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SLU's Cannabis Science Certificate Wins Outstanding Program Award

ST. LOUIS – Saint Louis University's Cannabis Science and Operations Certificate program was named the 2023 Outstanding Program by the University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA). The award recognizes outstanding professional and continuing education programs allowing students to earn academic credit.

The honor will be given out during UPCEA's annual conference this week.

Launched in the fall of 2020 in SLU's School for Professional Studies, the Cannabis Science and Operations Certificate is the most successful program in SPS's history. In its first year in operation, the program enrolled more than 300 students from 35 states and Puerto Rico.

SLU's program was the first of its kind in St. Louis. Courses are taught by industry professionals and address all aspects of cannabis operations, including:

- The fundamentals of growing, manufacturing and dispensing cannabis
- Plant science and cultivation
- Cannabis extraction and product production
- Compliance and dispensary operations
- Pharmacological properties of cannabis

The 16-hour certificate program culminates with an internship.

Graduates from the program have found positions in cannabis sales, marketing, dispensary management, quality assurance and laboratory technology.

In January 2022, the School for Professional Studies added a Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutic Management certificate. The Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutic Management program is aimed at people who care for others by providing science-based education on cannabis-based therapy options.

UPCEA is a leader in online and professional continuing education.

About UPCEA

UPCEA is the leading association for online and professional continuing education. Founded in 1915, UPCEA now serves the leading public and private colleges and universities in North America. The association supports its members with innovative conferences and specialty seminars, research and benchmarking information, professional networking opportunities and timely publications. Based in Washington, D.C., UPCEA builds greater awareness of the vital link between adult learners and public policy issues. Learn more at upcea.edu.

About Saint Louis University

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious Catholic institutions. Rooted in Jesuit values and its pioneering history as the first university west of the Mississippi River, SLU offers more than 13,500 students a rigorous, transformative education of the whole person. At the core of the University's diverse community of scholars is SLU's service-focused mission, which challenges and prepares students to make the world a better, more just place.



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Program Director Spotlight

Stacy Godlewski, M.A.



Title: Director of Cannabis Science and Operations and Medical Cannabis and Therapeutic Management

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Faculty Profile: <https://www.slu.edu/professional-studies/contact-us/faculty/stacy-godlewski.php>

What is your favorite thing about working for SPS?

"The desire for collaboration across various areas of study. I love that SPS recognizes the importance of adult and online learning so that education can be attainable for anyone in the world seeking to further their career or educational goals".

- **What do you feel are some strengths of your program?**

The strengths of both programs are that we have industry experts teaching the courses, which include hands-on/experiential learning opportunities.

- **Why should someone consider a degree/certificate in your program?**

Earning a certificate in either program has proven to be advantageous for current students. They are learning from industry experts and practitioners and gaining knowledge of various parts of the industry that those not in our program do not have. Our instructors provide a unique networking experience to our students nationwide when seeking a career in the industry. Students who have earned a certificate in either program have recognized a higher level of compensation than those without a certificate in this industry.

- **What is your favorite class to teach and why?**

I teach the cannabis capstone research course. This is a fun class because I learn about the topics my students are passionate about. Students have submitted their research to their employers and created a position for themselves based on their research topic(s). Based on their research projects, students have collaborated to create companies and careers in the cannabis industry.

- **What do you like to do outside of work?**

Spending quality time with my family and friends is very important to me. Staying active in the outdoors, traveling, and continuously learning holistic ways to live are at the top of my "bucket-list."