




# MICHAEL SIERRA-ARÉVALO

University of Texas at Austin  
Department of Sociology  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2020 – University of Texas at Austin, Department of Sociology  
*Assistant Professor*

2018 – 2020 Rutgers University-Newark, School of Criminal Justice  
*Assistant Professor*

## EDUCATION

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2018 Ph.D. Sociology, Yale University  
2015 M.Phil. Sociology, Yale University  
2014 M.A. Sociology, Yale University  
2012 B.A. Sociology & Psychology, University of Texas at Austin

## BOOKS

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Forthcoming (Spring 2024) "The Danger Imperative: Violence, Death, and the Soul of Policing." Columbia University Press.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES (\* = equal authorship; + = student co-author)

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2023 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**, Justin Nix, and Scott Mourtgos<sup>+</sup>. "The 'War on Cops,' Retaliatory Violence, and the Murder of George Floyd." *Criminology*.

2022 Berryessa, Colleen, **Michael Sierra-Arévalo**, and Dan Semenza. "Portrayals of Gun Violence Victimization and Public Support for Firearm Policies: An Experimental Analysis." *Journal of Experimental Criminology*.

Haas, Nicholas,\* Katherine Haenschen,\* Tanu Kumar,\* Costas Panagopoulos,\* Kyle Peyton,\* Nico Ravanilla,\* and **Michael Sierra-Arévalo.\*** "Organizational Identity and Positionality in Randomized Control Trials: Considerations and Advice for Collaborative Research Teams." *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

**Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**, Bradley O'Guinn<sup>+</sup>, and Justin Nix. "A National Analysis of Trauma Care Proximity and Firearm Assault Survival among U.S. Police." *Police Practice & Research* 23(3):388-96.

2021 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael** and Andrew V. Papachristos. "Bad Apples and Incredible Certitude." *Criminology & Public Policy* 20(2):371-81.

**Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "American Policing and the Danger Imperative. *Law & Society Review* 55(1), 70-103.

Media: Vox, GQ, NPR, FiveThirtyEight, Slate, Huffpost, The Trace, Sociology Annex Podcast, Untenured Tracks Podcast

Cited in Amicus Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court, *Stewart v. City of Euclid*

Reprint. **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. 2022. "American Policing and the Danger Imperative." Sage Readings for Introductory Sociology (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) McGann, K. (ed). Thousand Oaks, CA; SAGE.

- 2020 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael** and Justin Nix. "Gun Victimization in the Line of Duty: Fatal and Non-Fatal Firearm Assaults on Police Officers in the United States, 2014-2019." *Criminology & Public Policy* 19(3):1041-1066.

Media: The Trace, The Crime Report

- 2019 Peyton, Kyle\*, **Michael Sierra-Arévalo\***, and David Rand. "A Field Experiment on Community Policing and Police Legitimacy." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116(40):19894-98.

Editor's Choice, *Science*, October 2019

Media: NPR, Vox, PBS News Hour, Psychology Today, Business Insider, National Affairs, Top of Mind with Julie Rose (BYU Radio), The Conversation, The National Interest, New Haven Register, Study Finds, Law360

**Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "The Commemoration of Death, Organizational Memory, and Police Culture." *Criminology* 57(4):632-58.

Media: Washington Post, Discipline and Punish Podcast

**Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Technological Innovation and Police Officers' Understanding and Use of Force." *Law & Society Review* 53(2):420-51.

Media: The Appeal, Fast Company

Cited in Amicus Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court, *Stewart v. City of Euclid*

Reprint. **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. 2020. "Technological Innovation and Police Officers' Understanding and Use of Force." *Critical Issues in Policing: Contemporary Readings* (8<sup>th</sup> Edition) Dunham, R. G., Alpert, G. P., & McLean, K. (eds.). Long Grove, IL; Waveland Press.

- 2017 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael** and Andrew V. Papachristos. "Social Networks and Gang Violence Reduction." *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* 13(1):373-93.

**Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**, Yanick Charette, and Andrew V. Papachristos. "Evaluating the Effect of Project Longevity on Group-Involved Shootings and Homicides in New Haven, Connecticut." *Crime & Delinquency* 63(4):446-67.

Media: NPR, New Haven Register, New Haven Independent, Cleveland Plain Dealer

- 2016 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. 2016. "Legal Cynicism and Protective Gun Ownership among Active Offenders in Chicago." *Cogent Social Sciences* 2(1):1-21.

Media: Current Affairs, The New Republic, The Trace

UNDER REVIEW & IN PREPARATION

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Berryessa, Colleen, Dan Semenza, and **Michael Sierra-Arévalo**. "Media Depictions of Gun Violence Perpetrators and Support for Firearm Policies: The Salience of Mental Illness and Criminal Background." (Revise and Resubmit)

Simon, Samantha\* and **Michael Sierra-Arévalo**\*. "Signal Curation and Organizational Culture in 7 U.S. Police Departments." (In Preparation)

Kaplun, Kateryna<sup>+</sup>, Vijay Chillar<sup>+</sup>, and **Michael Sierra-Arévalo**. "The Police Industrial Complex: A Descriptive Analysis of Police Technology and Service Vendors from 2012-2018." (In Preparation)

## EDITED CHAPTERS, ESSAYS, AND REPORTS

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- 2021 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Sheepdogs and Social Workers." *Ethnographic Café*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Reward and 'Real' Police Work." In *The Ethics of Policing: New Perspectives on Law Enforcement* (eds. Benjamin Jones and Eduardo Mendieta). New York: New York University Press.
- 2020 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Review of "Evaluating Police Uses of Force" by Seth W. Stoughton, Jeffrey J. Noble, and Geoffrey P. Alpert, *Theoretical Criminology*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Police, Culture, and Inequality." *Footnotes, Special Issue: Race, Police Violence, and Justice*, 48(4): 5-7.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. Review of "No Place on the Corner: The Costs of Aggressive Policing" by Jan Haldipur. *American Journal of Sociology* 125(3):869-70.
- 2019 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Police and Legitimacy in Mexico City." *Contexts* 18(4):34-43.
- 2018 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**. "Policing." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Sociology* (ed. Lynette Spillman). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Papachristos, Andrew V., **Michael Sierra-Arévalo**. "Policing the Connected World: Using Social Network Analysis in Police-Community Partnerships." *Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), U.S. Department of Justice*.
- 2015 **Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**, Andrew V. Papachristos. "Social Network Analysis and Gangs." In *Handbook of Gangs* (eds. David Pyrooz and Scott Decker). New York: Wiley.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael**, Andrew V. Papachristos. "Applying Group Audits to Problem Oriented Policing in New Haven." In *Preventing Crime with Network Analysis* (eds. Aili Malm and Gisela Bichler). Boulder, CO: Lynne Reinner.

## OP-EDS AND RESEARCH BRIEFS

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- 2022 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "The link between underregulated firearms and an LAPD bullet killing a teen in a fitting room." *The Los Angeles Times*.
- 2021 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. Biden's plan to spend billions on community policing is bad policy." *The Hill*.
- 2020 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "US universities should invest in students, not in policing them." *Times Higher Education*.

- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "Danger and 'Officer Safety' Shape Police Socialization, Practice, and Policy." *Jurist*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "Is armed protest by African Americans treated differently? History says yes." *Washington Post*.
- 2019 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "1 single good encounter with a cop engenders a lot of trust, study finds." *NJ.com/Star Ledger*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "TASER Technology and Police Officers' Understanding and Use of Force," *Law & Society Review Blog*.
- 2017 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "Why don't cops wear seatbelts? How the demand for officer safety endangers police officers." *Work in Progress: Sociology on the Economy, Work, and Inequality*.
- 2016 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "Broken windows is broken: study shows that a more focused approach to tackling street violence can be more effective." *LSE American Politics and Policy*.
- 2015 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "The Shooting Disease: Who You Know, Where You Live." *The Hartford Courant*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "Going beyond the burning." *The Conversation*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "'Civilizing' the fractured relationship between police and minority communities." *The Conversation*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "The Breakdown of Broken Windows?" *Lux et Data: ISPS (Institution for Social and Policy Studies)*.
- Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "An Opportunity to Rise above Fear for Police, People of Color." *New Haven Register*.
- 2014 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "How to Enhance Police Legitimacy and Reduce Gun Violence in Poor, Minority Communities." *Scholars Strategy Network (SSN) Basic Facts*.
- 2013 Sierra-Arévalo, Michael. "How Targeted Deterrence Helps Police Reduce Gun Deaths." *Scholars Strategy Network (SSN) Basic Facts*.

## INVITED LECTURES AND PANELS

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- 2023 "The Danger Imperative: Violence, Death, and the Soul of Policing," Georgia State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology.
- "Police Violence, Legitimacy, and the Future of Police-Public Interaction," University of California-San Bernardino, Center for Research on Interaction and Social Problems (CRISP).
- "The Danger Imperative: Violence, Death, and the Soul of Policing," University of California—Riverside, Robert Presley Center of Crime and Justice Studies, School of Public Policy.
- 2022 "COVID-19, Firearm Crime, and Firearm Availability," Crime Rates during the Pandemic: A Workshop, National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, Washington, D.C.

"The Danger Imperative: Violence, Death, and the Soul of Policing," Boston University, Department of Sociology.

"Community Policing, Public Trust, and Police Legitimacy," Semana de Seguridad Ciudadana y Justicia (Public Safety and Justice Week), USAID, Colombian National Police, Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID).

2021

"The Police Report Card: Experimental and Ethnographic Considerations." The Police Report Card: Translating Research to Policy Seminar, Harvard University, Radcliffe Institute.

"Police Reform Forum," University of Chicago, UChicago Political Union.

"Guns in Crisis: Protest and Policing," University of Arizona, School of Sociology.  
"Racism, Policing, and Incarceration: Organizational and Occupational Perspectives," American Sociological Association, Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work.

"Peril on Patrol: Death, Danger and U.S. Policing"  
Northwestern University, Department of Sociology  
Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology and Criminology  
California State University – San Bernardino, Pfau Library  
University of Colorado – Boulder, Department of Sociology  
Occidental College, Department of Politics

2020

"The State of Race, Police Brutality, and Gun Violence in America," American Bar Association Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice. Washington, D.C.

"Policing, Public Safety, and Equity: Evidence and Insight for Better Policymaking," American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Center for Scientific Evidence in Public Issues (EPI Center), Public Agenda. Washington, D.C.

"Peril on Patrol: Death, Danger, and U.S. Policing"  
University of Arkansas, Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Sociology  
University of Colorado–Boulder, Department of Sociology. [Cancelled Due to COVID-19]  
University of Texas at Austin, Department of Sociology

"Jennifer Carlson: Policing the Second Amendment," Princeton University Press and Labyrinth Books. Princeton, NJ. [Discussant]

"Eyewitness! Principled Policing," Orange-Chatham Public Defenders. Chatham, NC.

"#CrimComm for Early Career Researchers," #CrimmComm Convos with Aili Malm.

"Police Violence, #BlackLivesMatter, and Covid-19," Princeton University. Princeton, NJ.

"Conversations on Race and Policing Series," California State University – San Bernardino, Pfau Library. San Bernardino, CA.

2019

"Moving Forward Together: Legitimacy, Procedural Justice, Reconciliation." The Emerging Science and Practice of Violence Prevention, National Network for Safe Communities and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. New York, NY.

"The Commemoration of Death, Organizational Memory, and Police Culture." Pompeu Fabra University. Barcelona, Spain.

"Data Collection and Analysis to Reduce Violence: Group Audits and Social Network Analysis." U.S. Attorney of the Northern District of Ohio and the Northern Ohio Violent Crime Consortium. Cleveland, OH.

- 2018 "The Metropolitan Police and Police Legitimacy in Mexico City." Rutgers School of Criminal Justice, Measures and Meanings of Crime and Justice in the Global South, Newark, NJ.
- "Ethnographic Methods and Policing in the United States." Northwestern University, Northwestern Neighborhood and Network Lab. Evanston, IL.
- "Risk, Reward, and 'Real' Police Work." Policing Ethics, Pennsylvania State University and the Rock Center for Ethics. State College, PA.

- 2017 "American Policing and the Danger Imperative."  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Sociology  
SUNY Albany, School of Criminal Justice  
New York University, Department of Sociology  
Rutgers-Newark, School of Criminal Justice  
Purdue University, Department of Sociology  
University of Maryland, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice  
University of California-Irvine, Department of Criminology, Law and Society
- "Legal Cynicism and Protective Gun Ownership Among Active Offenders in Chicago." Race, History, and Policing: A New Vision of Public Safety, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and National Network for Safe Communities. New York City, NY.
- "Concentration of Gun Violence: The U.S. Context." Focus, Prevention, and Legitimacy in the Context of International Violence, USAID and National Network for Safe Communities. Tarrytown, NY.

- 2016 "Social Network Analysis and Violence Prevention." Seattle Police Department and Office of City Auditor. Seattle, WA.

- 2015 "Project Longevity: CT's Community and Law Enforcement Partnership." Building Bridges: The Community and Law Enforcement, Yale Law School and Federal Bureau of Investigation. New Haven, CT.
- "Policing in New Haven." Ferguson and Beyond: Race, Policing, and Social Justice, Department of African American Studies and Yale College Dean's Office, Yale University. New Haven, CT.

- 2013 "Project Longevity: A Focused-Deterrence Approach to Reducing Gun Victimization." Bridgeport Police Department. Bridgeport, CT.
- "Project Longevity in New Haven." State of Connecticut Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission. Hartford, CT.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2022 "Organizational Frame Maintenance and Racial Inequality: Culture and Violence in 7 U.S. Police Departments" (with Samantha Simon). Law and Society Association, Lisbon, Portugal.

- 2021 "Organizational Frame Maintenance and Racial Inequality: Culture and Violence in 7 U.S. Police Departments" (with Samantha Simon). American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.
- "The Police Industrial Complex: Descriptive Analysis of Vendors at the IACP National Conference and Expo, 2012-18" (with Kateryna Kaplun and Vijay Chillar). American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.
- "Risk, Reward, and "Real" Police Work." American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.
- "Race, Place, and Policing." American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL. (Discussant)
- 2020 "Making Sociology Matter: A Panel Discussion," American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- "Community Policing, Public Trust, and Police Legitimacy," GovLabPHL 2020 Conference: Bridging Evidence and Policy. Philadelphia, PA.
- "Fatal and Non-Fatal Firearm Assaults on Police Officers in the United States, 2014-2019." American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC. [Cancelled due to COVID-19]
- "The Police Industrial Complex: A Descriptive Analysis of Police Technology and Service Vendors from 2012-2018." Law and Society Association, Denver, CO. [Cancelled due to COVID-19]
- 2019 "Community Policing and Police Legitimacy: A Field Experiment" (with Kyle Peyton and David Rand). American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.
- "Peril on Patrol: Danger, Culture, and Policing in the Post-Ferguson U.S." Possibilities of Reform, Racial Democracy, Crime, and Justice Network Annual Workshop. Newark, NJ.
- "TASER Technology and Police Officers' Understanding and Use of Force." Law and Society Association, Washington, D.C.
- "Community Policing and Police Legitimacy: A Field Experiment." (with Kyle Peyton and David Rand, Presented by Kyle Peyton). Law and Society Association, Washington, D.C.
- "Community Policing and Police Legitimacy: A Field Experiment." (with Kyle Peyton and David Rand, Presented by Kyle Peyton). NYU CESS Experimental Political Science Conference, New York City, NY.
- "Community Policing and Police Legitimacy: A Field Experiment." (with Kyle Peyton and David Rand, Presented by Kyle Peyton). Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2018 "The Commemoration of Death, Organizational Memory, and Police Culture." American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
- "Commemoration, Death, and Police Culture." American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017 "American Policing and the Danger Imperative." American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2016 "American Policing and the Danger Imperative." American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA.

- 2015      Applying Group Audits to Problem-Oriented Policing.” (with Andrew V. Papachristos). American Society of Criminology. Washington, D.C.
- “Identifying Those Most Likely to Shoot or Be Shot: A Chief’s Guide to Using Innovative Social Network Analysis for Effective Violence Prevention.” (with Andrew V. Papachristos). International Association of Chiefs of Police. Chicago, IL.
- 2013      “Social Network Analysis: A Systematic Approach to Identify Actors Most Likely to Shoot or Be Shot At.” (Presented by Andrew V. Papachristos). American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.

## RESEARCH ADVISING AND COLLABORATIONS

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- 2022      NOVA/PBS, *Computers v. Crime* Documentary
- 2019 – 20      New Yorkers Against Gun Violence (NYAGV)
- 2018 – 20      Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention
- 2018 – 19      Northern Ohio Violent Crime Consortium (NOVCC)
- 2012 – 18      Project Longevity (Connecticut)
- 2016      Seattle Police Department and Office of the City Auditor
- 2014      Suffolk County, NY Police Department
- 2013 – 15      National Network for Safe Communities, John Jay College
- 2012 – 13      California Partnership for Safe Communities

## TEACHING

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### UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

- SOC 389K Training Seminar in Demography (G)
- SOC 327M Social Research Methods (UG)
- SOC 323C Policing (UG)

### RUTGERS UNIVERSITY-NEWARK

- CJ 533 Policing (G)
- CJ 301 Criminal Justice Research Methods (UG)
- CJ 203 Police and Society (UG)

## PUBLIC SERVICE

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- 2021 – 23      Public Safety Commission, City of Austin  
*Commissioner (District 9)*

## DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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### UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

- 2022 –      Member, Criminal Legal System Research Interest Group (RIG)
- 2021 –      Faculty Advisor, Crime, Law, and Deviance Working Group, Department of Sociology
- 2021 –      Faculty Advisor, Urban Ethnography Lab, Department of Sociology
- 2021 – 22      Executive Committee, Department of Sociology
- 2021 – 22      HDO Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology
- 2020 – 21      Norval Glenn Prize Committee, Department of Sociology



## RUTGERS-NEWARK

2019 – 20	Dean Search Committee, School of Criminal Justice
2019 – 20	Research and Professional Development Committee, School of Criminal Justice
2018 – 19	M.A. Program Committee, School of Criminal Justice

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2022	Member, National Science Foundation (NSF) Law and Science Program Grant Review Panel
2022 –	Council Member, Sociology of Law Section, American Sociological Association (ASA).
2021 –	Advisory Board Member, NSF CAREER Award “Dynamics of Police Networks and the Diffusion of Misconduct” (PI: Marie Ouellet).
2021 –	Advisory Board Member, “Reimagining Public Safety,” New York University School of Law, Policing Project. New York, NY.
2021 –	External Affiliate, Violence Intervention and Policing Research (VIPR) Lab, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE.
2019 –	Faculty Associate, New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center (NJGVRC), Rutgers University. Newark, NJ.
2018 –	Faculty Affiliate, Northwestern Neighborhood and Network Initiative (N <sup>3</sup> ), Northwestern University. Evanston, IL.
2018 –	Affiliated Scholar, The Justice Collaboratory, Yale Law School. New Haven, CT.
2021 – 22	Chair, Police Misconduct Subarea. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
2019 – 21	Member, “Research-Based Practice Guide to Prevent and Address Youth Gun and Gang Violence,” Urban Institute, Washington, D.C.
2019	Member, “Police Discretion Working Session,” National Network for Safe Communities and Joyce Foundation. New York, NY.
2019	Member, “Effective Strategies for Reducing Violent Crime in the United States Roundtable” Arnold Ventures. New York, NY.
2019	ASA Crime, Law, and Deviance Reception and Mentoring Committee. American Sociological Association, New York, NY.
2018	Chair, Regular Session on Police Culture and Socialization. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
2018	Grant Reviewer, Research and Evaluation on Gangs and Gang Violence. National Institute of Justice.

PEER REVIEWER:

Princeton University Press  
American Journal of Sociology  
American Sociological Review  
Social Problems  
Law & Society Review  
Law & Social Inquiry  
Law & Policy  
Sociological Focus  
Du Bois Review  
Qualitative Sociology  
American Journal of Cultural Sociology  
Journal of Urban Health

Criminology  
Criminology & Public Policy  
Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology  
Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency  
Journal of Quantitative Criminology  
Justice Quarterly  
Theoretical Criminology  
Police Quarterly  
Policing: An International Journal  
Journal of Politics  
American Journal of Community Psychology  
Preventive Medicine

## PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

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American Sociological Association (Section Member: Crime, Law, and Deviance)  
American Society of Criminology (Section Member: Policing)  
Law and Society Association  
Latina/o/x Criminology  
Racial Democracy, Crime, & Justice Network (Class of 2019)