

# Thiago R. Oliveira

---

## PERSONAL SUMMARY

I am a Postdoctoral Researcher at Nuffield College in the University of Oxford. I am a criminologist who draws on theories from sociology, social policy, and psychology to study the exercise of legal power and its effects on public recognition of authority. I use policing policy and beliefs about the legitimacy of the law in Brazilian cities as my key research examples and rely on statistical, computational, and causal inference methods.

📍 Centre for Social Investigation,  
Nuffield College,  
University of Oxford

✉ [thiago.oliveira@nuffield.ox.ac.uk](mailto:thiago.oliveira@nuffield.ox.ac.uk)

🏠 [ThiagoROliveira.com](http://ThiagoROliveira.com)

🐦 [@ROliveiraT](https://twitter.com/ROliveiraT)

🎓 [Scholar](#)

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**University of Surrey**, Guildford, UK

· From Aug. 2022: *Lecturer in Criminology*, Department of Sociology

**University of Oxford**, Oxford, UK

· Aug. 2021– present: *Postdoctoral Researcher*, Centre for Social Investigation, Nuffield College

· Aug. 2021– present: *Research Fellow*, Nuffield College

## EDUCATION

**London School of Economics and Political Science**, London, UK

*Ph.D.*, Social Research Methods, 2017 – 2021

- Thesis: *It's a matter of (change over) time: The role of police conduct on the dynamics of attitudes towards legal authority*
- Supervisory team: Prof. Jonathan Jackson & Prof. Jouni Kuha
- Thesis examiners: Prof. Jeffrey Fagan & Dr. Amy Nivette

**University of São Paulo**, São Paulo, Brazil

*M.A.*, Sociology, 2014 – 2016

- Visiting Scholar, [International Institute for the Sociology of Law](#) (Oñati, Spain), Fall 2015
- Dissertation: *Social mechanisms of judicial decisions: An explanatory mixed-methods research design on juvenile sentencing*

\* **Award:** Best M.A. dissertation concluded in the Department of Sociology in 2016

*B.A.*, Social Sciences, 2010 – 2013

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

· 2017–present: *Associate Member*, [Centre for the Study of Violence of the University of São Paulo](#)

## PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**University College London**, London, UK

· Sep. 2020– Jun. 2021: *Associate Lecturer (Teaching) in Quantitative Research Methods and Data Analysis (QStep)*, Department of Political Science & School of Public Policy

· Sep. 2019– Feb. 2020: *Teaching Fellow in Quantitative Research Methods*, Department of Political Science & School of Public Policy

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Papers

5. Jackson, Jonathan, Krisztián Pósch, **Thiago R. Oliveira**, Ben Bradford, Silvia Camões, Ariadne Natal, & André Zanetic. 2022. "Fear and legitimacy in São Paulo, Brazil: police-citizen relations in a high violence, high fear city". *Law & Society Review*, 56(1) : 122 – 145. (doi [10.1111/lasr.12589](https://doi.org/10.1111/lasr.12589))
4. **Oliveira, Thiago R.** & Jonathan Jackson. 2021. "Legitimacy, trust and legal cynicism: A review of concepts". *Tempo Social*, 33(3) : 113 – 145. (doi [10.11606/0103-2070.ts.2021.191381](https://doi.org/10.11606/0103-2070.ts.2021.191381)).
3. **Oliveira, Thiago R.**, Jonathan Jackson, Kristina Murphy, & Ben Bradford. 2021. "Are trustworthiness and legitimacy 'hard to win, easy to lose'? A longitudinal test of the asymmetry thesis of police-citizen contact", *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 37 : 1003 – 1045. (doi [10.1007/s10940-020-09478-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-020-09478-2))

2. Jackson, Jonathan, Ian Bruton-Smith, Ben Bradford, **Thiago R. Oliveira**, Krisztián Pósch, & Patrick Sturgis. 2021. "Police legitimacy and the norm to cooperate: using a mixed effects location scale model to estimate the strength of social norms at a small spatial scale", *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 37 : 547 – 572. (doi [10.1007/s10940-020-09467-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-020-09467-5))
1. **Oliveira, Thiago R.** 2019. "Juvenile Sentencing: A Mixed-Methods Approach", *Brazilian Political Science Review*, 13(1). (doi [10.1590/1981-3821201900010006](https://doi.org/10.1590/1981-3821201900010006))

### Working Papers

- **Oliveira, Thiago R.** "Violence and coercive policing: Dynamics and consequences of the overpolicing-underpolicing paradox in Brazil's largest city". Preprint available at SocArXiv (<https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/89jkv>).  
Asked to revise and resubmit, *American Journal of Sociology*. Revision submitted.
- Suss, Joel & **Thiago R. Oliveira**. "Economic inequality and the spatial distribution of stop and search: Evidence from London".  
Asked to revise and resubmit, *British Journal of Criminology*.
- **Oliveira, Thiago R.** "Aggressive policing and undermined legitimacy: Assessing the impact of police stops at gunpoint on perceptions of police in São Paulo, Brazil". Preprint available at SocArXiv (<https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/v58je/>).  
Under review, *Journal of Experimental Criminology*.
- **Oliveira, Thiago R.**, Jonathan Jackson, Debora Piccirillo, Renan Theodoro de Oliveira, & Rick Trinkner. "Socialization through violence: Exposure to neighborhood and police violence and the developmental trajectories of legal legitimacy beliefs among adolescents in São Paulo". Preprint available at SocArXiv (<https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/v3h97>).  
Under review, *Criminology*.
- **Oliveira, Thiago R.**, Marcos César Alvarez, & Bruna Gisi, "From an offender-based to an offense-based justice: Changes in sentencing patterns in the Brazilian juvenile justice system from 1990 to 2006".  
Under review, *Crime, Law and Social Change*.

### Peer-Reviewed Papers in Portuguese

6. Theodoro de Oliveira, Renan, Debora Piccirillo, Aline Gomes, & **Thiago R. Oliveira**. *Forthcoming*, 2022. 'Violência como fator socializador na construção da legitimidade da polícia: um estudo com adolescentes de São Paulo, Brasil'. *Análise Social*.  
[Violence as a socialising factor shaping police legitimacy: a study with adolescents in São Paulo, Brazil]
5. **Oliveira, Thiago R.**, André Zanetic, & Ariadne Natal. 2020. "Preditores e impactos da legitimidade policial: testando a teoria da justiça procedimental em São Paulo", *Dados*, 63(1). (doi [10.1590/001152582020197](https://doi.org/10.1590/001152582020197)).  
[Predictors and impacts of police legitimacy: testing the procedural justice theory in São Paulo]
4. **Oliveira, Thiago R.** André R. Oliveira, Sergio & Adorno, S. 2019. "Legitimidade policial: um modelo de mensuração", *Revista Brasileira de Ciências Sociais*, 34, 100. (doi [10.1590/3410007/2019](https://doi.org/10.1590/3410007/2019)).  
[Police legitimacy: a measurement model]
3. **Oliveira, Thiago R.** 2017. "Mecanismos sociais de decisões judiciais: um desenho misto explicativo sobre a aplicação da medida socioeducativa de internação", *Revista Brasileira de Sociologia*, 5(10), pp. 58-88. (doi [10.20336/rbs.205](https://doi.org/10.20336/rbs.205)).  
[Social mechanisms of judicial decisions: an explanatory mixed-methods research design on juvenile sentencing]
2. **Oliveira, Thiago R.** 2017. "Oitivas cerimoniais: relatos descritivos do sistema de justiça juvenil em São Paulo", *Confluências*, 18(3), pp. 65-91. (doi [10.22409/confluencias.v18i3.476](https://doi.org/10.22409/confluencias.v18i3.476)).  
[Ceremonial hearings: descriptive reports of the juvenile justice system in São Paulo]
1. Zanetic, André, Bruno Paes Manso, Ariadne Natal, & **Thiago R. Oliveira**. 2016. "Legitimidade da polícia: segurança pública para além da dissuasão", *Civitas - Revista de Ciências Sociais*, 16(4), pp. 148-173. (doi [10.15448/1984-7289.2016.4.24183](https://doi.org/10.15448/1984-7289.2016.4.24183)).

[‘Police legitimacy: criminal policy beyond deterrence’]

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

### Guest lectures

- “A legitimacy crisis among ethnic minorities? Understanding the ‘defund the police’ movement.” Postgraduate module: *Criminal Justice Systems*, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey, March 2022.
- “Police violence and police legitimacy: A legitimacy crisis among ethnic minorities?” Postgraduate module: *Police Violence and Racial Oppression*, Department of Sociology, University of Oxford, February 2022.
- “Police-citizen contact and public attitudes towards legal authority: a longitudinal test of procedural justice policing.” Postgraduate module: *Public Policy Analysis*, University of Minho, Portugal, May 2019.

### Invited talks

- “Dynamics of the overpolicing-underpolicing paradox in São Paulo.” Latin American Centre, University of Oxford, March 2022.
- “Police use of force and legal cynicism: Preliminary findings from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods” (with David S. Kirk). London Policing Seminar Series, University College London, December 2021.
- “Violence and coercive policing: Dynamics and consequences of the overpolicing-underpolicing paradox in Brazil’s largest city.” London Policing Seminar Series, University College London, October 2021.
- “Violence and coercive policing: Dynamics and consequences of the overpolicing-underpolicing paradox in Brazil’s largest city.” Seminário NIED-CERES, UERJ/UFRJ, Brazil, September 2021.
- “Social conservatism and legitimacy: predicting public support for police violence in São Paulo.” Workshop *Trust in Justice*, University of Minho, Portugal, September 2017.
- “Profiling mechanisms in the Brazilian juvenile justice system.” *Violence, media, and youth*, SESC, Brazil, June 2017

### Scientific meetings

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| · ASC             | · 2019, 2020 ( <i>cancelled</i> ), 2022 ( <i>planned</i> ) |
| · Eurocrim        | · 2017, 2019, 2022 ( <i>planned</i> )                      |
| · ISA             | · 2018   |
| · SBS (Brazil)    | · 2015, 2017   |
| · ANPOCS (Brazil) | · 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016                                   |

## AWARDS

### LSE Class Teacher Award

2018/2019 - LSE Class Teacher Award nominated by the Department of Methodology

### Departmental Award: Best Dissertation

2017 - Best M.A. dissertation concluded in 2016 in the Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo

### Conference Award: Top 3 paper

2016 - VI Political Science Graduate Seminar, University of São Paulo

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

### Travel Fund

*LSE Postgraduate Travel Fund*, LSE – 2018, 2019: GBP 2,000.00

### PhD scholarship

*LSE PhD Studentship*, LSE – 2017-2021: GBP 140,000.00

### M.A. scholarship

*Bolsa de mestrado*, National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) – 2014-2016: BRL 36,000.00

### Residence Grant

*Residence Grant*, International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL) – Nov-Dec 2015

**Research Trainee** (Research fellowship for undergraduate students)

*Iniciação Científica*, The São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) – Jan-Dec 2013: BRL 7,000.00

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**50<sup>th</sup> GESIS Spring Seminar**

[Causal Inference in Observational Studies](#)

Co-lecturer: 2021

MSc/PhD level

**University College London (UCL)**

[Introduction to Quantitative Methods \(PUBL0055\)](#)

Class Teacher: 2019, 2020

MSc level

[Data Analysis \(QStep\) \(POLS0010\)](#)

Class Teacher: 2021

Undergraduate level (year 2)

**London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)**

[Intermediate Quantitative Methods \(MY465\)](#)

Class Teacher (GTA): 2017, 2018

MSc level

[Introduction to R Programming \(MY591\)](#)

Instructor: 2019

MSc/PhD level

[Multivariate Analysis and Measurement \(MY455\)](#)

Graduate Teaching Assistant: 2019

MSc/PhD level

[Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Media and Communications \(MY464\)](#)

Co-Instructor: 2020

MSc level

[Introduction to Quantitative Analysis \(MY451\)](#)

Class Teacher (GTA): 2017

MSc level

**University of São Paulo (USP)**

[Research Methods and Techniques \(FSL0203\)](#)

Teaching Assistant & Class leader: 2015, 2017

Undergraduate level

[Prison in Modern Society \(FSL0531\)](#)

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant: 2013

Undergraduate level

REVIEWER

**Reviews in English**

*Criminal Justice and Behavior, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice, Latin American Research Review, Revista Salud Bosque, Victims & Offenders*

**Reviews in Portuguese**

*Dados: Revista de Ciências Sociais, Revista Brasileira de Ciências Sociais, Revista de Ciências Sociais, Revista Eletrônica de Ciência Política, Revista Estudos Sociológicos, Tempo Social.*

PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICES

**Voluntary Consultant** in Research and Data Analysis at [StopWatch](#) (2020–...)

Member of the **Advisory Board**, *National Survey on Violence Against Children*, [Fundação José Luiz Egydio Setúbal](#) (2021–...)

**Coordinator** of the [LSE Quantitative Methods Reading Group](#) (2020 – 2021)

**PhD representative** for the Teaching Committee, [Department of Methodology](#), London School of Economics and Political Science (2018/2019)

Elected **Graduate Student Representative** in the [Department of Sociology](#), University of São Paulo (2015)

Member of **Editorial Board** for [Primeiros Estudos](#) (journal organised by USP undergraduate students in Social Sciences) (2013 – 2014)

SELECTED  
PREVIOUS WORK  
EXPERIENCE

[Centre for the Study of Violence of the University of São Paulo \(NEV-USP\)](#)

Research Assistant (2012-2013) and Researcher (2015-2017)

[IPSA-USP Summer School on Methods and Concepts in Political Science](#)

Administrative Assistant (2014-2015)

### **Consultancy Work in Data Analysis**

Conectas Human Rights (2014), Getulio Vargas Law School (2016), FAPESP research project (PI: Prof. Vera Telles, USP) (2017), LSE Widening Participation Team (2018)

#### COMPUTER SKILLS

##### **Statistics**

R (proficient user and instructor), *Mplus* (proficient user), Stata (instructor), SPSS (instructor)

##### **Miscellaneous**

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, RMarkdown, git

#### LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Portuguese (native), Spanish (intermediate)

April 7, 2022