

Kaelyn Sanders (she/her)

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Criminal Justice Expected: 2025
Michigan State University East Lansing, MI

Dissertation Title: *Digital (In)Justice: An Intersectional Qualitative Exploration Of Black Returning Citizens' Technology Access And Use*

Dissertation Committee: [Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy, Ph.D. \(Chair\)](#); [Steven Chermak, Ph.D.](#); [Carole Gibbs, Ph.D.](#); [Bianca Reisdorf, Ph.D.](#)

**Selected Fellowships: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, American Society of Criminology Ruth D. Peterson Fellowship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity, and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellowship*

B.A. Criminal Justice Studies & Criminology and Sociology 2020
The Ohio State University Columbus, OH
Minor: Security and Intelligence
Summa Cum Laude

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Carceral Inequality	Intersectionality
Community Engaged Research	Mixed-Methods
Community Supervision	Racial Inequality
Digital Inequality	Reentry and Reintegration
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Qualitative Methods
Gender Inequality	

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (N = 6)

*Denotes equal authorship

*Rivera, N., ***Sanders, K.**, & DeJong, Christina. (accepted). The case for integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion into criminology and criminal justice graduate education. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*.

Sanders, K., Chermak, S., Freilich, J., & Klein, B. (accepted). School shootings and suicide: A comparison of school shooters who complete suicide and non-suicide school shooters. *Crime & Delinquency*. DIO: 10.1177/00111287241268387

Roddy, A., **Sanders, K.**, Sarver, C., & Salisbury, E. (2023). Financial marginalization, housing access, transportation, and employment: Intersectional considerations in women's reentry. *Kansas Journal of Law & Public Policy*, 32, 55-82. https://lawjournal.ku.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Roddy-Sanders-Sarver-Salisbury_FINANCIAL-MARGINALIZATION-HOUSING-ACCESS-TRANSPORTATION-AND-EMPLOYMENT.pdf

Updated: August 2024

Sanders, K., Hoskins, K. M., & Morash, M. (2023). A first step in understanding influences on system-involved women's changes in financial need. *Feminist Criminology*, 18(3), 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15570851231176856>

Sanders, K. (2022). "The second sentencing": A qualitative exploration of women going up for parole. *Feminist Criminology*, 18(2), 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15570851221120357>

LaBerge, A., Mason, M., & **Sanders, K.** (2022). Police dispatch times: Social disorganization and neighborhood disadvantage. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 79, 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2022.101885>

BOOK CHAPTERS & EDITED ENTRIES (N = 3)

Sanders, K., Cobbina, J., & McCoy, H. Evidence-Based policy for diverse populations. (2024). In B.C. Welsh, S.N. Zane, & D.P. Mears (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook for Evidence-Based Policy* (pp. 349-369). Oxford University Press.

Sanders, K. (2023). Inside-Out: A transformative experience. In A. Conyers, V. Lynn, & M. Leigey (Eds.), *Mass Incarceration in the 21st Century: Realities and Reflections* (1st ed., pp. 132-136). Routledge. <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781003274292-18/reflection-kaelyn-sanders>

Hoskins, K., & **Sanders, K.** (2019). Race and re-entry after incarceration. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Last modified 2024, February 27. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190264079.013.341>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (N = 1)

Sanders, K. (2021). A qualitative exploration into the differential financial experiences of women on probation or parole. *MSU AGEP Science Today Bulletin*, 9(1): 15-16. <https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/AGEP/AGEP%202021%20Bulletin%20final.pdf>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS (N = 3)

Note: Drafts available upon request

Sanders, K., Cobbina, J., McCoy, H. (in preparation for invited special issue). "You won't break my soul": An intersectional examination of women's perceptions of Black people's ability to safely pursue joyful activities

Sanders, K. (under review). "Everything is technology.": Examining technology access and use among returning citizens.

- Received the Research Conference on Communications, Information and Internet Policy Student Paper Award

Sanders, K., & Rivera, N. (under review). Epistemic racism: Centering Black and Latina women as researchers and in research in convict criminology.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2024

[Michigan State University Graduate School and Office of University Outreach and Engagement](#)

Urban Community Engagement Fellow

2024-2025

Updated: August 2024

Amount: \$7,500

[American Society of Criminology](#)

Ruth D. Peterson Fellowship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Amount: \$8,000

Dr. Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society

Research Fellowship

Amount: \$2,500

[National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine](#)

Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellowship

Amount: \$11,000

Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP)

Science and Ethics Engagement Fellow and Science Advocacy Fellow

Amount: \$2,500

2022

Michigan State University Graduate School

2022-2025

Prospective Doctoral Student Recruitment and Retention Program Grant

Amount: \$30,000

PI: Drs. Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy & Christina DeJong

Role: Graduate Assistant

2021

Michigan State University College of Social Science

2021-2023

Summer Research Fellowship

Amount: \$9,000

2020

Michigan State University Graduate School

2020-2021

Graduate School Commitment Fellowship

Amount: \$5,000

[National Science Foundation](#)

2020-2025

Graduate Research Fellowship

Amount: \$139,000

AWARDS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

*Denotes an award for a student mentee

2024

- The Research Conference on Communications, Information and Internet Policy Student Paper Award
- Northeast Law and Society Retreat Travel Award (declined, \$400)
- Michigan State College of Social Science Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative Award* (\$3,000)
- [Dr. Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Inductee](#)

2023

Updated: August 2024

- Michigan State University College of Social Science Summer Early Start Award (\$3,000)
- Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice (ADPCCJ) Fall Student Award (\$3,000)
- Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Scholar Award (\$2,000)
- Council of Graduate Students Conference Award (\$300)

2022

- Michigan State University College of Social Science Summer Early Start Award (\$3,000)
- Michigan State University College of Social Science Summer Provost's Undergraduate Research Initiative Award* (\$1,500)
- American Society of Criminology Division of Convict of Criminology's Early Career Travel Scholarship (\$500)
- Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Scholar Award (\$2,000)

2021

- Michigan State University College of Social Science Summer Early Start Award (\$3,000)
- Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice 75th Travel Award 2021-2023
- Warren & Mary Huff Travel Endowment Award 2021-2023
- Michigan State University College of Social Science First-Generation Scholars Initiative Award* (\$4,000)
- Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Diversity Scholarship (declined, \$1,500)
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Corrections Section Dr. Kelly Cheeseman Student Paper Travel Scholarship (\$500)

2020

- Michigan State University College of Social Science Summer Early Start Award (\$3,000)

2019

- Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Conference 3rd Place Best Undergraduate Presentation Award (\$50)

2017

- General Henry H. Arnold Education Award 2017-2020
- Ohio War Orphan & Severely Disabled Veterans' Children Scholarship 2017-2020

UNFUNDED GRANTS

Note: Reviews available upon request

2024

National Science Foundation Law and Science Dissertation Grant
Request: \$19,655
Score: 23 out of 30

PRESENTATIONS

Note: *Student/Mentee

Updated: August 2024

Sanders, K., Bakare, T., White, A., Whitehead-Tillery, C., & Lopez, R. (2024, July). Drug use and society. Science Ethics and Engagement Fellows Presentation at the April 2024 Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Monthly Meeting. East Lansing, MI.

Sanders, K. (2024, May). Digital inequality among returning citizens: A research agenda. Research presentation at the National Academy of Sciences for their Board on Children, Youth, and Families and Committee on Law and Justice. Washington, D.C.

Sanders, K., Bakare, T., White, A., Whitehead-Tillery, C., & Lopez, R. (2024, April). Social media and society. Science Ethics and Engagement Fellows Presentation at the April 2024 Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Monthly Meeting. East Lansing, MI.

Sanders, K. (2023, November). Examining digital literacy among system-involved populations. Thematic panel presentation at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.

Sanders, K. (2023, August). Examining digital literacy among system-involved populations. Chalk talk presentation at the August 2023 Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Meeting. East Lansing, MI.

Barnes-Lee, A. & **Sanders, K.** (2023, January). One-size- (does not)-fit-all: Examining gender and racial equity in assessments of youth who misuse substances. Oral presentation at the 2023 Society for Social Work and Research Conference. Phoenix, AZ.

Sanders, K. (2022, November). Inclusive efforts in recruiting and retaining diverse graduate students. Roundtable presentation at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.

Sanders, K. (2022, November). “The second sentencing”: A qualitative exploration of women going up for parole. Thematic panel presentation at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.

Sanders, K. (2022, August). The second sentencing”: A qualitative exploration of women going up for parole. Chalk talk presentation at the August 2022 Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Meeting. East Lansing, MI.

Sanders, K., Hoskins, K. M., & Morash, M. (2021, November). A qualitative exploration into the differential financial experiences of women on probation and parole. Thematic panel presentation at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

Sanders, K., Chermak, S., Freilich, J., & Klein, B. (2021, November). School shootings and suicide: A comparison of school shooters who complete suicide and non-suicide school shooters. PowerPoint presentation at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

LaBerge, A., Mason, M., & **Sanders, K.** (2021, November). Police dispatch times: Social disorganization and neighborhood disadvantage. PowerPoint presentation at the 2021 Annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

*Mayrand, A., *Klein, A., *Susalla, K., *Ballard, T., **Sanders, K.,** & Hoskins, K. M. (2021, November). Gauging the extent of trauma-informed care implementation in adult and juvenile carceral

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settings. Poster presentation at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

Sanders, K., (2019, November). Dissimilarities between fatal and nonfatal school shootings. PowerPoint presentation at the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Student Success Conference, East Lansing, MI.

- Received the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Conference 3rd Place Best Undergraduate Presentation Award

Sanders, K., (2019, November). Dissimilarities between fatal and nonfatal school shootings. PowerPoint presentation at The Ohio State University Autumn Undergraduate Research Festival, Columbus, OH.

Sanders, K., (2019, November). Dissimilarities between fatal and nonfatal school shootings. Poster presentation at the Mid-Michigan Symposium for Undergraduate Research Experiences, East Lansing, MI.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Rational Choice in the Real World: Unpacking Neighborhood Influences on the Decision Process for Youth Violence

Michigan State University Youth Equity Project, East Lansing, MI 2024-Present
Principal Investigators: Drs. Carole Gibbs, Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy, & Alaina De Biasi
Funding: National Science Foundation EAGER

Principal Investigator, Examining Digital Exclusion Among Black Returning Citizens

Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2023-Present
Principal Investigators: Kaelyn Sanders
Funding: AGEP Scholar Award, ADPCCJ Fall Student Award, Dr. Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Research Fellowship, Michigan State College of Social Science Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative Award, Ruth D. Peterson Fellowship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Project Manager, Process Evaluation of Advance Peace

Michigan State University Youth Equity Project, East Lansing, MI 2023-Present
Principal Investigators: Drs. Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy, Carole Gibbs, & Emilie Smith
Funding: Diversity Research Network Launch Awards Program

Principal Investigator, Digital Literacy Among Justice-Involved Individuals

Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2022-2023
Principal Investigators: Kaelyn Sanders
Funding: AGEP Scholar Award, MSU College of Social Science Summer Research Fellowship, MSU College of Social Science Summer PURI Award

Principal Investigator, Women Facing the Board

Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2021-2022
Principal Investigators: Kaelyn Sanders
Funding: MSU College of Social Science Summer Research Fellowship and MSU College of Social Science CSS-FGSI Award

Project Manager & Graduate Research Assistant, Getting It Right, Second Chance Act Comprehensive Community-Based Adult Reentry Program

Updated: August 2024

Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2021-2023
Principal Investigators: Drs. Merry Morash & Deborah Kashy
Funding: Bureau of Justice Assistance, US Department of Justice

Graduate Research Assistant, Understanding the Causes of School Violence
Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2020 -2021
Principal Investigator: Drs. Steven Chermak, Joshua Freilich, Gary LaFree, & Nadine Connell
Funding: National Institute of Justice

Graduate Research Assistant, Communication Between Probation and Parole Agents and Their Clients
Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2020-2021
Principal Investigator: Drs. Merry Morash, Amanda Holmstrom, Deborah Kashy, & Sandi Smith
Funding: National Science Foundation

SROP Summer Research Intern, Understanding the Causes of School Violence
Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2019
Principal Investigator: Drs. Steven Chermak, Joshua Freilich, Gary LaFree, & Nadine Connell
Funding: National Institute of Justice

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Police Violence: A Shift Toward Impacts on Black Women
The Ohio State University Department of Sociology, Columbus, OH 2019-2020
Principal Investigators: Dr. Sadé Lindsay & Laura Frizzell, M.A.
Funding: The Ohio State University's Silverman Research Grant and Coca-Cola Critical Difference for Women Grant

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

Instructor, CJ 292: Methods of Criminal Justice Research
Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2023

Certificate of Completion, College Teaching Workshop
Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2023

Guest Lecture, CJ 220: Criminology
Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2023
• Topic: Feminist Criminology

Guest Lecture, CRJ 835: Gender, Crime, and Criminal Justice
Arizona State University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Virtual 2023, 2022
• Topic: Women Going Up For Parole

Session Facilitator, Graduate School Information Sessions
Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice, East Lansing, MI 2022
• Topic: Learning About and Applying To Graduate School Programs

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, & Medicine 2024
[Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellow](#) Washington, D.C.
• Supported the work of the Committee on Law and Justice and Board on Children, Youth, and Families by contributing deliverables to their prosecution workshop, K-12 threat assessment

workshop, and the effect of active shooter drills on K-12 students' health and wellbeing consensus study.

- Worked with the Office of Diversity to develop the second installment of their diversity, equity, and inclusion toolkit, which focused on how to incorporate lived experience into the National Academies' consensus studies and workshops.
- Authored three concept papers focusing on the following topics: community violence intervention program street outreach workers' workforce development, the National Institute of Health's pediatric research portfolio and structure, and algorithmic technologies used in the criminal legal system.
- Worked on a team of five to draft a policy memo and workshop on housing equity.
- Developed a reading list of resources on community-engaged methods and qualitative methods.

NorthWest Initiative A.R.R.O.

2022-2024

Volunteer

Lansing, MI

- Temporarily facilitated Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) group sessions.
- Conducted intakes for new clients referred to the probation programs.
- Provided administrative support by setting up Zoom meetings, organizing program documents, and assisting clients directly.

Arnold Ventures

2021

[Pretrial Justice Graduate Research Associate](#)

Virtual

- Assisted the Director of Criminal Justice Research in researching, assessing, and developing policy areas and projects focused on bail reform, prosecution, defense, and court function.
- Coordinated meetings with the Pretrial Research Advisory Board and supported collaborative work with Arnold Ventures' partners.
- Oversaw the organization and upkeep of Arnold Ventures' research library.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Supervisor of Undergraduate Research Experience: Taylor Ballard (2021-2022), Waincey Chan (2023), Ebony Daniels (2021-2023), Lucas Ford (2024-Current), Eva Ott Hill (2022-2023), Ashli Hamilton (2024-Current), Abbey Holland (2024-Current), Abbi Koshoshek (2022), Allyson Marchese (2022-2023), Adam McCormick (2023), Lauren Molnar (2024), Cara Pellegrino (2024), Riley Starr (2023), Kayla Susalla (2021- 2022), Lexie Trott (2022-2023)

INVITED TALKS

[Panelist, National Academy of Sciences Board on Higher Education and Workforce](#)

Virtual

2024

- Topic: Lived Experiences and Reflections by Graduate Students on the Realities of Graduate Student Education: Personal Motivations and Challenges of Unionization

2024 Experience Series Speaker, [Code For America](#)

Virtual

2024

- Topic: Digital Inequality Among Returning Citizens: A Research Agenda

Panelist, Cornell University

Virtual

2022

- Topic: Graduate School Experiences

Guest Speaker, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School

Updated: August 2024

Virtual 2022, 2021
• Topic: The Life of a Ph.D. Student

Panelist, Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate

East Lansing, MI

- Topic: Graduate Student Experiences 2024
- Topic: Securing Funding for Grad School 2024
- Topic: Making the Most Out of Your MSU Experience 2022, 2021
- Topic: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship 2020-2023

MEDIA

Doctoral Student Forum Contributor, The Criminologist 2022

Community Engagement as A Graduate Student

- <https://asc41.com/wp-content/uploads/ASC-Criminologist-2022-12.pdf>

Podcast Guest, The Criminology Academy 2022

Crim Academy Alumni Compilation Episode

- <https://bit.ly/3wVzZaM>

Diversity Spotlight, Michigan State School of Criminal Justice

Diversity Spotlight: Kaelyn Sanders

2021

- <https://cj.msu.edu/news/diversity-sanders.html>

Podcast Guest, The Criminology Academy

Grad Life: Choosing a PhD Program

2020

- <https://bit.ly/2VRvsqE>

Podcast Guest, The Sci-Files on Impact89FM

School Gun Violence

2020

- <https://bit.ly/3fXpMTr>

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Participant, 2024

[*Frederick Douglass Project for Justice*](#)

Application Reviewer, 2024, 2023

Culture of Health Leadership Institute for Racial Healing, National Collaborative of Health Equity

Ad hoc Reviewer,

Race & Justice

Crime & Delinquency

Criminal Justice and Behavior

Feminist Criminology

International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

Michigan State University

- Mentor, School of Criminal Justice Graduate Student Network 2022-2023
- Member, School of Criminal Justice Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee 2021-2022

Updated: August 2024

- Grad School Bulletin Reviewer, AGEP 2021, 2023
- Science Bulletin Reviewer, AGEP 2020-2021
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Application Reviewer, AGEP 2020-2023

The Ohio State University

- Member, Black Ohio State Homecoming Planning Committee 2023-Present
- Mentor, Department of Sociology & Criminology Alumni Mentorship Program 2020-2023
- Event Co-Organizer, When They See Us Ft. Dr. Yusef Salaam and Raymond Santana 2020
- Community Outreach Chair, Black Student Association 2019-2020
- Word On The Street Co-Chair, African American Heritage Festival 2019-2020

SPECIAL COURSES, TRAINING, AND WORKSHOPS

The Urban Institute: Introduction to Community-Engaged Research Training	2024
Conducting Qualitative Research in Criminal Justice Settings: Theoretical & Pragmatic Challenges	2023
MSU Graduate School's Graduate Teaching Assistant Preparation Program	2023
ASPIRE Administrative Leadership Institute For Women of Color	2023
CJ 896 Policy Analysis	2022
HDFS 982 Qualitative Research Methods	2022
SOC 986 Survey Research Methods	2022
CJ 809 Academic Publishing Seminar	2022
Anti-Racist Primer for Institutions	2022
Critical Qualitative Methodologies Workshop	2021
CJ 910 Qualitative Research Methods	2021
CJ 907 Mixed Methods	2021
CenterStat Mixed Methods Workshop	2021
The Inside Out Prison Exchange Program	2019

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Mentee, American Society of Criminology Division of Corrections and Sentencing Mentoring Program

Mentee, American Society of Criminology Division of Feminist Criminology Mentoring Program

Member, American Society of Criminology (ASC)
Division of Feminist Criminology
Division of People of Color and Crime
Division of Convict Criminology

Member, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)
Corrections Section

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

- Dr. Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy**, Dissertation Chair
Professor, Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice cobbina@msu.edu
- Dr. Steven Chermak**, Dissertation Committee Member
Professor, Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice chermak@msu.edu
- Dr. Ashlee Barnes-Lee**, Mentor
Assistant Professor, Michigan State University, School of Social Work barnes75@msu.edu

Updated: August 2024

Dr. Carole Gibbs, Dissertation Committee Member
Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, College of Social Science
Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice

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