

# Dylan Sears

Race & Ethnicity | Cultural & Critical Criminology | Police & Vigilantism | Hauntology

## Education

---

Kansas State University

- Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology **Expected:** 2025
- Master of the Arts in Sociology **Achieved:** 2022
  - Thesis: *Hold the (Thin Blue) Line: Theorizing White Vigilante Violence as Counterinsurgency*

Oklahoma State University

- Bachelor of the Arts in Sociology **Achieved:** 2019

Tulsa Community College

- Associate of the Arts in Sociology **Achieved:** 2017

## Academic Experience

---

Kansas State University  
Graduate Teaching Assistant

August 2020 - Present  
Manhattan, Kansas

As Instructor:

- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Fall 2024
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Summer 2024
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Spring 2024
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Fall 2023
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Spring 2023
- CRIM 460 Youth and Crime Fall 2022

As Teaching Assistant:

- Social Research Methods with Dr. Corina Medley Spring 2022
- Comparative Social Theories with Dr. Gerad Middendorf Fall 2021
  - Guest Lecture: *Theodor Adorno and the Culture Industry*
- Urban Sociology with Dr. Frank Weyher Fall 2021
- Intro to Sociology with Dr. Corina Medley Spring 2021
- Intro to Sociology with Dr. Jeremy Briggs Fall 2020

## Publications

---

In progress:

“Violent Revitalization: Specters of Dark Tourism in Tulsa’s Greenwood”

“Good Kid, Mad City: on the Political Meaning of Kyle Rittenhouse”

Accepted:

Book Chapters:

Sears, D. (2024). "The Police Have Often Attempted to Pre-empt Cases of Political and Religious Violence Through Covert Intelligence." In M. Hart, J. B. Lamb, A. Lynes, J. Treadwell, & C. Kelly (Eds.), *50 Facts Everyone Should Know About the Police*. Bristol University Press.

Linnemann, T. and Sears, D. (2024). "Cultural Criminology." In K. D. Haggerty & L. Presser (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Critical and Cultural Criminological Theory*. Oxford University Press.

## Presentations

---

Sears, D. (2024). *Violent Revitalization: Specters of Dark Tourism in Tulsa's Greenwood*. American Society of Criminology Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States.

Sears, D. (2023). *Good Kid, Mad City: on the Political Meaning of Kyle Rittenhouse*. American Society of Criminology Conference, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

## Professional Experience

---

Manhattan Public Library  
Library Assistant (LA2), Circulation

May 2024 - Present  
Manhattan, Kansas

- Shelled, faced, and organized books in adult fiction, non-fiction, YA, and children's according to the Dewey Decimal System
- Assisted patrons at the circulation desk in signing up for library cards, requesting ILL's, and checking books out
- Trained on Polaris ILS in processing damaged, lost, and missing items, placing blocks on patron accounts, and applying and removing charges from patron accounts

Crime, Media, Culture  
Editorial Assistant

December 2022 – December 2024  
Manhattan, Kansas

- Screened journal submissions for proper formatting and anonymity
- Corresponded with authors about their submissions
- Assigned accepted articles to journal editors for next step in process

City Year Tulsa  
AmeriCorps Member

June 2019 - May 2020  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

- Maintained a case load of 36 7<sup>th</sup> graders
- Taught 20 students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics to foster academic growth
- Quantitatively evaluated student growth through course grade data collection
- Interpreted data from assessments and in-class performance to better adapt tutoring structure to the student's individual needs
- Qualitatively assessed student growth in Social-Emotional Learning using Aperture DESSA

Pawnee Nation Attorney General's Office  
Student Intern

October 2018 - May 2019  
Pawnee, Oklahoma

- Identified 15 Native American tribal organizations in the region surrounding Pawnee, Oklahoma
- Contacted tribal organizations to inquire about their tribal probation practices
- Conducted interviews with 10 tribal organizations about their probation programs
- Compiled qualitative interview data about probation programs
- Analyzed data for spaces of growth in developing a tribal probation consortium

Walmart Supply Chain

February 2013 - June 2019

T3 Certified Trainer, Orderfiller, Quality Assurance

Ochelata, Oklahoma

- Trained 50 employees on heavy industrial equipment
- Quantitatively maintained inventory of warehouse product
- Reevaluated 5 struggling employees' workflow for areas of growth
- Mediated conflicts between employees and management to find spaces for compromise

## Academic Service

---

Kansas State University Library Services Committee

2020 - 2022

Graduate Student Council Representative

Manhattan, Kansas

Kansas State University Dean of Libraries Search Committee

2020 - 2021

Graduate Student Council Representative

Manhattan, Kansas

Kansas State University Honor Council

2020 - 2021

Graduate Student Council Representative

Manhattan, Kansas

Oklahoma State University Sociology Club

2018 - 2019

Vice President

Stillwater, Oklahoma

## Honors and Awards

---

American Society of Criminology Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice

2024

Graduate Student Paper Award (Co-Winner)

“Good Kid, Mad City: On the Political Meaning of Kyle Rittenhouse”

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work Graduate Teaching Award

2022 - 2023

\$500 for Spring 2023

Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Scholarship

2020 - 2022

\$1,500 for Fall 2020 and \$1,500 for Spring 2021

\$1,500 for Fall 2021 and \$1,500 for Spring 2022

Phi Theta Kappa Scholar

2015

Undergraduate community college honor society