



**Emiliya Abramova**

Major: Political Sciences

Mentor: **Hernando Estevez, PhD,**  
Philosophy Department

Emiliya Abramova is a CUNY BA student pursuing her - degree in Philosophy and Gender Politics. Her mentor is Dr. Hernando A. Estevez, with whom she is conducting research examining the political circumstances under which women can maintain power in a male dominated social and political framework. Emiliya intends to pursue her PhD in Philosophy after graduation. Being a strong advocate female, Emiliya is a part of the National Committee on Pay Equity and takes pride in advocating for Women's rights.



**Karla Alfaro**

Major: Criminal Justice

Mentor: **Beverly Frazier, PhD,**  
Dept. of Law and Police Science

Karla Alfaro was born in the United States and raised in El Salvador. Ms. Alfaro is a first generation undergraduate college student completing a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and a minor in law. Since her freshman year, Ms. Alfaro has been working as a Research and Teaching Assistant in the Department of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration at John Jay College. Karla Alfaro is currently working with her mentor, Dr. Frazier, on a research project which examines the readiness of communities to provide treatment services, such as mental health and substance abuse treatment, to the released prison population. Ms. Alfaro plans to pursue a graduate program related to criminal justice and subsequently work for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).



**John Bae**

Major: Criminal Justice

Mentor: **Klaus Von Lampe, PhD,**  
Dept. of Law and Police Science

John Bae is a BA/MA student majoring in Criminal Justice, and a Pinkerton Community Fellow placed with the college transition program at the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES). His research examines the illicit cigarette market in New York City and the connection to the illicit trade of tobacco abroad. Additionally, John serves as the vice president for the United Nations Student Association, and is an active member of Global Brigades, a volunteer organization through which he gained the opportunity to volunteer in Honduras this past August.



**Mario Benabe**

Major: Culture and Deviance

Mentor: **Terry Furst, PhD,**  
Anthropology Department

Mario Benabe is currently an upper junior, pursuing a Bachelors of Arts degree in Culture and Deviance Studies. He has been conducting research under the mentorship of Dr. Furst on the police practice of “Stop and Frisk.” The primary objective of this research is to explore public sentiments on this practice. A scholar/athlete, Mario is entering his 4<sup>th</sup> year on the John Jay College Men’s Basketball program. Currently, he works as a Teaching Assistant and Tutor for the Math, Data & Stats Resource Center.



**Laura Blackwood**

Major: Economics

Mentor: **Jessica Gordon Nembhard, PhD,**  
Dept. of Africana Studies

Laura Blackwood is a first generation Caribbean-American Student; her parents migrated from Jamaica and the United Kingdom. She is a Junior Economics major with a concentration in Economic Analysis. She also has a minor in Political Science and is pursuing a minor in Africana Studies. Laura is a research assistant to Professor Gordon-Nembhard, whose upcoming book focuses on establishing wealth and revitalizing African-American communities through use of cooperatives. Laura was recognized on the Dean's List for the 2010-2011 academic year. She intends to apply to Agriculture and Resource Economics programs and pursue a Masters and Ph.D. in Agriculture and Resource Economics. She is a member of John Jay's Sustainability Committee and Treasurer of the Economics club.



**Ronald Curtis**

Major: Forensic Psychology

Mentor: **Daryl Wout, PhD,**  
Psychology Department

Ronald Curtis, a Cincinnati native, is a senior majoring in Forensic Psychology. A Dean's List and Psi Chi Honors Society member, Ronald was awarded John Jay's prestigious Undergraduate Research Scholarship (2013). His current research projects include an examination of Adler's Social Interest Doctrine; an investigation of social interactions between heterosexuals/homosexuals; and an examination of race and first impressions. In addition, Ronald works with the Project SHARP Offender Treatment Program. He resides in Manhattan with his partner Brian and their two mastiffs, Connor and Trajan.



**Alexis Hiralall**

Major: Forensic Psychology

Mentor: **Daryl Wout, PhD,**  
Psychology Department

Alexis Hiralall is a junior majoring in Forensic Psychology and minoring in Human Services. She works for the Office of Student Academic Success Program as a Peer Mentor. Being a first-generation college student, Alexis views the McNair program as a great achievement. Alexis' research focuses on biracial individuals (African American-White). Since the research shows that Blacks view biracials as an in-group member, her research will measure to what extent biracial are accepted as an in-group member when they say something stereotypical about Blacks.

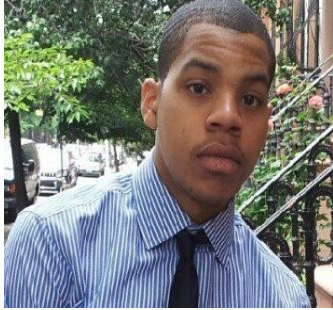


**Marcus Johnson**

Major: Forensic Psychology

Mentor: **Richard Ocejo, PhD,**  
Sociology Department

Marcus Kenneth Johnson is a Forensic Psychology major. He is also the president of the Chi Alpha Epsilon Nation Honor Society at John Jay. Viewing himself as a leader, Marcus utilizes his leadership skills and acumen to help promote excellence in those who aspire to be scholars. As a first-year McNair scholar, he has begun conducting research which focuses on gentrification and its effects on Harlem residents. Motivation, followed by dedication, pushes Marcus to always strive for the best.



**Jamel Love**

Major: Political Science

Mentor: **Demis Glasford, PhD,**  
Psychology Department

Jamel Love is a current resident of Brooklyn, NY. He is a transfer Student from Michigan State University and a Junior Political Science Major. He currently has a 3.93 GPA and is a Ronald E. McNair Scholar as well as a member of the Honors Program. Jamel also works as a Tutor Counselor for the John Jay College Upward Bound Program and interns at the New York Office of the Attorney General.



**Melissa Manrique**

Major: Forensic Psychology

Mentor: **Maureen Allwood, PhD,**  
Psychology Department

Melissa Manrique is a BA/MA student majoring in Forensic Psychology. As a peer counselor, she provides peer adjustment services for students at John Jay and often engages in outreach activities on campus. Melissa is an executive member of John Jay's first chapter, Global Brigades, empowering volunteers to facilitate sustainability in underdeveloped countries. Melissa is also actively involved in psychology research. She is currently researching the long-term psychological consequences of bullying under the mentorship of Dr. Allwood. In her free time, Melissa enjoys exercising, reading, and spending time with her family and friends.



**Anna Micek**

Major: Forensic Psychology

Mentor: **Philip Bonifacio, PhD,**  
Psychology Department

Anna Micek is a BA/MA student majoring in Forensic Psychology. She is also a member of the John Jay Honors Program. Anna has also been recognized by the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, as well as the Polish Language Honor Society for her excellence in Polish. In her free time, Anna enjoys photography, as well as, drawing and painting. She was recognized for her skills at numerous art contests. In spite of being encouraged to get her degree in art, Anna decided to expand her interest and knowledge in psychology. Currently, under the mentorship of Dr. Philip Bonifacio, she is working on her own independent research project which examines the impact of birth order on academic achievement.



**Leigh Pritchett**

Major: History

Mentor: **Sara McDougall, PhD,**

History Department

Leigh Pritchett is pursuing a BA in Global History, focusing on Ancient History, and a Minor in English. She also has an interest in the Middle Ages history, the French Revolution, weapons technology and world religions. Under Dr. Sara McDougall's mentorship, Leigh is currently conducting research that examines ways chastity, rape and suicide played a role in how Medieval ecclesiastical authorities portrayed female saints in Christianity. During her free time, Leigh enjoys unwinding by reading, drawing, watching movies and spending time with her family.



**Ashley Sumasur**

Major: Forensic Psychology

Mentor: **Deryn Strange, PhD,**

Psychology Department

As a first generation student, Ashley Sumasur was accepted into John Jay as a SEEK student in the summer of 2010. She is a Forensic Psychology major and is pursuing a minor in Law and Human Services. She has also been inducted into both the Chi Alpha Epsilon National SEEK Honors Society and PSI CHI National Honorary Society for Psychology. She was on the Dean's List for the academic school years of 2010-2011 & 2011-2012, and received a SEEK Honor Student Award in 2012 & 2013, and a Ruby Pin for her GPA in 2013. In addition, in the upcoming fall 2013 semester, she will start the Peer Counseling Training Program for her Human Services Minor. Ashley works with her mentor, Dr. Deryn Strange and Doctoral Student Daisy A. Segovia to develop her independent research project. Ashley plans to join the United States Marines to become an officer in Law, while getting a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology or Counseling Psychology. Later down the road she plans on obtaining a Ph.D. and a JD in Criminal Law.



**Imtashal Tariq**

Major: International Criminal Justice  
Mentor: **Rosemary Barberet, PhD**, Department of Sociology

Imtashal Tariq is a Brooklyn native and a first-generation college student of Pakistani descent. She is a transfer student from Borough of Manhattan Community College. Ms. Tariq is an International Criminal Justice major and is working towards her Dispute Resolution Certificate and minors in Economics, Gender Studies, and Sociology. In addition to being a McNair scholar, Ms. Tariq is a delegate for the award-winning Model United Nations team and is serving on the upcoming United National Conference on Trade and Development committee representing the Republic of Angola. She plans to apply to doctoral programs in Criminal Justice and Criminology.



**Laquasia Wilkins**

Major: English  
Mentor: **Elizabeth Yukins, PhD**, English Department

Laquasia Wilkins is a junior and is the first member of her family to seek higher education. She always had a passion for reading and writing, and thus is currently pursuing a major in English. Wilkins is interested in analyzing Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*, along with Sapphire's *Push*, while exploring the issue of sexual abuse within the novels. Specifically, Laquasia wants to examine children's traumatic experience in literature and how the black community is affected by this issue.



**Radhalisa Zarzuela**

Major: Forensic Psychology  
Mentor: **Maureen Allwood, PhD**, Psychology Department

Radhalisa Zarzuela is a junior majoring in the Forensic Psychology. She is a member of John Jay's first Global Public Health Brigade (GPHB) chapter. Radhalisa serves as a tutor for the Percy Ellis Sutton SEEK Program in the SEEK department. She also works as a research assistant in the trauma psychology lab in the Psychology Department. Radhalisa is currently working on a project under the supervision of Dr. Maureen Allwood which examines the relationship between home violence, jealousy, and aggression amongst girls. When Radhalisa is not studying or working, she enjoys reading, exercising, and sleeping.