

Samuel Charles Potts

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EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

B.A., Sociology/Concentration in Criminology & Criminal Justice December 2025

Colorado State University, *Magna Cum Laude*

- **Study Abroad:** University of New York in Prague, Vinohrady, Czechia Summer 2025
- **Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative Training Course Completion** Expires February 2028
Human Research, Social/Humanistic/Behavioral, Basic Course

A.A., Sociology December 2023

Fullerton College

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Deputy Probation Officer Intern August 2025 – December 2025

Weld County 19th Judicial District Probation Department | Greeley, CO

- Manage a supervised low-risk caseload of 110+ individuals, conducting structured check-ins, monitoring compliance, and documenting progress using state-required reporting systems.
- Support supervising officers through detailed case summaries, collateral information gathering, and participation in client assessments related to treatment, housing, employment, and behavioral needs.
- Observe court proceedings and interagency coordination to understand how probation practices intersect with judicial decision-making, community programs, and evidence-based intervention strategies.
- Engage clients using principles of procedural justice, providing clear guidance on court-ordered expectations while maintaining confidentiality, professionalism, and trauma-informed communication.

Student Supervisor October 2024 – December 2025

Braiden Dining Hall, Colorado State University | Fort Collins, CO

- Supervise student employees during high-volume service hours, ensuring efficient workflow and proper delegation.
- Train new staff on operational procedures, communication expectations, and customer service practices.
- Resolve customer concerns and operational issues promptly, modeling professionalism and quality control.
- Support shift management by completing documentation, monitoring inventory needs, and coordinating with full-time staff to maintain smooth operations.

Sales Associate February 2023 – December 2023

Victra – Verizon Wireless Premium Retailer | Montrose, CO

- Guided customers by assessing needs, explaining details, and providing accurate, accessible information.
- Achieved sales goals through evidence-based consultation, product knowledge, and relationship building.
- Processed transactions, contracts, and account updates, ensuring data accuracy and compliance.
- Collaborated with store leadership to maintain merchandising standards and resolve service issues.

HONORS & AWARDS

Reisher Scholar | Spring 2024

- Merit- and need-based scholarship awarded to Colorado students who demonstrate academic excellence, persistence toward degree completion, and commitment to community engagement.

Nominee, The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) | Fall 2024

- Selected for invitation to the nation's largest accredited leadership honor society based on academic achievement and leadership potential.

HONORS & AWARDS, CONTINUED

Myron Brown Ludlow Scholarship | Fall 2024

- Awarded to CSU students who demonstrate outstanding academic performance, strong character, and dedication to their discipline.

Sociology Department Payment Scholarship | Spring 2025

- Financial award recognizing strong academic standing and progress within the sociology major.

Gilman Scholarship Recipient | Summer 2025

- Awarded through the U.S. Department of State's Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program to support academically strong, Pell Grant-eligible students pursuing study abroad.

Global Access Award | Summer 2025

- CSU Education Abroad scholarship supports students with financial need who show strong academic promise and a commitment to international learning.

CCJ-Prague Scholarship Award | Summer 2025

- Departmental scholarship supporting students participating in criminology and criminal justice coursework or faculty-led global programs in Prague.

Dean's List, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University | Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Summer 2025, Fall 2025

SKILLS

- Research & Analytical Skills – Qualitative interviewing; thematic coding; case documentation; policy analysis; human subjects research compliance (CITI-certified); synthesizing academic literature; structured observation.
- Criminal Justice & Case Management Skills – Client communication; compliance monitoring; TRS call support; case note documentation; procedural guidance for probation clients; understanding of court processes and interagency coordination.
- Technical Skills & Software Proficiency – Microsoft Office Suite; Google Workspace; data entry and digital record management; probation office systems (as permitted for interns).
- Communication & Interpersonal Skills – Procedural justice-aligned client engagement; trauma-informed communication; de-escalation fundamentals; professional writing; customer service; intergroup dialogue skills; conflict resolution; mentoring.
- Leadership & Teamwork – Task delegation; shift supervision; peer mentoring; training new staff; collaborative problem-solving; decision-making; working within multidisciplinary environments.
- Cultural Competence & Inclusivity – Experience supporting first-generation, Pell-eligible, and marginalized student populations; cross-cultural communication through global programs; equity-focused engagement.

PRESENTATIONS

The Opioid Epidemic and Big Pharma

Discussion Presentation, SOC 351 Corporate and State Crime – Summer 2024

Presented an analysis of pharmaceutical industry misconduct, social and economic harms of opioid overprescribing, racial and class disparities in treatment access, gendered effects of opioid use, and multilevel impacts on individuals, families, communities, and society. Emphasized structural determinants and policy failures contributing to the crisis.

Understanding the Fentanyl Crisis: Behavioral Responses of Opioid Users in Baltimore

Final Research Presentation, SOC 315 Applications of Qualitative Research – Spring 2025

Delivered mixed-methods research examining risk perception, harm reduction practices, and behavioral adaptations among opioid users in Baltimore. Highlighted thematic coding, participant experiences, overdose prevention strategies, and broader public health and policy significance of user-informed approaches.

International and Comparative Criminology

Group Presentation, Education Abroad for CCJ in Prague, The Czech Republic – Summer 2025

Presented an overview of comparative criminology, challenges of cross-national crime measurement, influences of political structures, macro- and micro-level correlates of crime, and regional crime patterns. Discussed global inequalities, methodological constraints, and implications for international justice and policy.

Crime in the Czech Republic in 2010

Group Presentation, Education Abroad for CCJ in Prague, The Czech Republic – Summer 2025

Co-presented an analytical review of crime trends following the 2010 Penal Code reform in the Czech Republic.

Examined shifts in crime classification, victim reporting, property and violent crime trends, regional patterns, and demographic characteristics of offenders, with a focus on recidivism and public perceptions of safety.

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

Community for Excellence (C4E), Colorado State University | Member 2024 – 2025

- Participate in a holistic support network for high-achieving students, emphasizing academic success, financial support navigation, and personal development.

Academic Advancement Center (AAC), Colorado State University | Member 2024 – 2025

- Engaged in academic skill-building, advising, and resource-based programming serving first-generation and underrepresented students.

Student Support Services (TRIO), Colorado State University | Participant 2024 – 2025

- Involved in federally funded TRIO programming supporting academic persistence through tutoring, advising, and financial literacy resources.

Reisher Scholar Cohort, Colorado State University | Scholar 2024 – 2025

- Selected as part of the competitive Reisher Scholarship Program focused on scholarship support, cohort-based community engagement, and degree completion.