

Austin C. Barber

School of Criminal Justice
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Education

- 2026 (Expected) Ph.D. Criminal Justice, Michigan State University
- 2022 M.A. Sociology, University of Arkansas
Concentration: Criminology
Thesis Title: Examining the Escalation to Violence at Political Protests: A
Conjunctive Analysis
Chair: Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.
- 2020 B.S. Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Minor: National Security Studies

Scholarly Interests

Organized Crime, Terrorism/Extremism, Human Trafficking, Transnational Crime, Foreign Policy, Wildlife Criminology

Professional Appointments

- 2022 – 2026 Graduate Research Assistant. School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University
- 2020 – 2022 Graduate Research Assistant. Terrorism Research Center, University of Arkansas
- 2021 Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Arkansas
- 2019 – 2020 Correctional Officer Intern. Lincoln Correctional Center, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

Research Projects

- 2022 – 2024 Project Staff (with J. Gruenewald, S. Chermak, J. Freilich, & T. Holt). “From Dot Coms to Pipe Bombs: Online Radicalization and Mobilization to Violence (DCPB).” *National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice (DOJ)*.
- 2020 – 2022 Project Staff (with J. Freilich & E. Greene-Colozzi). “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Department of Criminal Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice*.

Publications

Other Publications

- 2021 Becker, M. H. (2019). When extremists become violent: Examining the association between social control, social learning, and engagement in violent extremism (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/when-extremists-become-violent-examining-the-association-between-social-control-social-learning-and-engagement-in-violent-extremism-becker/>.
- 2021 Abudu Stark, M. J., Raine, W. J., Burbeck, S. L., & Davison, K. K. (1974). Some empirical patterns in a riot process (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/some-empirical-patterns-in-a-riot-process-stark-raine-burbeck-and-davison/>.
- 2021 Geschwender, B. N., & Geschwender, J. A. (1973). Relative deprivation and participation in the Civil Rights movement (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/relative-deprivation-and-participation-in-the-civil-rights-movement-geschwender-and-geschwender/>.
- 2021 Williamson, V., Trump, K., & Einstein, K. L. (2018). Black Lives Matter: Evidence that police-caused deaths predict protest activity (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/black-lives-matter-evidence-that-police-caused-deaths-predict-protest-activity-williamson-trump-and-einstein/>.
- 2021 Weeber, S. C., & Rodeheaver, D. G. (2003). Militias at the millennium. A tests of Smelser’s theory of collective behavior (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/militias-at-the-millennium-a-test-of-smelsers-theory-of-collective-behavior-weeber-and-rodeheaver/>.

- 2021 Moon, B., Hays, K., & Blurton, D. (2009). General strain theory, key strains, and deviance (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/general-strain-theory-key-strains-and-deviance-moon-hays-and-blurton/>.
- 2021 Ortiz, J. M. (2018). Gangs and environment: A comparative analysis of prison and street gangs (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/gangs-and-environment-a-comparative-analysis-of-prison-and-street-gangs-ortiz/>.
- 2021 Ives, B., & Lewis, J. S. (2019). From rallies to riots: Why some protests become violent (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/from-rallies-to-riots-why-some-protests-become-violent-ives-and-lewis/>.
- 2021 Dixon, T. L. (2008). Crime news and radicalized beliefs: Understanding the relationship between local news viewing and perceptions of African Americans and crime (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/crime-news-and-radicalized-beliefs-understanding-the-relationship-between-local-news-viewing-and-perceptions-of-african-americans-and-crime-dixon/>.

Presentations

Invited Presentations

- 2022 Guest Lecture. “Examining the Escalation to Violence at Political Protests: A Conjunctive Analysis.” *Criminological Theory (CRIM 3023)*, University of Arkansas
- 2022 Guest Lecture. “Examining the Escalation to Violence at Political Protests: A Conjunctive Analysis.” *Spatial Analyses for Social Data (CRIM 4303)*, University of Arkansas
- 2022 Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, University of Arkansas
- 2022 Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, University of Arkansas
- 2021 Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, University of Arkansas

Media

2021 “The changing face of terrorism in the United States” *Scripps Media, Incorporated*. <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/national/the-changing-face-of-terrorism-in-the-united-states>.

Teaching

University of Arkansas

Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice (CRIM 2003)

Social Psychology (SOC 3223)

Social Theory (SOC 3423)

Awards and Honors

2020 Degree Conferral with Distinction (University of Nebraska – Lincoln)

2019 – 2020 Dean’s List, 3 Semesters (University of Nebraska – Lincoln)

2019 Sigma Chi John T. Meier Scholarship for Academic Excellence, 1 Semester (University of Nebraska – Lincoln)

2018 – 2019 Sigma Chi Living the Jordan Standard Scholarship, 2 Semesters (University of Nebraska – Lincoln)

Affiliations

2021 – Present American Society of Criminology (Division on Terrorism and Bias Crimes) – Member

2018 – 2020 PREVENT: Sexual Assault and the Law – Member

2017 – 2018 Undergraduate Psychology and Social Sciences Association – Member

Relevant Training

2019 FEMA IS-00100.c: Introduction to the Incident Command System, 2 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security (University of Nebraska – Lincoln).

2019 FEMA IS-00200.c: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, 4 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security (University of Nebraska – Lincoln).

- 2019 FEMA IS-00700.b: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System, 3.5 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security (University of Nebraska – Lincoln).
- 2019 FEMA IS-00800.c: An Introduction to National Response Framework, 3 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security (University of Nebraska – Lincoln).
- 2019 Institutional Crisis Intervention and Conflict Resolution, 24 hrs. Provided by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

References

Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.: University of Arkansas – Terrorism Research Center

Position(s): Associate Professor – Director

Relationship: Professor, Thesis Chair, Assistantship Chair

Phone: (479) 575-3205

Email: jgrunew@uark.edu

Casey T. Harris, Ph.D.: University of Arkansas

Position(s): Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies

Relationship: Professor, Thesis Committee Member

Phone: (479) 575-5942

Email: caseyh@uark.edu

Christopher A. Shields, J.D., Ph.D.: University of Arkansas – Terrorism Research Center

Position(s): Clinical Assistant Professor – Project Manager, Internship Coordinator

Relationship: Professor

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