

Grace Phelps

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Education

University of Maryland

PhD, Criminology and Criminal Justice	Present
M.A. Criminology and Criminal Justice	2025

Smith College

B.A. Neuroscience, minor in Psychology	2023
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Research Experience

Government Intervention and its Influence on Terrorism Co-Author <i>with Dr. Gary LaFree at the University of Maryland</i>	2026-Present
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- Co-author manuscript

School Shootings & Environmental Design Co-Author <i>with Dr. Emily Greene-Colozzi at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell</i>	2023-Present
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- Review school shooting after action reports and police reports
- Design and create a school shooting database

Maryland Crime and Research Innovation Center Graduate Assistant <i>with Dr. Bianca Bersani at the University of Maryland</i>	2025-2026
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- Develop a public-facing dashboard displaying public safety data using Power BI
- Conduct a systematic assessment of public safety indicators across diverse topic areas to identify relevant measures for database inclusion
- Review and clean public safety, security, and health-related data
- Collaborate on preparation of grant applications

Racial Disparities in Incarceration and Health Insurance Co-Author <i>with Dr. Lauren Porter at the University of Maryland</i>	2025-2026
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- Clean and analyze county-level incarceration and health insurance data
- Contribute to preparation of manuscript

California Cannabis Legalization Research Assistant <i>with Dr. Greg Midgette at the University of Maryland / RAND</i>	2024-2025
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- Identified and documented the structure of market data across multiple linked datasets spanning the business lifecycle
- Reviewed, organized, and cleaned data regarding California Cannabis Industry
- Co-authored report

Legacies of Lynching on City Spending & Health | *Graduate Assistant* 2024- 2025
with Dr. Demar Lewis at the University of Maryland

- Identified and cleaned public health and historical financial expenditure data at the census tract-, city-, and county-levels
- Built city and county level spatial databases inclusive of data from 1967 to 2022
- Cleaned and analyzed public safety survey data

Effects of School-Based Police Presence | *Research Assistant* 2022-2023
with Dr. Yael Granot at Smith College

- Resolved and documented issues in eye tracking software
- Quantitatively coded memorandums between police departments and school administrations regarding the role of school-based police officers

Public Health Research Intern | *Research Assistant* 2022
with Dr. Barbara Colombo at Champlain College

- Conducted qualitative interviews and developed an app based on study findings
- Compiled and organized materials in preparation for a meta-analysis

Manuscripts in Progress

Phelps, G. & Midgette, G. How close is close to home: An analysis of the Uvalde shooting and emergency preparedness [In Preparation]

Phelps, G. & Greene-Colozzi, E. Exploring environmental constraints on evasion during mass school shootings: An interactions based approach. [In Preparation]

Porter, C. L., **Phelps, G.**, & Testa, A. Incarceration, racial/ethnic disparities and health insurance [In Preparation]

Conference Presentations

Phelps, G. (November, 2025). *How close is close to home: An analysis of the Uvalde shooting and emergency preparedness* [Conference presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Phelps, G., & Greene-Colozzi, E. (November, 2025). *Exploring environmental constraints on evasion during mass school shootings: An interactions based approach* [Conference presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Porter, L.C. & **Phelps, G.** (October, 2025). Incarceration, racial/ethnic disparities and health insurance [Conference presentation]. Incarceration and Inequality Vera Institute of Justice Research Symposium, Brooklyn, NY.

Phelps, G. (2024, November). *How close is close to home: An evaluation of the Uvalde*

school shooting and emergency preparedness [Poster presentation]. American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Xu, J., **Phelps, G.**, & Granot, Y. (2023, April). *How Policy Language in Agreements About School-based Police Affect Student Outcomes*. [Poster presentation]. Celebrating Collaborations Research Conference, Smith College.

Academic Positions

Instructor of Record

CCJS 100: Introduction to Criminal Justice	Summer 2026
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Graduate Teaching Assistant

Intro to Criminal Justice Teaching Assistant	2023-2024
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Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Intro to Statistics & Data Sciences Teaching Assistant	2021-2022
Psychopharmacology Colloquium Teaching Assistant	2023

Awards & Fellowships

3-Minute Thesis Finalist	2025
Dean's Fellowship \$2,500	2023-2025

Professional Affiliations

American Society of Criminology	2023-Present
Maryland Population Research Center Student Affiliate	2024-Present

Departmental & Disciplinary Service

Provost Graduate Student Advisory Council	Present
Human Resources Committee Student Representative	2024-2026
Graduate Student Mentor	2024-2025

Skills

Software, Data Analysis: Stata, R

Software, General: Microsoft Suite, Google Suite, Power BI, NetLogo