

Jessica Raskauskas

she/her/hers

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Education

The University of Maryland
College Park, MD
M.A. in Criminology

Expected graduation: May 2024

The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA
B.A. in Criminology, Women's Studies, minors in Sociology, English

May 2022

Research in Progress

Jelveh, Z., Situ, X., Raskauskas, J. "The Impact of Domestic Violence Strangulation Enhancements on Femicide"

Raskauskas, J. "Criminalizing queerness: An empirical analysis of queer strain and criminal convictions" (Working title)

Conference Presentations

"Obstacles and Opportunities: LGBTQIA+ Domestic Abuse help-seeking during the COVID-19 Pandemic" (Joint work with Dr. Kirsty McGregor)

- European Conference on Domestic Violence, Ljubljana, Slovenia. September 2021.

Posters

"Obstacles and Opportunities: LGBTQIA+ Domestic Abuse help-seeking during the COVID-19 Pandemic" (Joint work with Dr. Kirsty McGregor) Poster presented at the European Conference on Domestic Violence, Ljubljana, Slovenia. September 2021.

Research Experience

The University of Maryland

Graduate Research Assistant

Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center

Spring 2023 semester

The primary aim of this project is to conduct research and data analysis to examine pretrial decision-making and risk assessment in Maryland using scraped public court records. The findings may inform jurisdictional decision-making and efforts to effectively reduce local detention populations while protecting public safety. This project provides a unique opportunity

to build research experience with a public policy focus. As research assistant, analyzed and compiled pretrial risk assessment data on each of the 24 counties in Maryland.

The University of Brighton

International Research Fellow

Perreault Fellowship

Summer 2021

Traveled to the University of Brighton in Brighton, England to serve as a research fellow to Dr. Kirsty McGregor. Worked on three projects over the course of the summer: LGBTQIA+ Domestic Abuse help-seeking during the COVID-19 Pandemic research assistant; Project MUSE: Researching Men's Unwanted Sexual Experiences social media manager; and lead researcher on a project about domestic violence and London's homeless community. Spent time learning transcription, different research methods, grant writing, project proposal writing, and human subject recruitment.

Teaching Experience

The University of Maryland

Graduate Teaching Assistant

CCJS 105: Introduction to Criminology

Fall 2022 semester

This course will provide a general introduction to the study of crime. We will cover correlates of crime, crime measurement, crime trends, criminological theory from the Enlightenment era to recent decades, and how theory relates to criminal justice policy and crime prevention. TA duties include lesson planning and leading four weekly discussion sections for 15 weeks, grading papers, inputting grades, proctoring exams, holding office hours and meetings for students, answering emails, reporting back to advising faculty, and serving as a liaison between students and lecturer.

The Pennsylvania State University

Undergraduate Student Instructor

CRIM/WMNST 197: Domestic Violence in the LGBT Community

Spring 2022 semester

This class explores trends and statistics regarding; societal implications of; and implicit personal biases about; domestic and intimate partner violence within the LGBTQ+ community. Students will use a feminist lens to understand statistics and personal reports of violence within the LGBTQ+ community, and why survivors make the decisions they do. Students will explore institutional oppression and the importance of public representation of the issue, and how these things present themselves as barriers to help-seeking. Students will also investigate the systems with which survivors must interact in order to obtain help. Class goals will be achieved through readings, digital discussion posts, and in-class participation.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

CRIM/WMNST 453: Women and Justice

Fall 2021 semester

This course examines the role of women in the American criminal (and to some degree the civil) justice system. We look at the issues related to women as they are offenders, prisoners, victims of crimes, and professionals in the system. We examine these issues through our readings, the experiences of speakers, and our own experiences and understandings in an attempt to broaden our perspectives.

Awards and Fellowships

Penn State University Abroad

Perreault Fellowship

Second cohort, 2020-2021

From Penn State Global: “The Perreault Fellows Program is a competitive global leadership and internship program that prepares students from multiple disciplines for personal and professional excellence through learning in cross-cultural leadership, ethics, service, personal-mentoring, and an internship abroad related to health and the betterment of human condition broadly speaking. The program prepares students for global leadership through participation in the Global Engagement and Leadership Experience (GELE), a workshop through the Rock Ethics Institute, mandatory service, and a presentation on their learning outcomes to the Provost’s Global Advisor Council.”

Internship

The Borgen Project

Writer

October 2020-January 2021

Published articles written on [women’s rights in the Netherlands](#), [human trafficking in the Netherlands](#), [the 2020 Global Citizen Prize](#), and [the ways the people of Kashmir volunteered to fight the COVID-19 pandemic](#). Raised \$500 through community fundraising and letter writing campaigns. Emailed and called local Congressional representatives regarding assorted international legislation and fundraising.

Professional Affiliations

American Society of Criminology (ASC)

Technical Skills

Stata, Microsoft Office, Google Suite, Canva

Peer Reviewed Publication

Kale, V., Raskauskas, J. (2021). Ernest Hemingway's "Hills Like White Elephants". *The Explicator*. DOI: [10.1080/00144940.2021.1920359](https://doi.org/10.1080/00144940.2021.1920359).

Departmental Service

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland

Graduate Student Leadership Committee

Social Events Coordinator

The Graduate Student Leadership Committee is composed of 12 CCJS graduate students, each with different roles with the collective motivation to increase inter- and intra-department community. The Social Events Coordinator manages administrative logistics of event planning, including fee collection, event booking and promotion, and transportation. In addition, the Coordinator is responsible for creating and maintaining direct communication with all present graduate students both before, during, and after events. Collaborated with other Graduate Student Leaders, as well as CCJS graduate students at large, to create desirable events to maximize satisfaction among students.

BSOS Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council (DGSAC)

Department Representative

DGSAC is an advisory council of graduate students that acts as a liaison between BSOS graduate students and the Dean's Office, and works to promote graduate students' interests and address related issues. In addition to acting as liaisons and proposing solutions to issues, DGSAC representatives gain service experience, make valuable inter-departmental connections across BSOS and learn about the inner functioning of the university, college, and departments.

Graduate Student Government Committee Member

Communications and Community Development Committees

From gsgumd.org: "Through university, state, and national coalitions and representation, GSG members ensure graduate student needs, ideas and concerns are heard and known. [...] The Communications Committee is responsible for keeping graduate students informed about the ongoing work of the GSG. The committee works to audit and evaluate current communications channels, provide timely updates to graduate students on the substantive issues being addressed by GSG, and develop materials and processes for GSG's ongoing communications efforts. [...] The Community Development Committee is dedicated to initiating programming that brings together the graduate student community."

Philanthropy and Community Service
The Pennsylvania State University

Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON)

Committee Member, Family Relations Chair, 2022 Dancer

From thon.org: “THON™ is a student-run philanthropy committed to enhancing the lives of children and families impacted by childhood cancer. Our mission is to provide emotional and financial support, spread awareness, and ensure funding for critical research—all in pursuit of a cure.” Spent two years on OPPerations committees, ensuring safe and effective setup, teardown, and maintenance of THON weekends 2019 and 2020. As Family Relations Chair for THON 2021, attended meetings and seminars on maintenance of relationships with paired families, while keeping up with assigned families. Was selected to dance in THON 2022 for the Penn State Thespian Society. This entailed 46 hours without sitting or sleeping during THON weekend in February in support of Four Diamond families around the country. Over four THONs, raised \$2345 for THON’s sole beneficiary, the Four Diamonds fund.