

# Austin C. Barber

School of Criminal Justice  
Michigan State University  
142 Baker Hall | 655 Auditorium Road  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Phone: (402) 405-1003  
Email: barberau@msu.com  
ORCID: 0009-0000-1038-3496

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## Education

- 2026 (Expected)      Ph.D. Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022                      M.A. Sociology, *University of Arkansas*  
Concentration: Criminology  
Thesis Title: Examining the Escalation to Violence at Political Protests: A  
Conjunctive Analysis  
Chair: Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.
- 2020                      B.S. Criminology & Criminal Justice, *University of Nebraska - Lincoln*  
Minor: National Security Studies

## Scholarly Interests

Terrorism/Extremism, Wildlife Criminology, Human Trafficking, Transnational Crime,  
Foreign Policy, Organized Crime

## Professional Appointments

- 2022 – 2026              Graduate Research Assistant. School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University* – Steven M. Chermak, Ph.D.
- 2020 – 2022              Graduate Research Assistant. Terrorism Research Center, *University of Arkansas* – Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.
- 2021                        Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of Sociology and Criminology, *University of Arkansas* – Grant R. Drawve, Ph.D.; Kayla Allison-Gruenewald, Ph.D.
- 2019 – 2020              Correctional Officer Intern. Lincoln Correctional Center, *Nebraska Department of Correctional Services*

## Funded Research Experience

- 2022 – 2024 Project Manager (with J. Gruenewald, S. Chermak, J. Freilich, & T. Holt). “From Dot Coms to Pipe Bombs: Online Radicalization and Mobilization to Violence (DCPB).” National Institute of Justice (NIJ), *Department of Justice (DOJ)*.
- 2020 – 2022 Project Staff (with J. Freilich & E. Greene-Colozzi). “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” Department of Criminal Justice, *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*.

## Publications

### In Progress

- 2023 **Barber, A. C.** Cutting corners: Analyzing public access to ‘checkerboard’ lands.
- 2023 **Barber, A. C.**, Gruenewald, J., Chermak, S., & Freilich, J. What went wrong: An examination of far-right failed/foiled plots.

### Other Publications

- 2021 Becker, M. H. (2019). When extremists become violent: Examining the association between social control, social learning, and engagement in violent extremism (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/when-extremists-become-violent-examining-the-association-between-social-control-social-learning-and-engagement-in-violent-extremism-becker/>.
- 2021 Abudu Stark, M. J., Raine, W. J., Burbeck, S. L., & Davison, K. K. (1974). Some empirical patterns in a riot process (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/some-empirical-patterns-in-a-riot-process-stark-raine-burbeck-and-davison/>.
- 2021 Geschwender, B. N., & Geschwender, J. A. (1973). Relative deprivation and participation in the Civil Rights movement (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/relative-deprivation-and-participation-in-the-civil-rights-movement-geschwender-and-geschwender/>.
- 2021 Williamson, V., Trump, K., & Einstein, K. L. (2018). Black Lives Matter: Evidence that police-caused deaths predict protest activity (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/black-lives-matter-evidence-that-police-caused-deaths-predict-protest-activity-williamson-trump-and-einstein/>.

- 2021 Weeber, S. C., & Rodeheaver, D. G. (2003). Militias at the millennium. A tests of Smelser’s theory of collective behavior (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/militias-at-the-millennium-a-test-of-smelsers-theory-of-collective-behavior-weeber-and-rodeheaver/>.
- 2021 Moon, B., Hays, K., & Blurton, D. (2009). General strain theory, key strains, and deviance (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/general-strain-theory-key-strains-and-deviance-moon-hays-and-blurton/>.
- 2021 Ortiz, J. M. (2018). Gangs and environment: A comparative analysis of prison and street gangs (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/gangs-and-environment-a-comparative-analysis-of-prison-and-street-gangs-ortiz/>.
- 2021 Ives, B., & Lewis, J. S. (2019). From rallies to riots: Why some protests become violent (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/from-rallies-to-riots-why-some-protests-become-violent-ives-and-lewis/>.
- 2021 Dixon, T. L. (2008). Crime news and radicalized beliefs: Understanding the relationship between local news viewing and perceptions of African Americans and crime (Article Summary). *Terrorism Research Center*. <https://terrorismresearch.uark.edu/crime-news-and-radicalized-beliefs-understanding-the-relationship-between-local-news-viewing-and-perceptions-of-african-americans-and-crime-dixon/>.

## Presentations

### Conference Presentations

- 2023 **Barber, A. C.** “Cutting corners: Analyzing public access to ‘checkerboard’ lands.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting* (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2022 **Barber, A. C.** “Examining the escalation to violence at political protests: A conjunctive analysis.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting* (Atlanta, GA).

### Invited Presentations

- 2022 Guest Lecture. “Examining the escalation to violence at political protests: A conjunctive analysis.” *Criminological Theory (CRIM 3023)*, *University of Arkansas*.

- 2022 Guest Lecture. “Examining the escalation to violence at political protests: A conjunctive analysis.” *Spatial Analyses for Social Data (CRIM 4303)*, University of Arkansas.
- 2022 Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, University of Arkansas.
- 2022 Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, University of Arkansas.
- 2021 Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, University of Arkansas.

## Media

- 2021 “The changing face of terrorism in the United States” *Scripps Media, Incorporated*. <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/national/the-changing-face-of-terrorism-in-the-united-states>.

## Teaching

### University of Arkansas (Served as a Teaching Assistant)

- 2021, Spring CRIM 2003: Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice  
 SOCI 3223: Social Psychology  
 SOCI 3423: Social Theory

## Fellowships, Scholarships, and Awards

### Research Fellowships and Grants

- 2023 School of Criminal Justice Summer Research Fellowship (\$3,000). *Michigan State University*
- 2019, Fall Sigma Chi John T. Meier Scholarship for Academic Excellence (\$500). *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019, Spring Sigma Chi Living the Jordan Standard Scholarship (\$500). *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2018, Fall Sigma Chi Living the Jordan Standard Scholarship (\$500). *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

## **Travel Funding**

- 2022 Warren & Mary Huff Travel Endowment Award (\$703). *Michigan State University*
- 2021 Terrorism Research Center Travel Funding (\$1,000). *University of Arkansas*

## **Awards and Honors**

- 2020 Degree Conferral with Distinction. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2020, Spring Dean’s List. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019, Fall Dean’s List. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019, Spring Dean’s List. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

## **Committee and Administrative Service**

### **Michigan State University**

- 2023 – Present Graduate Student Mentor, Graduate Student Association (GSN)
- 2023 – Present Event Coordinator, Graduate Student Association (GSA)

## **Affiliations**

- 2021 – Present American Society of Criminology (ASC)
- 2021 – Present American Society of Criminology – Division on Terrorism and Bias Crimes (ASC-DTBC)
- 2018 – 2020 PREVENT: Sexual Assault and the Law
- 2017 – 2018 Undergraduate Psychology and Social Sciences Association

## **Advanced Training and Professional Development**

### ***Responsible Conduct for Research (RCR)***

- 2023 Salami Slicing: Unethical Publication Strategies. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*

- 2023 P-Hacking: What is it and why is it Wrong. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Novel Data Collection Methods. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Ethics and Regulations in Human Research. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Overview of Human Research Protection. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*

### **Other Relevant Professional Development**

- 2019 FEMA IS-00100.c: Introduction to the Incident Command System, 2 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 FEMA IS-00200.c: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, 4 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 FEMA IS-00700.b: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System, 3.5 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 FEMA IS-00800.c: An Introduction to National Response Framework, 3 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 Institutional Crisis Intervention and Conflict Resolution, 24 hrs. Provided by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

## References

*Steven M. Chermak, Ph.D.: Michigan State University*

Position(s): Professor

Relationship: Professor, Advisor, Assistantship Chair

Phone: (517) 355-2210

Email: [chermak@msu.edu](mailto:chermak@msu.edu)

*Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.: University of Arkansas – Terrorism Research Center*

Position(s): Professor – Director

Relationship: Professor, Advisor, Assistantship Chair, Thesis Chair

Phone: (479) 575-3205

Email: [jgruenew@uark.edu](mailto:jgruenew@uark.edu)

*Grant R. Drawve, Ph.D.: University of Arkansas – Crime & Security Data Analytics Laboratory*

Position(s): Associate Professor – Associate Director

Relationship: Professor, Thesis Committee Member

Phone: (479) 575-3205

Email: [drawve@uark.edu](mailto:drawve@uark.edu)