

Dylan Sears

Cultural Criminology | Race and Ethnicity | Comparative-Historical Methods

Manhattan, KS

dmsears@ksu.edu

Education

Kansas State University

- Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology **Expected:** 2026
- Master of the Arts, Sociology **Achieved:** 2022

Thesis: *Hold the (Thin Blue) Line: Theorizing White Vigilante Violence as Counterinsurgency*

Oklahoma State University

- Bachelor of the Arts, Sociology **Achieved:** 2019

Tulsa Community College

- Associate of the Arts, Sociology **Achieved:** 2017

Academic Experience

Kansas State University

Graduate Research Assistant

May 2025 - Present

Manhattan, KS

Kansas State University

Graduate Teaching Assistant

August 2020 - May 2025

Manhattan, KS

As Instructor:

- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Spring 2025
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Fall 2024
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Summer 2024
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Spring 2024
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Fall 2023
- SOCIO 211 Intro to Sociology Spring 2023
- CRIM 460 Youth and Crime Fall 2022

As Teaching Assistant:

- Social Research Methods w/ Dr. Corina Medley Spring 2022
- Comparative Social Theories w/ Dr. Gerad Middendorf Fall 2021
- Urban Sociology w/ Dr. Frank Weyher Fall 2021
- Intro to Sociology w/ Dr. Corina Medley Spring 2021
- Intro to Sociology w/ Dr. Jeremy Briggs Fall 2020

Publications

In-Progress:

(In-Review)

(Redacted)

Book Chapters:

Sears, D. (2025). "The Police Have Often Attempted to Pre-empt Cases of Political and Religious Violence Through Covert Intelligence." In M. Hart, J. B. Lamb, A. Lynes, J. Treadwell, and C. Kelly (Eds.), *50 Facts Everyone Should Know About the Police*. Bristol University Press.

Linnemann, T. and Sears, D. (2025). "Cultural Criminology." In K. D. Haggerty and L. Presser (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Critical and Cultural Criminological Theory*. Oxford University Press.

Book Reviews:

Sears, D. (2025). "Book Review: Gratuitous Angst in White America: A Theory of Whiteness and Crime." *Crime, Media, Culture*, 1-5.

Presentations:

Sears, D. (2024). *Violent Revitalization: Specters of Dark Tourism in Tulsa's Greenwood*. American Society of Criminology Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States.

Sears, D. (2023). *Good Kid, Mad City: on the Political Meaning of Kyle Rittenhouse*. American Society of Criminology Conference, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

Professional Experience

Manhattan Public Library	May 2024 - Present
Library Assistant (LA2), Circulation	Manhattan, KS

- Shelved, Faced, and Organized materials in adult fiction, nonfiction, youth, and children's spaces according to the Dewey Decimal System
- Assisted customers at circulation desk with new library cards, checkouts, and addressing account charges
- Familiar with Polaris ILS in managing/maintaining library inventory accuracy

Crime, Media, Culture	December 2022 - December 2024
Editorial Assistant	Manhattan, KS

- Screened journal submissions for proper formatting and anonymity
- Corresponded with authors regarding their submissions
- Assigned approved articles and submissions to editorial staff members

City Year Tulsa	June 2019 - May 2020
Americorps Member	Tulsa, OK

- Maintained case load of 36 7th grade students
- Taught 20 7th graders algebra and tracked academic growth
- Interpreted qualitative and quantitative data collected on students to tailor academic, attendance, and social-emotional learning goals to individual needs

Pawnee Nation Attorney General's Office

Student Intern

October 2018 - May 2019

Pawnee, OK

- Identified 15 Native American Tribal Probation Programs across Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska
- Interviewed probation officials about the nature and structure of their programs
- Transcribed interviews and analyzed data for potential avenues of growth in the development of a tribal probation consortium

Walmart Supply Chain

T3 Trainer, Orderfiller, Quality Assurance

February 2013 - June 2019

Ochelata, OK

- Trained 50 employees on industrial equipment, warehouse safety, and proper material handling
- Maintained warehouse product accuracy and quality
- Mediated employee/manager conflict in relation to productivity expectations

Academic Service

Kansas State University Library Services Committee

Graduate Student Council Representative

2020 - 2022

Manhattan, KS

Kansas State University Dean of Libraries Search Committee

Graduate Student Council Representative

2020 - 2021

Manhattan, KS

Kansas State University Honor Council

Graduate Student Council Representative

2020 - 2021

Manhattan, KS

Oklahoma State University Sociology Club

Vice President

2018 - 2019

Stillwater, OK

Awards and Honors

American Society of Criminology, Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice

Graduate Student Paper Award Winner

2024

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work

Graduate Student Teaching Award

2022 - 2023

\$500

Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Scholarship

Academic Year 2020

2020 - 2022

\$3000

Academic Year 2021

\$3000

Phi Theta Kappa Scholar

Undergraduate Community College Honor Society

2015