

Erin M. Kearns

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

American University
School of Public Affairs
Department of Justice, Law & Criminology
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Education

American University, Washington, DC

Ph.D., 2012-Present

School of Public Affairs
Major Field: Criminology
Minor Field: Public Policy

Dissertation: If You See Something, Do You Say Something?: Counterterrorism and Policing Immigrant Communities

Committee: Joseph K. Young (Chair), Edward R. Maguire, Thomas Zeitzoff

John Jay College of CJ, New York, NY

M.A., 2010-2012

Major: Forensic Psychology

Thesis: Consistency in Serial Rape: An Examination of Geographic and Behavioral Patterns by Offense Location

Advisor: C. Gabrielle Salfati

Miami University, Oxford, OH

B.A., 2001-2005

Majors: Political Science and Psychology
Minor: European Area Studies

Thesis: Attitudinal and Behavioral Precursors of Sexual Victimization and Sexual Aggression: Rape Myth Acceptance, Family of Origin Violence, Self-Esteem and Attitudes Toward the Other Gender

Advisor: Amy L. Brown

Additional Training

ICPSR, Summer 2015

Four-Week Session (Time-Series, Bayesian, R)

Short Course on Qualitative Methods

Stata Training, October 2014

Estimating Average Treatment Effects

American University, May 2014

Certification to teach Online and Hybrid courses

Summer School on Crime, Law and Psychology, July 2011

Prague, Czech Republic

U.S Department of Justice, FBI, Behavioral Science Unit, May 2011

Certificate of Research in Violent Behavior

Research Interests

Domestic and Transnational Terrorism

Violence Against Women

Violence in Conflict

Human Rights Issues in Terrorism and Conflict

Geographic Patterns of Crime

Nonviolent Alternatives in Conflict

Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. Erin M. Kearns. 2015. "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.
2. Erin M. Kearns, Brendan L. Conlon and Joseph K. Young. 2014. "Lying about Terrorism." *Studies of Conflict and Terrorism*, 37(5): 422-439.

Book Chapters

1. Erin M. Kearns and Joseph K. Young. 2015 (under review, invited chapter). "Empirical Challenges to Studying Terrorism and Homicide" in *The Handbook on Homicide*, eds. Fiona Brookman, Edward R. Maguire, and Mike Maguire. Wiley-Blackwell.
2. Erin M. Kearns and Joseph K. Young. 2013. "Military Tactics in Civil War" in *The Routledge Companion to Civil War Studies*, eds. Edward Newman and Karl DeRouen. Routledge.

Government Reports

1. 2015. *Presidential Task Force on 21st Century Policing*, Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS). (contributing researcher)
2. 2015 (forthcoming). "The Role of Law Enforcement in Fighting Terrorism" in *Comprehensive Law Enforcement Review*, Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS). (contributing researcher and co-author)

Media Appearances

Articles Written

1. Erin Kearns and Joseph Young, "Dramatic depictions of torture increase support for it," *Washington Post* (December 12, 2014) <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/12/12/dramatic-depictions-of-torture-increase-support-for-it/>

Television Appearances and Interviews

1. Interview on "CNN Newsroom with Brooke Baldwin," *CNN* (December 10, 2014) <http://www.cnn.com/video/data/2.0/video/us/2014/12/10/nr-intv-kearns-hollywood-effect-on-torture.cnn.html>

Media Mentions

1. Noah Berlatsky, "Can Jack Bauer Convince You to Torture?." *Pacific Standard* January 5, 2015) <http://www.psmag.com/navigation/politics-and-law/can-jack-bauer-convince-torture-97448/>
2. Zack Beauchamp, "Torture is a culture. Releasing the Senate report is a way of fighting it," *Vox* (December 11, 2014) <http://www.vox.com/2014/12/11/7364207/senate-torture-accountability>
3. Terrence McCoy, "The Senate CIA report says enhanced interrogation doesn't work. But Hollywood thinks it does," *Washington Post* (December 10, 2014) <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2014/12/10/how-hollywood-has-bought-in-to-the-notion-that-torture-works/?postshare=3971418218274171>
4. Zack Beauchamp, "24' makes people support torture, and other discoveries political scientists made this year," *Vox* (September 8, 2014) <http://www.vox.com/2014/9/8/6083939/apsa-interesting-papers>

Conference Participation

1. "Who, What and Where: How Ethnicity, Type, and Location Impact Perceptions of Torture" *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting*, Orlando, FL, March 2015.
2. "The Hollywood Effect: How Dramatic Depictions of Torture Affect Support or Opposition" (with Joseph K. Young) *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, November 2014.
3. "If Torture is Wrong, What About 24?: Torture and the Hollywood Effect" (with Joseph K. Young) *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, August 2014.
4. "Comparative Analysis of Behavioral Patterns in Single Versus Serial Rapists" (with C. Gabrielle Salfati) *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL, November 2012.
5. "Linking Serial Rapes: Methodological Issues on Examining Patterns of Change" (with C. Gabrielle Salfati and John P. Jarvis) *Biennial John Jay College International Conference*, New York, NY, June 2012.

6. "Serial Rape: The Relationship Between Geographic Patterns, Crime Location, Offender Characteristics, and Offender-Victim Interaction." (with C. Gabrielle Salfati and John P. Jarvis) *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting*, New York, NY, March 2012.
7. "Serial Rape: A Comparison of Euclidean and Manhattan Measurement of Distance by Crime Location Type." Roundtable discussion, *13th Annual Conference of the International Academy of Investigative Psychology*, San Francisco, CA, September 2011.

Research Grants

Funded

Doctoral Research Award—\$4,994, American University, 2015-2016

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Terrorism Research Award—\$5,000, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, 2014-2015

FSRG Research Grant—\$10,000, American University, 2014

SPA Public Affairs Research Scholars Grant—\$5,000, American University, 2013

Graduate Assistantship—fully funded, American University, 2012-Present

Undergraduate Summer Scholars Grant—\$2,000, Miami University, 2004

Conference Grants

Greenberg Professional Development Conference Grant—\$300, American University, 2014

Greenberg Professional Development Conference Grant—\$300, American University, 2012

Student Research Grant—\$500, American Psychological Society Student Caucus, 2005

Research Experience

Department of Justice

Consulting Researcher
Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
September 2014-March 2015

American University

Research Assistant
Advisor: Joseph K. Young, Ph.D.
August 2012-Present

NSF, Strengthening Sociological Research
Research Assistant
Advisor: Jon B. Gould, Ph.D.
Summer 2014

Department of Justice, Policing Protests
Research Assistant
Advisor: Edward R. Maguire, Ph.D.
June 2014

FBI, Behavioral Science Unit and John Jay College of Criminal Justice Collaborative Research Project

Research Assistant
Primary Researcher, Masters Thesis

Advisor: C. Gabrielle Salfati, Ph.D.
September 2010-May 2012
May 2011-May 2012

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Research Assistant

Academy of Critical Incident Analysis
October 2011-August 2012

Research Assistant

Advisor: Margaret Bull Kovera, Ph.D.
September 2010-August 2011

Research Assistant

Advisor: Joshua W. Clegg, Ph.D.
September 2010-August 2011

Research Assistant

Advisor: Steven D. Penrod, Ph.D.
September 2010-August 2011

Miami University

Primary Researcher, Undergraduate Thesis
Research Assistant

Advisor: Amy L. Brown, Ph.D.
May 2004-May 2005
September 2002-December 2003

Teaching Interests

Terrorism and Counterterrorism
Research Methods
Security Policy

Criminology Theory
Statistics
Human Rights

Teaching Experience

Graduate Courses Taught

- *The Problem of Torture*, American University, Summer 2014 & 2015, online course that I developed
- *Terrorism in the 21st Century*, American University, Summer 2015, online course that I developed

Undergraduate Courses Taught

- *Introduction to Criminology*, American University, Fall 2014 & 2015, certified Green course
- *Introduction to Justice Research*, American University, Spring 2015, certified Green course

Teaching Assistant

- *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*, American University, Fall 2012 & Fall 2013
- *Graduate Domestic Terrorism*, American University, Spring 2013
- *Graduate Statistics*, American University, Spring 2013
- *Graduate Research Methods*, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Fall 2011

Teaching Grants

Online Course Development Grant—\$3,000, American University, 2014

Greenberg Teaching Conference Grant—\$450, American University, 2013

Invited Talks

Senate Torture Report Panelist. Hosted by Top Secret AU, February 25, 2015.

Lying about Terrorism and Torture. Presented for a course on Psychology of Terrorism, American University, October 9, 2014.

Torture and the Hollywood Effect. Presented for the DHS/START and SMA Technical Lecture Series, August 19, 2014.

Terrorism and Torture. Presented for a course on Research Methods, American University, September 20, 2013.

Awards and Honors

Selected Participant, ACJS Inaugural Doctoral Student Summit, 2015

Reisenbach Scholarship, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 2011-2012

Dean's List, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 2010-2012

Departmental Honors in Psychology, Miami University, 2005

Dean's List, Miami University, 2002-2004

Robert O'Brien Academic Scholarship, Miami University, 2001-2005

Society Memberships

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

American Political Science Association

American Society of Criminology

International Studies Association

Political Violence Working Group, American University

Professional Activities

Reviewer

Terrorism and Political Violence, 2015

Sociological Quarterly, 2014

Service

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Student Representative, American University, 2014-Present

Terrorism and Security Policy Search Committee, American University, Fall 2013, Fall 2014

Judge for School of Public Affairs Undergraduate Research Symposium, American University, Fall 2013

Leadership

The Greenberg PhD Seminars for Effective Teaching, Selected Participant, American University, Fall 2012-Present

Psi Chi, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, August 2011-May 2012

Master's Student Research Group, Mentor and Head of Visuals and Technology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, May 2011-May 2012

Cheryl Williams Award, Selection Committee, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, May 2011

Professional Experience

Naomi Judith Davidson, L.C.S.W.
Office Manager

New York, NY
August 2010-July 2012

Kroll Ontrack/TrialGraphix
Trial Services Consultant

Chicago, IL
October 2006-July 2010

Enterprise Rent a Car/Rent a Truck
Management Assistant

Cincinnati, OH
August 2005-October 2006

Skills

Computing

Stata, R, SPSS, L^AT_EX, Blackboard, ArcGIS, HUDAP, atlas.ti

Language

French: intermediate reading, writing, & speaking

Spanish: basic reading, & speaking

Farsi (Persian): basic speaking