

Dr. Scott D. Leonard, PhD

Scott has been an Associate Professor in the Criminal Justice program at the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) since 2017. NVCC is currently the 4th largest community college in the United States and is also ranked in the top 20 of the largest colleges or universities of any type in the country.

Scott retired after approximately 14 years as a Curriculum Specialist at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy in Ashburn, Va. In this position, he reviewed and updated all basic training curriculum to ensure that the content met the minimum training standards mandated by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). Additionally, Scott instructed several classes at the Academy.

After a 20-year career from the Fairfax County Police Department, Scott retired at the rank of Second Lieutenant. This position was responsible for the command of all patrol functions within a police district on a given watch. The Fairfax County Police Department is the largest local law enforcement agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

He has also worked as a child abuse investigator for approximately 6 1/2 years after retiring from the police department. Several Circuit Courts have recognized Scott in the Northern Virginia region as an expert in child abuse investigations.

Scott has also worked as a mental health clinician. His primary clientele were adults suffering the lingering effects of being sexually abused as children.

He has an extensive academic resume in criminal justice and psychology. In addition, Scott has a bachelor's degree in law enforcement, a master's degree in administration of justice, another master's degree in psychology, a master's degree in counseling, and a doctorate in psychology. Scott also has numerous certificates from professional training related to child abuse investigations and therapeutic interventions for child abuse survivors.