



Marie Manikis is studying for a DPhil in Law at Worcester College, University of Oxford. She was awarded a CCSF scholarship in 2013 and named as one of two Maple Leaf Trust Diamond Anniversary Scholars.

Why have you chosen to study in the UK?

I chose to study in the UK for the University of Oxford's academic reputation as well as the scholars that have developed an expertise in criminal law and analysed victim-related issues.

Describe your research and why it is unique.

My doctoral research compares victims' rights in England and Wales and the United States. It specifically examines the enforcement and redress mechanisms available for victims of crime when their rights are breached in England and Wales under the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime and the Crime Victims' Rights Act in the American Federal jurisdiction. The implementation of these mechanisms, as well as the analysis of the wider area of victims' rights enforcement and redress remain relatively unexplored in common law jurisdictions and therefore this research advances this important area of study.

Has any one person or teacher influenced the direction of your study?

In Oxford I have had the opportunity to work with highly knowledgeable and helpful scholars in the area of criminal justice and victims. In this respect, I have benefited from my doctoral supervisors', Professors Andrew Ashworth and Carolyn Hoyle, inestimable advice in shaping and developing my project. Further, I have had the privilege to work on several research projects and publications with Professor Julian Roberts, who has been a great mentor and inestimable source of intellectual inspiration throughout my studies.

Has your work generated interest among your tutors and colleagues?

Yes, following the interest that my work generated, some of my colleagues at Oxford have given me the opportunity to collaborate with them on several research projects in my area of interest. Further, I have had the opportunity to present my work in a number of academic seminars and conferences, including the World Society of Victimology in The Hague as well as other conferences in Europe and North America. The dissemination of my work contributed to the sharing of knowledge and ideas with a network of engaging scholars from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia that work on victim-related issues.

How will your studies contribute to your chosen field?

Since my area of study is underresearched, the data I collated and analysed can help make a contribution to the limited scholarly knowledge available in the interdisciplinary field of law, criminal justice and criminology. Further, it provides useful evidence-based material for policy-makers and charities that have wanted to develop policies for victims of crime, including enforcement mechanisms and redress. In this respect, I have participated in consultations held by the Ministry of Justice and provided written reports to governments and non-governmental organisations.

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How will it be of benefit to Canada?

In Canada victims' rights and their enforcement is also an underdeveloped area of study within the academy, but also among policy-makers. My research compares and evaluates the different approaches adopted in England and Wales and the Federal American jurisdiction and addresses some of their challenges and limitations. These different experiences can help shed some light on this area of research and also provide an insightful analysis for Canada, where robust mechanisms of redress have yet to be developed or analysed. In this respect, my work has been welcomed by Justice Canada, legislative bodies as well as non-governmental bodies that have invited me to draft a few consultancy reports and reviews in this emerging area.

What do you most enjoy about living and studying in the UK and what do you miss most about Canada?

I have really enjoyed my experience in the UK, working alongside inspiring legal colleagues in Oxford and a strong and intellectual-stimulating community of scholars at the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford. Further, being based in Europe has facilitated travelling opportunities which have enabled a much wider academic outreach, but also allowed me to discover new places and cultures. I definitely miss my family and friends in Canada as well as the colleagues I have met throughout the years. I can't say the same about snow...

What are your academic and professional plans?

I plan to pursue an academic career and continue to research in the area of victims, as well as criminal law and criminal justice in general. I look forward to teaching and engaging in discussions and reflections with my students about important issues in these areas as well as undertaking new collaborative projects with colleagues and researchers worldwide that share similar areas of interest. Further, I would like to continue to work on consultation projects and contribute to evidence-based policies in Canada and abroad.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

I would most certainly like to thank the CCSF for its very generous scholarship. It has been very helpful throughout my studies and I strongly commend the charity's engagement in helping out Canadian students that have come to the UK to pursue their studies. Further, I have had the privilege to meet the charity's hardworking and devoted members and attend some of their events. It has been an honour to be part of this community of engaging and dynamic individuals that have facilitated the development of important knowledge that is being produced by Canadians studying in the UK.

