

ERIN M. KEARNS

University of Nebraska at Omaha
 School of Criminology & Criminal Justice
 National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology,
 and Education (NCITE) Center

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EDUCATION

- 2016 American University, School of Public Affairs, Washington, DC Ph.D.
 Fields: Criminology and Public Policy.
Dissertation: If You See Something, Do You Say Something?: The Role
 of Legitimacy and Trust in Policing Minority Communities in Counterterrorism
- 2012 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, New York, NY M.A.
 Major: Forensic Psychology.
- 2005 Miami University, Oxford, OH B.A.
 Majors: Political Science & Psychology. Minor: European Area Studies.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021, Fall - Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska Omaha
 School of Criminology & Criminal Justice
 National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center
 National Strategic Research Institute Fellow
- 2017 - 2021 Assistant Professor, University of Alabama
 Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
- 2020, Spring Research Associate (on pre-tenure research leave)
 Miami University Dolibois European Center, Differdange, Luxembourg
- 2016 - 2017 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Georgia State University
 Global Studies Institute, Atlanta, GA

AWARDS

- 2016 Winner of the American Society of Criminology's Division of International Criminology
 Outstanding Student Paper Award
- 2015 Winner of the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism
 (START) Symposium Best Student Paper Award

BOOK

2020. **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K. "Tortured Logic: Why Some Americans Support the
 Use of Torture in Counterterrorism." *Columbia University Press*.

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

*graduate student; **undergraduate student

2021. **Kearns, E.M.**, Federico, C., Asal, V., Walsh, J., *Betus, A. & Lemieux, A. "Intergroup
 Images, Protest, and Terrorism." Online first, *Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict*.
 • Media Coverage: *The Trace*

17. 2020. *Betus, A., **Kearns, E.M.** & Lemieux, A. “How Perpetrator Identity (Sometimes) Influences Media Framing Attacks as ‘Terrorism’ or ‘Mental Illness.’” Online first, [Communication Research](#).
 - Media Coverage: [Washington Post](#)
16. 2020. Ghazi-Tehrani, A. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Biased Coverage of Bias Crime: Examining Differences in Media Coverage of Hate Crimes and Terrorism.” Online first, [Studies in Conflict & Terrorism](#).
15. 2020. Lowrey-Kinberg, B., *Mellinger, H. & **Kearns, E.M.** “How Social Dominance Orientation Shapes Perceptions of Police.” Online first, [Policing: An International Journal](#).
14. 2020. Delehanty, C. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Wait, There’s Torture in *Zootopia*?: Examining the Prevalence of Torture in Popular Movies.” [Perspectives on Politics](#), 18(3): 835-850.
 - Media Coverage: [Cinemascene FilmTalk](#), [Tuscaloosa News](#)
13. 2019. **Shupard, M. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Why Do Officers Support Community Policing?: A Cross-Departmental and Cross-Temporal Comparison.” [Behavioral Sciences & the Law](#), 37: 665-680.
12. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.**, **Ashooh, E. & Lowrey-Kinberg, B. “Racial Differences in Conceptualizing Legitimacy and Trust in Police.” [American Journal of Criminal Justice](#), 45: 190-214.
11. 2019. Dolliver, M. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Is it Terrorism: Public Perceptions, Media, and Labeling the Las Vegas Shooting.” Online first, [Studies in Conflict & Terrorism](#).
10. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.** “When to Take Credit for Terrorism?: A Cross-National Examination of Claims and Attributions.” [Terrorism & Political Violence](#), 33(1): 164-193.
 - Media Coverage: [The Economist](#)
 - 2016 ASC Division of International Criminology Outstanding Student Paper Award
 - 2015 START Symposium Best Student Paper Award
9. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.**, *Betus, A., & Lemieux, A. “Why Do Some Terrorist Attacks Receive More Media Attention Than Others?” [Justice Quarterly](#), 36(6): 985-1022.
 - Select Media Coverage: [ABC Australia](#), [Cato Institute](#), [The Economist](#), [Foreign Policy](#), [MSNBC with Ari Melber](#), [NPR’s All Things Considered](#), [NPR’s Hidden Brain Podcast](#), [NPR’s Morning Edition](#), [Reason](#), [The Independent](#), [The Washington Post](#)
 - Policy Coverage: [United Nations Secretary-General](#)
8. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.**, *Betus, A., & Lemieux, A. “When Data Don’t Matter: Exploring Public Perceptions of Terrorism.” [Studies in Conflict & Terrorism](#), 44(4): 285-309.
7. 2018. **Kearns, E.M.**, Asal, V., Walsh, J., Federico, C., & Lemieux, A. “Political Action as a Function of Political Grievances and Social Identity: An Experimental Approach.” [Studies in Conflict & Terrorism](#), 43, 11: 941-958.
6. 2018. **Kearns, E.M.** “Exploring Officer Views of Community Policing in Counterterrorism.” [Police Practice and Research](#), 21, 1: 18-32.
5. 2018. **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K. “If Torture is Wrong, What About *24*?: Torture and the Hollywood Effect.” [Crime & Delinquency](#), 64(12): 1568-1589.
 - Media Coverage: [CNN](#), [Pacific Standard](#), [Vox](#), [The Washington Post](#)
4. 2017. Lemieux, A., **Kearns, E.M.**, Asal, V., & Walsh, J. “Support for Political Mobilization, Protest, and Terrorism in Egypt and Morocco: An Online Experimental Study.” [Dynamics](#)

of Asymmetric Conflict, 10(2-3): 124-142.

3. 2017. **Kearns, E.M.** “Why Are Some Police Officers More Supportive of Community Policing with Minorities than Others?” *Justice Quarterly*, 34(7): 1213-1245.
2. 2015. **Kearns, E.M.** “The Study of Torture: Why It Persists, Why Perceptions of It Are Malleable, and Why It Is Difficult to Eradicate.” *Laws*, 5(1): 1-15.
1. 2014. **Kearns, E.M.**, **Conlon, B.L., & Young, J.K. “Lying About Terrorism.” *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 37(5): 422-439.

BOOK CHAPTERS

2. 2016. Young, J.K. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Empirical Challenges to Studying Terrorism and Homicide.” in *The Handbook on Homicide*, eds. Fiona Brookman, Edward R. Maguire, and Mike Maguire. Wiley-Blackwell.
1. 2013. **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K. “Military Tactics in Civil War.” in *The Routledge Companion to Civil War Studies*, eds. Edward Newman and Karl DeRouen. Routledge.

UNDER REVIEW

4. **Kearns, E.M.** & *Betus, A. “Asymmetric Coverage of Asymmetric Violence: How the U.S. Media Report Far-Right Terrorism.”
3. **Kearns, E.M.** & Delehanty, C. “Fast & Furious...Torturous?: Examining the impact of torture scenes in popular films on public perceptions of torture policy.”
2. *Bowman, R. & **Kearns, E.M.** “How Race, Experience with Police, and Experience with Crime Influence Perceptions of Legitimacy and Trust in Police.”
1. **Kearns, E.M.** & *Senn, S. “Examining Officer Support for Community Policing in Counterterrorism Over Time.”

WORKING PAPERS - Draft Available

3. **Kearns, E.M.** “Why Are Some Crimes Reported to Police While Others Aren’t?”
2. *Senn, S. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Officer Support for Community Policing with Racial Minorities Post-Ferguson.”
1. *Sharo, C. & **Kearns, E.M.** “When to Call the Police?: How Crime Type and Contextual Factors Impact Crime Reporting.”

WORKING PAPERS - Data Collected & Drafting in Progress

6. **Kearns, E.M.** “See Something, Say Something?: Reporting Potential Terrorism Activities to Police.”
5. **Kearns, E.M.** “Teaching Statistics: A Quasi-Experimental Comparison of Traditional versus Flipped Classroom Models.”
4. **Kearns, E.M.** & Nix, J. “When do Policing Surveys Replicate?: A Review of Multi-Agency Studies.”
3. Fisher, D. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Theorizing Terrorism within Criminological Scholarship.”

2. Ghazi-Tehrani, A. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Differentiating Between Terrorism, Hate Crimes, and Other Violence: A Conceptual Approach”
1. *Betus, A., **Kearns, E.M.** & *Becker, M. “Media and Fear of Terrorism.”

WORKING PAPERS - Funded & Data Collection Pending

2. **Kearns, E.M.** & Ghazi-Tehrani, A. “Differentiating Between Terrorism, Hate Crimes, and Other Violence: An Experimental Approach.”
1. Ghazi-Tehrani, A. & **Kearns, E.M.** “How Public Perceptions of Terrorism, Hate Crimes, and other Forms of Mass Violence Influence Support for Various Policy Response.”

GOVERNMENT & POLICY REPORTS

4. 2020. “Terrorism as Communicative and Miscommunicative Violence.” In *Counterterrorism Yearbook 2020*, Australian Strategic Policy Institute. Author.
3. 2015. “When to Claim: A Cross-National Study of Terrorist Attacks.” National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism Research Brief. Author.
2. 2015. “The Role of Law Enforcement in Fighting Terrorism.” in *Comprehensive Law Enforcement Review*, Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Consulting researcher and co-author.
1. 2015. *Presidential Task Force on 21st Century Policing*. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Consulting researcher.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Funded

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2021 | College Academy for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (CARSCA) - \$6,000, University of Alabama (with Adam Ghazi-Tehrani) |
| 2018 | Research Grants Committee (RGC) - \$3,000, University of Alabama |
| 2018 | College Academy for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (CARSCA) - \$4,327, University of Alabama |
| 2015 | Fellow, Peace & Violence Research Lab - \$4,000, American University |
| 2015 | Doctoral Research Award - \$4,994, American University |
| 2014 | Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Terrorism Research Award - \$5,000, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism |
| 2014 | Faculty Support Research Grant - \$10,000, American University (with Joseph Young) |
| 2013 | School of Public Affairs Research Scholars Grant - \$5,000, American University (with Joseph Young) |
| 2012 | Graduate Assistantship - fully funded for four years, American University |
| 2004 | Undergraduate Summer Scholars Grant - \$2,000, Miami University |

Not Funded

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2019 | Consortium member through START/University of Maryland, Terrorism Prevention and Counterterrorism Research (TPCR) Center of Excellence (COE), PI, “Evaluating State-Level Initiatives to Prevent Terrorism and Targeted Violence,” \$339,514 for UA. |
| 2019 | Consortium member through Georgetown University, Terrorism Prevention and Counterterrorism Research (TPCR) Center of Excellence (COE), PI, “Reporting |

- Terrorism and Targeted Violence,” \$233,000 for UA.
- 2019 Asal, V., **Kearns, E.M.**, Zhuang, J., Baxter, P., Weedon, S. & Jahanbani, N. “Lying about Killing: Deception in Security Claims and Behavior.” *DoD Minerva Research Initiative*, \$1,133,917 total, \$92,452 for UA.
- 2014 **Kearns, E.M.**, Lemieux, A. & Young, J. “Media Depictions of Torture and Public Policy.” *DoD Minerva Research Initiative*, \$517,049.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Select Interviews

- 2021 [The Criminology Academy](#) hosted by Jose Sanchez and Jennifer Tostlebe, May 17.
- 2021 [The Loopcast](#) hosted by Chelsea Daymon, February 24.
- 2020 [Crime Talks](#) hosted by Dr. Sarah Daly, October 26.
- 2019 [Untenured Tracks](#), October 7.
- 2019 [Police Chief Magazine](#), September.
- 2019 [CBC Radio Canada, 6 interviews across CBC stations](#), August 6.
- 2018 [NPR’s All Things Considered, Code Switch segment](#), March 23.
- 2018 [Humanity in the Headlines](#), February 24.
- 2017 [Colorado Public Radio](#), November 9.
- 2017 [ABC Australia, Radio National](#), July 6.
- 2017 [NPR’s Morning Edition](#), June 20.
- 2017 [NPR’s Hidden Brain](#) podcast with Shankar Vedantam, June 19.
- 2017 [CBS/KCBS Radio San Francisco](#) with Susan Kennedy, March 19.
- 2014 [CNN Newsroom with Brooke Baldwin](#), December 11.

Web-Based Publications

- 2019 Betus, A., **Kearns, E.M.**, & Lemieux, A. “Who’s a Terrorist and Who’s Mentally Ill? We looked at 10 years of news coverage to find out,” [Washington Post](#), August 8.
- 2019 **Kearns, E.M.** & Amarasingam, A. “How News Media Talk about Terrorism & What the Evidence Shows,” [Just Security](#), April 5.
- 2017 **Kearns, E.M.**. “An Expert on Political Violence Explains why the NRA’s Ads Matter,” [The Trace](#), August 8.
- 2017 **Kearns, E.M.**, Betus, A., & Lemieux, A. “Yes, the Media Do Underreport Some Terrorist Attacks, Just not the Ones Most People Think,” [Washington Post](#), March 13.
- 2017 **Kearns, E.M.**, “Torture Doesn’t Work, So Why are We Still Discussing It?” [Political Violence at a Glance](#), February 2.
- 2014 **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K., “Dramatic Depictions of Torture Increase Support for It,” [Washington Post](#), December 12.

TALKS

Invited

- 2021 “Domestic Terrorism and Far-Right Extremism in America Through the Lens of the January 6th Capitol Insurrection” hosted by Rowan University.
- 2021 Intelligence Community of Academic Excellence (IC CAE) hosted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.
- 2020 “Race, Ethnicity, and Policing in the United States.” Hosted by the Peace Science Society.
- 2020 “Why do Americans Support Torture? Perspectives from Hollywood and the Academy.”

- Presented at American University's School of Public Affairs.
- 2020 "Tortured Logic: Why Americans Support Torture in Counterterrorism." Presented at START, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.
- 2020 "Media (Mis)Representations of Terrorism." Miami University Dolibois European Center (cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2020 "Tortured Logic." Presented at the University of Essex.
- 2020 "Lying about Terrorism." Presented at Royal Holloway, University of London.
- 2020 "How Groups Misrepresent Violence & Implications for Coding." Presented to the terrorism Prosecution Project (tPP) at Miami University.
- 2019 "Expanding the Counterterrorism Aperture: New Perspectives for a New Decade." Panelist at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence & Research (INR)/National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC)/National Intelligence Council (NIC) annual conference.
- 2019 "Tortured Logic: Why Americans Support Torture in Counterterrorism." Presented at the Dayton International Peace Museum/Dayton Council on World Affairs.
- 2017 "Political Action as a Function of Grievance, Opportunity, Risk, and Identity: Experimental Approaches." Presented at the Department of Homeland Security
- 2014 "Torture and the Hollywood Effect." Presented for the DHS/START and SMA Technical Lecture Series

Recorded & Posted for General Use to Untenured Tracks during COVID-19

- 2020 "Policing Terrorism."
- 2020 "Media & Terrorism."
- 2020 "Lying about Terrorism."

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences: 2011, 2015, 2016
- American Political Science Association: 2014
- American Society of Criminology: 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- International Studies Association: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19), 2021
- Midwest Political Science Association: 2019
- Peace Science Society: 2020
- START Annual Symposium: 2015; 2016
- Strategic Multi-Layer Assessment (SMA): 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*denotes course that I developed

Graduate Courses Taught

- University of Alabama: Criminology Theory; Media & Crime*
- American University: Policing Terrorism*; Experimenting in Terrorism*; Terrorism in the 21st Century*; The Problem of Torture in Counterterrorism*

Undergraduate Courses Taught

- University of Alabama: Terrorism; Statistics; Research Methods; Homeland Security; The Problem of Torture in Counterterrorism*

- American University: Introduction to Criminology; Introduction to Justice Research
- Marymount University: Criminology; Introduction to Counterintelligence; Applied Research Methods

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

- 2015 - 2016 Consulting Researcher
The Police Foundation
- 2014 - 2015 Consulting Researcher
Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2005 - 2010 Trial Services Consultant
Kroll Ontrack/TrialGraphix

SERVICE

Service to the Profession

- Editorial Board Member:
 - *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* (2018 - present)
 - *Criminal Justice & Behavior* (2019 - present)
 - *Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict* (2019 - present)
- Advisory Board Member:
 - The Terrorism Prosecution Project at Miami University (2018 - present)
- Board of Ambassadors, CrimRxiv (2021 - present)
- Ad Hoc Grant Reviewer: *National Institute of Justice*
- Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviewer: *American Behavioral Scientist*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *Communication Research*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Conflict Management and Peace Science*; *Crime & Delinquency*; *Crime, Law & Social Change*; *Criminal Justice and Behavior*; *Criminology*, *Criminal Justice*, *Law & Society*; *Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict*; *Global Crime*; *International Journal of Communication*; *International Journal of Human Resource Management*; *International Security*; *International Studies Quarterly*; *International Studies Review*; *Journal of Experimental Criminology*; *Journal of Global Security Studies*; *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*; *Journal of Peace Research*; *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*; *Journal of Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism*; *Journalism*; *Justice Quarterly*; *Mass Communication and Society*; *Media, War & Conflict*; *Migration Letters*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Perspectives on Terrorism*; *Police Practice and Research: An International Journal*; *Policing: An International Journal*; *Policing & Society*; *Political Psychology*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Public Administration Review*; *Research and Politics*; *Security Studies*; *Social Science Research*; *Sociological Quarterly*; *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*; *Terrorism and Political Violence*
- Ad Hoc Book Proposal Reviewer: *Oxford University Press*; *Routledge*
- Ad Hoc Book Reviewer: *Oxford University Press*
- Committee Chair:
 - ASC, Program Committee, Sub-Area: State Crime, Political Crime, and Terrorism (2021)
 - ASC, Division of International Criminology, Graduate Fellowship Competition (2020, 2021)
- Committee Member:
 - ASC, Division of Policing, Election Committee (2020)

- ASC, Division of Terrorism and Bias Crimes, Social Media (2018 - present)
- ASC, Division of Terrorism and Bias Crimes, Student Paper Competition (2018)
- ASC, Division of International Criminology, Graduate Fellowship Competition (2019)
- ASC, Division of International Criminology, Student Paper Competition (2018, 2019)

Service to the University

- Faculty Mentor, Tide Together, University of Alabama (2018)
- Judge for Crimson Classic Mock Trial Tournament, University of Alabama (2018)
- Institutional Review Board (IRB) Student Representative, American University (2014 - 2016)
- Judge for SPA Undergraduate Research Symposium, American University (2013, 2014)
- Greenberg PhD Seminars for Effective Teaching, Selected Participant, American University (2012 - 2014)
- Psi Chi, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (2011 - 2012)
- Master's Student Research Group, Mentor, John College of Criminal Justice (2011 - 2012)
- Cheryl Williams Award, Selection Committee, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (2011)

Service to the Department

- Graduate Committee, University of Alabama (2017 - 2020)
- Diversity Committee, University of Alabama (member 2017 - 2020; chair 2020 - present)
- Scholarship Committee, University of Alabama (2019 - present)
- Faculty Search Committee, University of Alabama (2018 - 2019)
- PhD Program Development Committee, University of Alabama (2018 - 2019)
- Colloquium Committee, University of Alabama (2017 - 2019)
- Terrorism and Security Policy Search Committee, American University (2013, 2014)

Service to the Community

- WBHM Junior Board Member (2019-2021)
- Greater Birmingham Humane Society Volunteer (2019-2020)

Student Research Supervision

PhD

- Allison Betus — Committee Member, Georgia State University (2019-present)

Masters

- Emma Huffman — Chair, University of Alabama (2020-2021)
- Rachel Simon — Committee Member, Texas A&M International University (2020-2021)
- Rachel McNealy — Research independent study, University of Alabama (2019; ASC presentation & in revision for publication)
- Carol Ann Sharo — Chair, University of Alabama (2019; ASC presentation & in revision for publication)
- Epiphany Storey — Committee Member, University of Alabama (2019)

Undergraduate

- Grace Tully — Chair, University of Alabama (2019-2021)
- Mary Shupard — Chair, University of Alabama (2019; ASC poster & published in peer-reviewed journal)

- Emma Ashooh— Co-Chair, American University (2016; published in peer-reviewed journal)
- Josh Eisenberg— Chair, American University (2016)
- Erin Connolly & Lorrin Melanson — Chair, American University (2015; ASC poster)
- John Driscoll, Chris Tonelli, Greg Schaefer & Felicia Sych — Chair, American University (2015; ASC poster)
- Holly Wenger — Co-Chair, Marymount University (2015)
- Brendan Conlon — Co-Chair, American University (2013; published in peer-reviewed journal)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2019 ICPSR (R: Learning by Example)
- 2015 ICPSR (Time-Series Analyses, Bayesian Analyses, R & Qualitative Methods)
- 2014 Stata (Estimating Average Treatment Effects)
- 2014 American University (Certification to teach online and hybrid courses)
- 2011 Summer School on Crime, Law and Psychology, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2011 U.S Department of Justice, FBI, Behavioral Science Unit, Certificate of Research in Violent Behavior