approaches, and even buildings. It’s part of the College of Arts and Sciences, but draws on faculty and courses from nearly every part of campus.

Thomas A. Chambers, program director and assistant professor of history, describes the MA-IS as “an exciting new opportunity for students interested in an advanced degree but who haven't found a program that fits their interests.” Prospective students design their own curriculum and complete a capstone project. “What I like best about this degree,” says Chambers, “is its individual focus. Some students may choose to write a thesis, while others may conduct a grassroots campaign or research a specific issue. The only limit is their ingenuity and hard work.”

For additional information on the 33 credit-hour program, go to www.niagara.edu/interdisciplinary/index.htm
Criminal Justice

Professor Conducts Published Research

Dr. Craig Rivera, assistant professor of criminal justice, recently co-authored an article with Dr. Richard Spano from Indiana University which will appear in the Journal of Youth and Adolescence. Using data from a high-poverty sample of inner city youth, Rivera and Spano examined the impact of being exposed to violence, either as a victim or as a witness to victimization, on future aggressive behavior. Specifically, they were looking at whether the timing of the exposure was an important factor — in other words, whether any detrimental effect of being exposed to violence is stable or essentially wears off over time. In line with recent research in this area, they found that more recent exposure to violence has a stronger effect on aggressive behavior, and that the effect on such behavior does indeed appear to lessen and eventually disappear over time.

Upcoming Events

Live Music Series
All shows are from 8-11 p.m. in the “Under the Taps” Club, lower-level Gallagher Center. Admission is $5 at the door, and includes free pizza and wings. Shows are open to the general public.
Oct. 27 – White Chocolate
Nov. 3 – The Churchills plus The Last Conservative
Nov. 17 – High School Showcase
Dec. 1 – Black Widow
To learn more, visit www.niagara.edu/rtr

Niagara University Theatre
Fall 2006 Season
Purchase tickets at the NU Theatre box office in Dwyer Arena Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or call 716-286-8622.
“Vincent in Heaven” Oct. 5-15 at the Leary Theatre
“Dead Man Walking” Nov. 3-5 at the Leary Theatre
“Godspell” Dec. 7-17 at the Church in Lewiston
For more information, visit www.niagara.edu/theatre.

MBA

Bisgrove Hall to include a state-of-the-art financial services laboratory

The construction of the academic complex which will include Bisgrove Hall, the new home for the College of Business Administration and the MBA program, is well underway. Progress on the new complex can be seen by visiting www.niagara.edu/pr/AcademicComplex.htm.

One of the many technology-based instructional features in the new complex will be the college's financial services laboratory. According to Wick Hannan, MBA director, “This state-of-the-art financial services laboratory will be unique in the Western New York region. Only at Niagara University will students have access to an active-learning facility on par with many leading business schools across the country, combining a trading room and classroom environment with 28 workstations and multiple real-time and historical financial, economic and business data feeds.” The laboratory will be used for the MBA core finance course as well as for the recently added electives in the finance concentration of the MBA program. This application of active and integrative learning will serve to further achieve the MBA learning objective to “emphasize the application of business theory to practice.” Students who use the laboratory will gain knowledge of and hands-on experience with the tools actually used by financial analysts and traders.

In addition to enhancing the active and integrative learning experience for Niagara University’s students, Dr. Jack Helmuth, dean of the College of Business Administration, points out that the financial services laboratory will also provide the opportunity for the college to build relationships with other institutions in Western New York and beyond. “The technology involved will also enable institutions and business practitioners from around the world to participate in activities in the financial services laboratory via teleconferencing and the Internet. Examples would be leading practitioners from Wall Street firms or the financial market and/or risk management directors from the New York City, London or Singapore offices of locally connected firms such as Citigroup and HSBC.”

In celebration of its sesquicentennial anniversary, Niagara University has launched a special Web site with photos, memories, a timeline marking key events in Niagara history, and downloads. Check the site out today and celebrate the 150th anniversary with us at: www.niagara.edu/150.
Did You Know?

Have you ever attended a Niagara University basketball game? Did you know that we are a Division I school? Be part of the NU spirit and attend a game. Below are the home schedules (nonconference games) for the men’s and women’s basketball teams.

**Men's Basketball**
- Nov. 16 vs. Binghamton
- Nov. 18 vs. Valpariso
- Nov. 25 vs. Akron
- Dec. 9 vs. St. John’s
- Dec. 16 vs. Duquesne

**Women's Basketball**
- Nov. 10 vs. Colgate
- Nov. 14 vs. St. Bonaventure
- Nov. 19 vs. Maryland ES
- Nov. 29 vs. St. John’s
- Dec. 21 vs. Marshall


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**College of Education**

**Study Abroad Reflection**

On July 20, 23 Niagara University graduate students and faculty from the College of Education departed from campus to begin an 18-day Asian trip, characterized as “the trip of a lifetime to Thailand” by one graduate student. Although delayed at the outset, the group spent an unexpected day visiting Hong Kong on the way over and enjoyed visiting one of the most vibrant cities in the world. The Niagara University students and faculty arrived in Bangkok where they met up with three additional members of their group who served as an “advance team.” Within the first week they flew 600 miles to the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai, and experienced bamboo rafting down a jungle river and elephant riding through rain forest to a hill tribe. After several days the group traveled back to Bangkok for school visits and left again for a flight 600 miles south to the province of Phuket, now famous as the location where the tsunami caused such damage last year.

On the return to Bangkok, students spent several days visiting schools within the city and having the opportunity to teach English to Thai students. Dr. Mike Smith, associate professor of education, and Dr. Tom Sheeran, professor of education, also conducted workshops that assisted English language teachers from Canada, England, New Zealand and the Philippines with an understanding of constructivist methods and techniques.

Graduate student Julie Consentino, who participated in the study-abroad trip, reflected on the experience in a summary of the journal she kept during this experience. “There are several highlights of my trip, some scheduled and some spontaneous. Every adventure was like a gift of knowledge about their customs, every temple or school visit was like a key to understanding their ways, and every smile from strangers on the street or in a market reflects the lovely spirit of all Thai people. A common thread throughout my journal was how I felt about the people. Simply put, Thai people are some of the kindest, most welcoming, generous, and thoughtful people I have ever met.”

Julie’s experience accurately reflects an almost universal feeling about the Thai people and about the group’s interaction with them. This trip was truly the experience of a lifetime, one that participants continue to express their appreciation for the range of opportunities they enjoyed.

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**Fair Warning**

**Canadian Teacher Career Fair**

Tuesday, Dec. 5 • 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. • Kiernan Center

Representatives from Ontario school boards and teacher employment agencies will be on campus to provide information concerning employment opportunities, benefits, and application procedures. For a list of participants, go to [www.niagara.edu/career/CanadianTeacherCareerFair.htm](http://www.niagara.edu/career/CanadianTeacherCareerFair.htm). For more information, contact the Office of Career Development at (716) 286-8500 or careers@niagara.edu.

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“Life isn’t about finding yourself, life is about creating yourself.”
—Unknown
Recruitment Events

Niagara University graduate admissions representatives will be participating in graduate school fairs throughout New York, western Pennsylvania and the province of Ontario. We encourage you to visit us at these events, where Niagara’s representatives will be on hand to answer any questions you might have about our graduate programs as well as the admissions process.

Visit www.niagara.edu/graduate and click “Recruitment Events” to view all events attended by NU graduate admissions representatives.

Office of Career Development

Graduate Student Outreach Program

Helping to Shape Your Future

The Office of Career Development will be in the Gallagher Center from 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. on several Saturdays during the fall semester:

October 14
October 28
November 11
December 2

We offer these services to all Niagara students and alumni:

Critique resumes and cover letters
Schedule practice interviews
Facilitate career opportunity events

For more information, contact the Office of Career Development at (716) 286–8500 or careers@niagara.edu.