

After completing my Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) in Germany, I decided to pursue graduate studies in Criminology at the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies at the University of Toronto. The Centre's graduate program interested me with its interdisciplinary focus and strong emphasis on theory and research. I am currently in the third-year of the doctoral program there, working under the supervision of Professor Rosemary Gartner.

My dissertation project examines ex-prisoners' experiences of reentry and halfway house living in Canada. I am interested in how ex-prisoners rebuild their lives within the halfway house context after a period of incarceration, and how their experiences are shaped by their backgrounds and identities. I have done internship work at the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy at the University of British Columbia, and have been a volunteer with Elizabeth Fry Toronto.

I am humbled to have been chosen as one of 166 Vanier recipients this year. With the help of the Vanier CGS, I am able to extend my research to different locations across Canada which I hope will contribute to improving existing and creating new reintegration programs for ex-prisoners, and improving the lives of those who have been in conflict with the law. I feel very fortunate to count myself a member of the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies and the UofT community, and to be able to conduct my fieldwork with the support of the Vanier CGS.