

# Justin Lucas Sola

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## APPOINTMENT

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2024	<b>Assistant Professor</b> Joint in Sociology & the School of Data Science and Society	University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
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## EDUCATION

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2024	<b>Ph.D in Criminology, Law &amp; Society</b> <b>Dissertation</b> <i>Theory with Consequents</i> <b>Committee</b> Bryan Sykes (Chair), Charis Kubrin, Sora Han, Francesca Polletta (Outside), Justin Pickett (External) <b>Emphasis</b> Race and Justice (directed by Ana Muñiz)	University of California Irvine
2021	<b>M.A. – Social Ecology</b> <b>Thesis</b> <i>Transmitting Desire: An Experiment on a Novel Measure of Gun Desirability in a Pandemic</i>	University of California Irvine
2014	<b>A.B. – Honors in Social Studies, Secondary in Psychology</b> <b>Thesis</b> <i>Guns in the Ideal Society: Comparing the Sociopolitical Ideology of Gun Owners and Police Officers</i>	Harvard University

## PUBLICATIONS (\* DENOTES EQUAL AUTHORSHIP)

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2025	<b>First impressions matter: Mundane obstacles to a forensic device for probabilistic reporting in fingerprint analysis</b> Simon A. Cole and Justin L. Sola <i>Social Studies of Science</i> (OnlineFirst)
2024	<b>Pathways to Concealed Gun Carrying</b> Focus article for Lanfear et al. 2024: <i>Dual pathways of concealed gun carrying and use from adolescence to adulthood over a 25-year era of change</i> Justin L. Sola <i>Science Advances</i> 10(49):eadu1262
2024	<b>Firearms, families, and financial distress: Economic instability and increased gun desire</b> Justin L. Sola and Tara D. Warner <i>Social Science Quarterly</i> (Online First)
2024	<b>Partisan Differences in Hiring and Social Discrimination against Nonbinary Americans</b> Justin T. Pickett, Justin L. Sola, and Shawn D. Bushway <i>Socius</i> (Volume 10: 1–5)
2024	<b>Widespread, bipartisan aversion exists to neighbors owning AR-15s or storing guns insecurely</b> Justin L. Sola and Justin T. Pickett <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i> 121 (16) e2311825121

2023	<b>Making the Call: How Does Perceived Race Affect Desire to Call the Police?</b> Justin L. Sola and Charis E. Kubrin <i>Journal of Experimental Criminology</i> (Online First) Winner of the 2023 ASC Division of Experimental Criminology Student Paper Award
2022	<b>Barred: Labor Market Dynamics and Human Capital Development Among People on Probation and Parole</b> Bryan L. Sykes, Meghan M. Ballard*, Daniela Kaiser*, Vicente Celestino Mata*, Joanne Amanda Sharpy*, and Justin L. Sola* <i>Annals of the American Academy of Political &amp; Social Science</i> (Volume 701 Issue 1: 28-45)
2022	<b>Robbing Peter to Pay Paul: Public Assistance, Monetary Sanctions, and Financial Double-Dealing in America</b> Bryan L. Sykes, Meghan M. Ballard*, Andrea Giuffre*, Daniela Kaiser*, Vicente Celestino Mata*, and Justin L. Sola* <i>Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences</i> (Volume 8 Issue 1: 148-178)
2021	<b>Transmitting Desire: An Experiment on a Novel Measure of Gun Desirability in a Pandemic</b> Justin L. Sola <i>Sociological Perspectives</i> (Volume 65 Issue 5: 939-969)
2008	<b>The New Industrial Revolution in China: Shenzhen and the Migrants Who Created It (1979-2006)</b> Justin L. Sola <i>The Concord Review</i> (Volume 19 Issue 2)

## UNDER REVIEW

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### Theory with Consequents

Justin L. Sola

2023 Society for the Study of Social Problems *Theory Division Outstanding Student Paper Award*

2024 Western Society of Criminology *Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition*

### Sheepdogs: The Appeal of Conditionally Neo-radical Gun Ownership

Justin L. Sola and Mary Lee

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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2025 – Present	<b>Emerging Scholar (P30)</b> , National Institute on Aging Demography and Economics Coordinating Center	\$30,000/year
2025	<b>Time-sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS) Grant</b> Who Goes There? Measuring the Intersection of Preferences for Race and Guns	\$20,000
2025 – present	<b>Carolina Population Center Faculty Fellow</b>	
2025 – 2026	<b>Global Partnership Award Exploration Grant</b> , UNC Global Affairs & Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen	\$2,000
2023 – 2025	<b>BRIDGS Emergent Scholar Fellowship</b> , Arizona State University Center for the Study of Guns in Society (Dr. Jennifer Carlson)	\$1,500
2023 – 2024	<b>Haynes Lindley Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship</b> , John Randolph Haynes & Dora Haynes Foundation	\$28,600

2023	<b>Criminology, Law &amp; Society Quarterly Fellowship,</b> School of Social Ecology - UC Irvine	\$8000
2022 – 2023	<b>Public Impact Fellowship,</b> Graduate Division – UC Irvine	\$1,000
2022 – 2023	<b>Dissertation Grant,</b> National Collaborative for Gun Violence Research	\$25,000
2020	<b>Graduate Teaching Fellowship,</b> Division of Teaching Excellence & Inclusion – UC Irvine	\$5,000
2018 – 2023	<b>Arnie Binder Fellowship,</b> School of Social Ecology – UC Irvine	\$20,000

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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2024	<b>Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition,</b> Western Society of Criminology	\$250
2023	<b>Division of Experimental Criminology Student Paper Award,</b> American Society of Criminology	\$500
2023	<b>Theory Division Graduate Student Outstanding Paper Award,</b> Society for the Study of Social Problems	\$200
2022	<b>Center for Psychology and Law Dissertation Award,</b> UC Irvine Center for Psychology & Law	\$5,000
2022	<b>Dr. Kimchi Memorial Graduate Travel Award,</b> American Society of Criminology	\$300
2022	<b>Dickman Award for Dissertation Research,</b> Criminology, Law & Society – UC Irvine	\$1,500
2021	<b>Kitty Calavita Award for Best 2nd Year Research Project,</b> Criminology, Law & Society – UC Irvine	\$500
2021	<b>Editorial Board Service Commendation,</b> Pacific Sociological Association	
2020	<b>Graduate Student Research Award,</b> UC Irvine Center for Psychology & Law	\$1,000

## RESEARCH ENGAGEMENTS

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2024 – present	<b>Researcher,</b> National Firearms Survey	
2024 – present	<b>Carolina Center for Population Aging and Health Affiliate,</b> Carolina Population Center	
2024 – present	<b>Researcher,</b> Southern California Homelessness Study	
2020 – present	<b>Researcher,</b> Shadow Costs Project	
2022 – 2024	<b>Graduate Research Assistant,</b> NORC LGBT Attitudes Toward Law Enforcement	Valerie Jenness

2022 – 2023	<b>Researcher for Federal Public Defenders Office,</b> Gun Policy and Sentencing Deterrence Research	Kevin Lerman
2021 – 2024	<b>Graduate Student Researcher,</b> Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence	Simon Cole
2019 – 2024	<b>Graduate Member,</b> Irvine Laboratory for the Study of Space and Crime	
2022	<b>Leroy Butts v City of Lancaster,</b> Consultant to ACLU SoCal & UCI Law	Bryan Sykes
2021	<b>Graduate Research Assistant,</b> Criminological Literature and Policy Review	Jennifer Doleac
2019	<b>Graduate Student Researcher,</b> National Science Foundation Grant Writing	Bryan Sykes
2012	<b>Research Assistant,</b> Higher Education Gender Policy	Eleanor Miller

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2026	<b>Neoliberalism in Law and Society: Toward a Theory with Consequents,</b> Law and Society Association Annual Meeting Invited presenter on <i>When is Theory Atheoretical?</i> panel	San Francisco, California
2025	<b>This is my ti. There are many like it, but this one is mine,</b> SOC 690S Machine Learning in Causal Inference (Invited Lecture)	Duke University
2025	<b>Won't You Be My Neighbor? Mapping Spatial Preferences,</b> Center for the Study of Wealth and Inequality (Invited Presentation)	Columbia University
2025	<b>Mapping Political Preferences,</b> American Politics Research Group	UNC Chapel Hill
2025	<b>Emerging AI &amp; ML Approaches to Analyzing Heterogeneity in the Social Sciences,</b> Universidad San Francisco de Quito	Quito, Ecuador
2025	<b>Survey Experiments to Understand Gun Ownership,</b> US Gun Violence (Invited Lecture)	Northeastern University
2025	<b>For Whom Does the Bell Toll? Emerging Approaches to Causal Heterogeneity,</b> Carolina Population Center	UNC Chapel Hill
2023	<b>How Can We Measure Crime?,</b> C108: Criminological Theory (Invited Lecture)	University of California Irvine
2023	<b>Experimental and Comparative Research Designs,</b> PhD Research Methods II (Invited Instructor for 2 Classes)	University of California Irvine
2022	<b>Do You Believe in Magic? Using Skepticism to Understand and Operationalize Research,</b> PhD Research Methods II (Invited Lecture)	University of California Irvine
2021	<b>When Do We Want to Call the Police?,</b> C167: Crime Measurement (Invited Lecture)	University of California Irvine
2018	<b>Invited Expert on Gun violence,</b> Mass General Hospital & Kennedy Institute Gun Violence Prevention Summit	Boston, Massachusetts
2014	<b>Guns in the Ideal Society,</b> Department of Sociology	University of Vermont

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

2025	<b>GRIDDY: Mapping Spatial Preferences,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Washington, D.C.
2025	<b>Won't You Be My Neighbor? Measuring the Intersection of Preferences for Race and Guns,</b> International Network of Analytical Sociology Annual Conference	Columbia University
2025	<b>Sheepdogs: The Appeal of Conditionally Neo-radical Gun Ownership,</b> Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	Chicago, Illinois
2024	<b>Theory with Consequents,</b> Crime, Law, and Deviance Roundtable at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting	Montréal, Canada
2024	<b>Widespread, bipartisan aversion exists to neighbors owning AR-15s or storing guns insecurely,</b> Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	Denver, Colorado
2024	<b>Discussant: Methodological Innovations in Studying the Criminal Legal System,</b> Population Association of America Annual Meeting	Columbus, Ohio
2023	<b>A Good Neighbor With a Gun? Experiments on Preferences for Social Proximity and Interaction,</b> National Research Conference for the Prevention of Firearm-Related Harms	Chicago, Illinois
2023	<b>Chair: Firearm Policies, Public Perceptions, and Public Policy,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2023	<b>Theory with Consequents: Theories of Neoliberalism in the Study of Social Problems,</b> Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting <i>Winner of the Social Problems Theory Student Paper Award</i>	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2023	<b>Lifetime Risks of Incarceration in the United States – The (mis-)Measurement of Race?,</b> Population Association of America Annual Meeting	New Orleans, Louisiana
2022	<b>Galvanizing Iron: Racial Justice Protests and Gun Desirability During a Global Pandemic,</b> National Research Conference on Firearm Injury Prevention	Washington, D.C.
2022	<b>Making a Call: What Impacts Desire to Call the Police in Ambiguous Situations?,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Atlanta, Georgia
2022	<b>Appearing Indigent: Judicial Decision-making and the Assessment of Poverty in the Imposition of Monetary Sanctions,</b> Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	Lisbon, Portugal
2022	<b>Call Me Maybe? The Role of Race in Desire to Call the Police,</b> Western Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Oahu, Hawai'i
2021	<b>Theories of Neoliberalism in Law and Society,</b> Socio-Legal Studies Workshop Presentation	University of California Irvine
2021	<b>The New Undesirables: Gun Desirability at a Time of Protest,</b> American Sociological Association Annual Meeting	Virtual Meeting

2021	<b>Transmitting Desire,</b> Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting	Virtual Meeting
2021	<b>Robbing Peter to Pay Paul: Financial Double-Dealings, Public Assistance, and the Repayment of Criminal Justice Debt,</b> Russell Sage Foundation	Virtual Meeting
2020	<b>Economic Injustice: Multi-State Studies of Legal and Financial Obligations,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Accepted for Presentation
2020	<b>Guns and Gun Laws: Neighborhoods, Disparities and Illicit Markets,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Accepted for Presentation
2019	<b>The Formation of Sheepdogs and an Experiment on the Proximal Causes of US Gun Acquisition,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	San Francisco, California
2019	<b>Case-to-Case Transfer as a Logic of Generalization and Inference in Mixed-Methods Research,</b> Eastern Sociological Association Annual Meeting	Boston, Massachusetts
2019	<b>Sheepdogs: Origins, Social Media, and Sociopolitical Ideology of a Subgroup of Gun Owners,</b> Western Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Oahu, Hawai'i

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2022 – present	<b>Instructor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminology 126: Drugs, Crime, and Social Control</li> <li>• Sociology 424: Law and Society</li> <li>• Sociology 123: Crime and Criminal Justice</li> <li>• Sociology 318: Computational Sociology</li> <li>• Data Science 120: Ethics of AI and Data Science</li> </ul>	UNC Chapel Hill, UC Irvine
2018 – 2021	<b>Teaching Assistance</b> Administered, graded, & taught sections for 8 courses (descending): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C164: Social Control of Delinquency (Mark Magidson), Sole TA</li> <li>• C132: Forensic Science (Simon Cole), Sole TA</li> <li>• C7: Intro to Criminology, Law &amp; Society (Keramet Reiter)</li> <li>• C106: Crime &amp; Public Policy (Emily Owens), Sole TA</li> <li>• C7: Intro to Criminology, Law &amp; Society (Terry Dalton)</li> <li>• C103: US Legal Thought (Chris Seeds), Sole TA</li> <li>• C110: Community Contexts of Crime (George Tita), Sole TA</li> <li>• C7: Intro to Criminology, Law &amp; Society (Ana Muñoz)</li> </ul>	University of California Irvine

## PROFESSIONAL AND EDITORIAL SERVICE

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2024 – present	<b>Social Forces Editorial Board Member</b>	
2024 – 2025	<b>Book Awards Committee,</b> ASA Crime, Law, and Deviance Section	
2023	<b>Session Chair: Firearm Policies, Public Perceptions, &amp; Public Policy,</b> American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2022 – 2025	<b>Special Issue Guest Editor,</b> Statistical Models for Fingerprint Analysis: Thinking Broadly About the Future	Law, Probability & Risk

2019 – present	<b>Ad Hoc Reviewer</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Sociological Review</li> <li>• Criminology</li> <li>• Justice Quarterly</li> <li>• Quantitative Criminology</li> <li>• JAMA</li> <li>• Science Advances</li> <li>• Social Problems</li> <li>• Injury Epidemiology</li> <li>• Social Forces</li> </ul>	
2022	<b>Session Chair: Impacts of Increased Police Presence and Police Contacts</b> , American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	Atlanta, Georgia
2022	<b>Forecasting Participant</b> , Risk Persuasion Tournament	Tetlock et al.
2019 – 2022	<b>Sociological Perspectives Student Editorial Board Member</b>	

## DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2025 – Present	<b>Faculty Governance &amp; Policy Working Group</b> , New School (Merging SDSS & SILS)	UNC Chapel Hill
2025 – 2026	<b>Executive Committee</b> , Sociology Department	UNC Chapel Hill
2025 – 2026	<b>Chair of Social Committee</b> , Sociology Department	UNC Chapel Hill
2024 – present	<b>PhD Student Advisor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yuxin Zhao (Sociology Department)</li> </ul>	UNC Chapel Hill
2025 – Present	<b>Dissertation Committee Membership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris Brehm</li> </ul>	UNC Chapel Hill
2025 – Present	<b>Masters Committee Membership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yuxin Zhao (co-chair)</li> <li>• Elizabeth Ortel</li> </ul>	UNC Chapel Hill
2024 – 2025	<b>Open Rank Search Committee</b> , School of Data Science and Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 position search with more than 430 applicants</li> </ul>	UNC Chapel Hill
2024 – present	<b>Computational Social Science Workshop</b> , Sociology Department	UNC Chapel Hill
2024 – present	<b>Culture and Politics Workshop</b> , Sociology Department	UNC Chapel Hill
2024 – 2025	<b>Computational Social Science PhD Concentration Committee</b> , School of Data Science and Society	UNC Chapel Hill
2024 – 2025	<b>Social Committee</b> , Department of Sociology	UNC Chapel Hill
2021 – 2022	<b>Social Ecology Graduate Representative</b> , Criminology, Law & Society Department	UC Irvine
2019 – 2020	<b>Peer Mentor</b> , Criminology, Law & Society Department	UC Irvine
2019 – 2020	<b>Graduate Representative</b> , Criminology, Law & Society Department	UC Irvine
2019 – 2020	<b>Social Committee Chair</b> , Criminology, Law & Society Department	UC Irvine

2017 – 2018	<b>Sophomore Advisor</b> , Leverett House	Harvard
2014 – 2018	<b>Social Studies Tutor</b> , Leverett House	Harvard

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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2021 – 2023	<b>Statistics Tutor for Incarcerated Persons</b> , California State Prison Solano	Underground Scholars Initiative
2020 – 2024	<b>Community Emergency Response Team Volunteer (#84-2472)</b>	Irvine, California
2022	<b>Prison Pandemic Project Reader</b>	UC Irvine
2020 – 2022	<b>COVID-19 Vaccine Study Volunteer</b> , Phase 2/3 BNT162b2 Trial	Pfizer & Biontech
2017 – 2019	<b>Civic Series Boston Meeting Organizer</b>	Massachusetts

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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UNC Center for Information, Technology, & Public Life • Institute in Computational Social Science •  
 National Collaborative for Gun Violence Research • American Sociological Association •  
 Society for the Study of Social Problems • American Society of Criminology •  
 Law and Society Association • BRIDGS Center • Population Association of America •  
 Research Society for the Prevention of Firearm-Related Harms •  
 Rockefeller Institute Affiliate: Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Gun Culture | Racial & SES Inequality | Crime Policy Analysis | Theories of Neoliberalism |  
 Polarization | Quantitative & Machine-Learning Methods | Experimental & Mixed Methods

## PROGRAMS & CERTIFICATES

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<b>Institute in Computational Social Science</b> Summer 2023 – UCLA	<b>ChatGPT, AI, &amp; Education Seminar</b> 2023 – UCI Division of Teaching Excellence
<b>Mentoring Excellence Program</b> 2022-23 – UCI Graduate Division	<b>Intensive Pedagogy Certificate</b> 2022-24 – UCI Criminology, Law & Society
<b>Improvisation for Teaching</b> 2022 – UCI Graduate Division	<b>Data Science in R</b> 2018 – HarvardX School of Public Health
<b>Computer Science Using Python</b> 2015 – MITx 6.00.1x	<b>Electronic Trading in Financial Markets</b> 2016 – New York Institute of Finance

## MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

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2024	<b>PsyPost</b> , article and interview on gun ownership research
2024	<b>LA Times</b> , article and interview on gun ownership research and national context
2024	<b>Scientific American</b> , article and interview on gun ownership and gun storage



## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2018	<b>Data Analyst</b> , Komodo Tech	Cambridge, Massachusetts
2014 – 2018	<b>Business Strategy Consultant</b> , Endeavour Partners	Boston, Massachusetts

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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Stata	R	Python	Machine learning	Github	SQL	Qualtrics
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## REFERENCES

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**Dr. Bryan L. Sykes – Associate Professor of Sociology & Public Policy at Cornell University,**  
bls244@cornell.edu (email) 949.824.9583 (phone)

**Dr. Charis E. Kubrin – Professor of Criminology, Law & Society at UC Irvine,**  
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**Dr. Francesca Polletta – Chancellor’s Professor of Sociology at UC Irvine,**  
polletta@uci.edu (email) 949.824.5041 (phone)

**Dr. Sora Y. Han – Associate Professor of Criminology, Law & Society at UC Irvine,**  
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**Dr. Justin Pickett – Professor of Criminal Justice at SUNY Albany,**  
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**Dr. Richard McCleary – Professor of Criminology, Law & Society at UC Irvine,**  
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**Dr. Elliott P. Currie – Professor of Criminology, Law & Society at UC Irvine,**  
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**Dr. Valerie Jenness – Distinguished Professor of Criminology, Law & Society at UC Irvine,**  
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