

Alexander B. Kinney

Oberlin College
Department of Sociology
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025– **Assistant Professor of Sociology**, Oberlin College
2023–2025 **Assistant Professor**, Sam Houston State University

EDUCATION

2022 **Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology**, University of Arizona
2016 **Master of Arts in Sociology**, University of Arizona
2013 **Bachelor of Arts in Letters, Arts, and Sciences**, Penn State Altoona

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contested Markets; Punishment; Contentious Politics; Visual and Narrative Methods; Computational Social Science.

PUBLICATIONS

(Convention: *Denotes student co-author)

Co-edited Special Issues

Gibson-Light, Michael and **Alexander B. Kinney**. “Theorizing ‘the Prison’ as an Institution.”
Forthcoming in *Incarceration*.

Refereed Journal Articles

Kinney, Alexander B. 2025. “Becoming a Cannabis Professional.” *Sociological Inquiry* 95(2):315-334.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2025. ““Cannabis Businesses are Being Good Contributors to the Community””: The Regulated Cannabis Industry and Cannabis Normalization in the United States.” *Crime & Delinquency* 71(6-7):2253-2275.

*Rakhmatullaev, Bobur, Katherine McClean, **Alexander B. Kinney**, Nathan E. Kruis, Nicholas J. Rowland. 2025. “The Effectiveness Paradox: Assessing Support for K-12 Concealed Carry by Teachers, Staff, and Parents.” *Journal of School Violence* 24(4):542-554.

Kruis, Nathan E., *Ziwei Lin, **Alexander B. Kinney**, Nicholas J. Rowland. 2024. “Building Bridges with the Pennsylvania State Police: A Pilot Assessment of a Law Enforcement Community Outreach Program.” *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice* 18:paae103.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2024. “Surveillance, Social Control, and Managing Semi-Legality in U.S. Commercial Cannabis.” *Social Problems* 71(2):572–93.

- *Winner*: 2021 Pennsylvania Sociological Society Graduate Student Paper Award.
- *Winner*: 2021 Raymond V. Bowers Graduate Student Paper Award, University of Arizona.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2023. “Sumptuary administration: how contested market actors shape the trajectory of policy when regulated under fragmented governance.” *Law & Policy* 45(4):507–29.

Davis, Andrew P., Thomas Leppard, and **Alexander B. Kinney**. 2022. “A Shame of Inches? Are Teams with Black Head Coaches more heavily penalized in Division 1 college football?” *Social Science Quarterly* 103(2), 259-273.

Puetz, Kyle, Andrew P. Davis, and **Alexander B. Kinney**. 2021. “Meaning Structures in the World Polity: A Semantic Network Analysis of Human Rights Terminology in the World’s Peace Agreements.” *Poetics* 88:101598.

Kinney, Alexander B., and Nicholas J. Rowland. 2021. “Making the Grade During Pandemic: Early-Stage and Late-Stage Provisional Institutions.” *Sociological Perspectives* 64(4):1012-1031.

Pfaffendorf, Jessica, Andrew P. Davis, and **Alexander B. Kinney**. 2021. “Masculinity, Ritual, and Racialized Status Threat: Examining Mass Shooter Manifestos Using Structural Topic Models.” *Sociological Inquiry* 91(2):287–312.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2021. “Embedding into an Emerging Money System: The Case of Bitcoin.” *Sociological Focus* 54(1):77–92.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2020. “The Extra-Institutional Logics of an Emerging Market Field: Values and Practice in the Bitcoin Experience.” *Social Currents* 7(2):109–130.

Kinney, Alexander B., Andrew P. Davis, and Yongjun Zhang. 2018. “Theming for terror: Organizational adornment in terrorist propaganda.” *Poetics* 69:27–40.

- Winner of the Raymond V. Bowers Award, School of Sociology, University of Arizona

Encyclopedia Entries

Kinney, Alexander B., Nathan E. Kruis, *Jenae McGill, *Mykala McGill, and Nicholas J. Rowland “Mental Illness and The Criminal Justice System” in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*. (Forthcoming)

Book Reviews

Kinney, Alexander B. 2025. “Pot for Profit: Cannabis Legalization, Racial Capitalism, and the Expansion of the Carceral State.” *Contemporary Sociology* 55(1): 65-67

*Campbell, Layla C., *Makayla D. Bangura, *Deyana Dye, *Jazzmine McCauley, *Alexa Taylor-Tune, Nicholas J. Rowland, Alexander B. Kinney, and Nathan E. Kruis. 2024. “The Color of COVID-19: The Racial Inequalities of Marginalized Communities.” *Sociological Viewpoints* 38: 92-98.

*Glunt, Nicholas B., *Rae V. Griffith, Christopher D. Lehman, Hailley Fargo, **Alexander B. Kinney**, Nicholas J. Rowland, and Nathan E. Kruis. 2023. “The cultural embeddedness of academic books about knowing, feeling, and archiving video games.” *The Information Society: An International Journal*

Kinney, Alexander B. 2021. “Craft Weed: Family Farming and the Future of the Marijuana Industry. Ryan Stoa. 2018. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. 256 Pages. ISBN: 9780262038867 (Hrbk \$27.95).” *FUTURES & FORESIGHT SCIENCE*.

Kinney, Alexander B. and Nicholas J. Rowland. 2017. “Fabian Muniesa, Liliana Doganova, Horacio Ortiz, Álvaro Pina-Stranger, Florence Paterson, Alaric Bourgoïn, Véra Ehrenstein, Pierre-André Juven, David Pontille, Başak Saraç-Lesavre and Guillaume Yon (2017) Capitalization: A Cultural Guide. Paris: Presses Des Mines. 167 Pages. ISBN: 9782356714220.” *Science & Technology Studies* 30(3):73.

Rowland, Nicholas J., Jan-Hendrick Passoth, and **Alexander B. Kinney**. 2011. “Bruno Latour. Reassembling the Social: An introduction to actor-network theory.” *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science* 5: 95-99.

Technical Reports

*Barnhart, Lacey., *Rachel Kosaka., *Z. Lin., *Jazzmine McCauley, **Alexander B. Kinney**, Nicholas J. Rowland & Nathan E. Kruis. 2022. “Results from the 2022 NEACJS Conference Exit Survey.” Report prepared for the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences’ (ACJS) Executive Board.

Sponsored Research

Kinney, Alexander B. 2026. "Regulating Artificial Intelligence in the State of Texas: Challenges and Opportunities." Institute for Homeland Security, Sam Houston State University.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2024. "Toward a More Effective Policy Model for Data Breach Reporting in the Texas Healthcare System." Institute for Homeland Security, Sam Houston State University.

Kinney, Alexander B. 2024. "Leveraging Artificial Intelligence in Supply Chain Risk management." Institute for Homeland Security, Sam Houston State University.

Kinney, Alexander B., & Peter S. Lehmann. 2023. "Toward a more effective policy model for responding to workplace violence in the Texas healthcare system." Institute for Homeland Security, Sam Houston State University.

Lehmann, Peter S., and **Alexander B. Kinney.** 2023. "Mitigating cybersecurity threats to hospitals and healthcare facilities." Institute for Homeland Security, Sam Houston State University.

Editorial Pieces

Kinney, Alexander B. 2018. "A Brief Introduction to the Sociology of Cannabis." for www.growersnetwork.org

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

External

Dissertation Research Improvement Award, National Science Foundation. \$12,977 (2019)

Internal

Information Literacy Grant, Oberlin College, \$1000 (2025)

ORSP New Faculty Grant, Sam Houston State University, \$4,854 (2024)

Frederick A. and Margaret S. Conrad Scholarship, University of Arizona \$4,200 (2021)

SBS Graduate Fellowship, University of Arizona. \$10,245 (2021)

SBS Summer Dissertation Fellowship, University of Arizona. \$6000 (2020)

Graduate Student and Professional Council Travel Grant, University of Arizona. \$750 (2020)

Graduate Student and Professional Council Travel Grant, University of Arizona. \$750 (2019)

Social and Behavioral Sciences Institute Research Grant, University of Arizona. \$1,980 (2018)

Graduate Student and Professional Council Research Grant, University of Arizona. \$960 (2018)

PROFESSIONAL TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

(Convention: *Denotes student co-author)

*Kurtz, Katelyn, Nathan E. Kruis, Nicholas J. Rowland, & **Alexander B. Kinney**. “Improving Perceptions of Police Through Non-Enforcement Contact: Assessing the Pennsylvania State Police’s Building Bridges Program” (2025) Poster presentation at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting, November 12-15, Washington, D.C.

*Vahabli, Daniel, **Alexander B. Kinney**, & Yongjun Zhang. “Protest in Pictures: A Computational Approach to Visual Framing in Global News Media.” (2025) Paper presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, August 8-12, Chicago, IL.

Kruis, Nathan E., Nicholas J. Rowland, Katherine Mclean, **Alexander B. Kinney**, *Madison Adamiak, *Dawson Coventry, *Lam Vo, *Lydia Newman, & *Ovgu Kaynak. “Words Have Power”: The Perception of Language Around Substance Use by Individuals with Lived Experience.” (2025) Paper presentation at the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences annual meeting, June 4-7, Prince Edward Island, CA

Kruis, Nathan E. *Katelyn Kurtz, Nicholas J. Rowland, & **Alexander B. Kinney**., “Using Non-Enforcement Contact Interventions to Educate the Public: An Assessment of the Pennsylvania State Police's Building Bridges Initiative.” (2025) Paper presentation at the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences annual meeting, June 4-7, Prince Edward Island, CA

*Bundick, Lydia, **Alexander B. Kinney**, Nicholas J. Rowland, Nathan E. Kruis., “The Illusion of Choice: The Visual Hand of the Market and Manufacturing Consent for the Privatized Prison Telecommunications Sector.” (2024) Paper presentation at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting, Nov 13-16, San Francisco, CA.

Kinney, Alexander B., “Becoming a Cannabis Professional.” (2024) Paper presentation at the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy annual meeting, June 18-21, Montreal, CA.

Davis, Andrew P. **Alexander B. Kinney**, and Jessica Pfaffendorf., “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Retribution: The Relationship between Homeownership and Endorsing State-Sponsored Punishment.” (2024) Paper presentation at the Southern Sociological Society annual meeting, April 3-6, New Orleans, LA.

Kinney, Alexander B. and Michael Gibson-Light., “Theorizing “The Prison” as an Institution.” (2023) Roundtable presentation at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting, November 15-18, Philadelphia, PA.

Davis, Andrew P., Terrence Hill, and **Alexander B. Kinney**., “Homicide and Sleep Disturbance: A Multi-Level Analysis of 29 European Countries” (2023). Paper presentation at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting, November 15-18, Philadelphia, PA.

*Koza, Meghan, *Marianna Di Balsamo, *Jazzmine McCauley, *Mykala McGill, **Alexander B. Kinney**, Nathan Kruis, and Nicholas J. Rowland, "Commodifying Carceral Connection: A Visual Criminology Analysis of Private Telecommunication Service Provider Tactics." (2023) Poster presentation at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting, November 15-18, Philadelphia, PA.

Kinney, Alexander B., "Cannabis Businesses Are Being Good Contributors to The Community": The Regulated Cannabis Industry, Strategies of Norm Adjustment, and Cannabis Normalization in the United States." (2022) Paper Presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, Atlanta, GA

Rowland, Nicholas J., Nathan Kruis, and **Alexander B. Kinney**, "Incorporating Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Research Experiences into Undergraduate Criminal Justice Curriculum: Application and Analysis." (2022) Panel Presentation at the North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting, April 1-2, Indianapolis, IN

Kinney, Alexander B., "Surveillance, Social Control, and Managing Semi-Legality in the U.S. Cannabis Industry." (2021) Paper Presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 17-20, Chicago, IL

Rowland, Nicholas J., Nathan Kruis, and **Alexander B. Kinney**, "Incorporating Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Research Experiences into Undergraduate Criminal Justice Curriculum: Application and Analysis." (2021) Panel Presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 17-20, Chicago, IL

Davis, Andrew P., Tom Leppard, and **Alexander B. Kinney**, "A Shame of Inches? Black Leadership and Racial Bias in On-Field Penalties in Major College Football, 2014-2019." (2021) Paper Presentation at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 8, 2021, Virtual Conference.

Kinney, Alexander B., "Surveillance Regimes, Social Control, and Managing Semi-Legitimacy in the U.S. Cannabis Industry." (2020) Paper Presentation at the Pennsylvania Sociological Society Annual Meeting, November 7, 2020, Virtual Conference.

Kinney, Alexander B., "Sumptuary Administration, Logics of Accountability, and the Subnational Policy Domain for Commercial Cannabis in the United States." (2020) Roundtable presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, Virtual Conference.

Kinney, Alexander B., "Which Came First, Institutions or Action? Provisional Institutions in the Transforming Cannabis Industry Field." (2019) Roundtable presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, August 10-13, New York, NY

Kinney, Alexander B., "Which Came First, Institutions or Action? Provisional Institutions in the Transforming Cannabis Industry Field." (2019) Paper presentation at the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction annual meeting, August 9-10, New York, NY

Kinney, Alexander B., Andrew P. Davis, and Yongjun Zhang "Theming for Terror: Organizational Adornment in Terrorist Propaganda." (2018) Paper presentation at the Southern Sociological Society annual meeting, April 4-7, New Orleans, LA.

Kinney, Alexander B., “The Institutional Logics of Non-Institutional Economies: Value Identities in the Bitcoin Experience.” (2017) Paper presentation at the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) annual meeting, August 30-Sept 2, Boston, MA.

Kinney, Alexander B., Jeff A. Knapp, and Nicholas J. Rowland “Black Studies at Penn State: A Case Study,” Presentation at the Diversity Research and Programming Colloquium, Pennsylvania State University (2013) State College, PA University Libraries Diversity Committee, University Park (PA)

Rowland, Nicholas J. and **Alexander B. Kinney** “The role of Gap-Analysis in the Software Procurement Process,” (2011) Project presentation at the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) annual meeting, November 2-5, Cleveland, OH

HONORS AND AWARDS

Raymond V. Bowers Paper Award, School of Sociology, University of Arizona. (2021)

Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Pennsylvania Sociological Society Annual Meeting (2020)

Raymond V. Bowers Paper Award, School of Sociology, University of Arizona. (2020)

Raymond V. Bowers Paper Award, School of Sociology, University of Arizona. (2018)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught as Instructor of Record

Oberlin College

SOCI 237: The Sociology of Law: The Everyday life of Law (In Person)

SOCI 236: Social Deviance: Life Beyond the Mainstream (In Person)

SOCI 215: Criminology: Locating the Sociology of Crime & Incarceration (In Person)

SOCI 115: Introduction to Sociology: Developing a Tool-Kit for Social Inquiry (In Person)

Sam Houston State University

UNIV 1101: First-Year Experience (In Person)

CRIJ 2362: Criminology (In Person)

CRIJ 4330: Law & Society (Online)

CRIJ 4377: Drugs & Society (In Person)

CRIJ 4382: Social Deviance (In Person & Online)

University of Arizona

SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (Online)

SOC 343: Criminology (Online)
SOC 394: Research Practicum (In Person)

Student Mentorship

Thesis Chair

Ethan Rosen, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Oberlin College, “Abolitionist Activist Perceptions of Petty Crime and Alternative Justice Solutions” (Expected 2026)

Lydia Bundick, Master of Arts in Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston State University, Thesis Title: “Gendered Media Framing of Criminal Thinking Styles among White-Collar Offenders” (2025)

Thesis Committee Member

Ana Howard, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Oberlin College, “Title TBD” (Expected 2026)

Meghan Koza, Master of Arts in Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston State University, Thesis Title: “Victim Impact Statements in the American Court System: A Qualitative Exploration” (2024)

Nathan Cronin, Master of Arts in Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston State University, Thesis Title: “A Tale of Two Markets: Analyzing the Characteristics of Marijuana Dispensary Purchasers” (2024)

Faculty Supervised Undergraduate Research

Makaylah Bangura, Riley Fegley, Ellee Garver, Yusra Haroon (w/ Sam Gavin Ph.D., Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Rachel Kosaka, Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2025) Poster Title: “Can College Students Differentiate Between Consensual and Non-Consensual Sexual Activity? A Vignette Study”

Madison Adamiak, Dawson Coventry, Lam Vo, Lydia Newman (w/ Ovgu Kaynak Ph.D., Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2025) Poster Title: “When ‘Substance Use’ is Language Abuse: Distinguishing Between Stigmatizing and Non-stigmatizing Labels in Substance Use Communities”

Devlin Glenn, Ally Black, Katyani Kumar, Abigail Hayes (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2025) Poster Title: “Improving Police Crisis Management Training: The First Assessment of The Keystone Model”

Devlin Glenn, Ally Black, Katyayani Kumar, Abigail Hayes (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2025) “A Mixed-Method, Matched, and Weighted Assessment of PSP Use of Force, De-Escalation, and Mental Health Awareness Community Outreach Program”

Katelyn Kurtz, Kara Harbrige, Ray Ncube (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2025) Poster Title: Do Non-Enforcement Interventions with Officers Improve Citizens' Perceptions and Knowledge of Police?"

Katelyn Kurtz, Ray Ncube, Kara Harbrige (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2025) Poster Title: Can Police-Initiated Non-Enforcement Contact Interventions be used as a Tool for Improving Police-Community Relationships? Findings From a Multi-Year Mixed-Method Study"

Makaylah Bangura, Riley Fegley, Ellee Garver, Lily Reid, Yusra Haroon, Shannette Wahor (w/ Sam Gavin Ph.D., Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Rachel Kosaka, Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2024) Poster Title: "Rape Myth Acceptance: Does Endorsement Influence Sentencing Decisions?"

Jazzmine McCauley, Lily Reid, Lam Vo (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2024) Poster Title: "Assessing the Effect of COVID-19 Carceral Downsizing on Crime Rates in Pennsylvania"

Ziwei Lin, Makaylah Bangura, Jazzmine McCauley, Deyana Dye (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2024) Poster Title: "Media Exposure vs. Lived Experience with Police: What Influences Attitudes?"

Ziwei Lin, Lam Vo, Jazzmine McCauley, Makaylah Bangura, Ray Ncube, Katelyn Kurtz (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Alexander B. Kinney Ph.D., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.) (2023) Poster Title: Building Bridges with the Pennsylvania State Police: An Assessment of Community Intervention"

Makaylah Bangura, Yusra Haroon, Marianna Di Balsamo, Deyana Tedla Dye, Woodnie Andre (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Kristin Newvine M.A., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.), (2023), Poster Title: "Racial Differences in Legitimacy Assessments: Examining the Effects of Procedural Justice and Utilitarian Assessments of Police"

Jazzmine M. McCauley, Mykala L. McGill, Jenae L. McGill, Riley P. Fegley (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Kristin Newvine M.A., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.), (2023), Poster Title: "Analyzing the Impact of COVID-19 Jail Downsizing on County-level Crime Rates in Central PA"

Caroline R. Downey, Ellee C. Garver, Alexis C. Ordess, Shannette Wahor, (w/ Nathan E. Kruis Ph.D., Kristin Newvine M.A., & Nicholas J. Rowland Ph.D.), (2023) Poster Title: "Emotion Work and Princess Performing: The Sociology of Making Magic"

First-Generation Mentorship (Trailblazer Program SHSU)

Christian Doe (2024-2025)

Taylor Ready (2023-2024)

Jacqueline Villatoro (2022-2023)

SERVICE

Service to the Institution

Department Service

Member, Policy Committee, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sam Houston State University. (2023-2025)

Member, M.S. in Criminal Justice Degree Committee, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sam Houston State University. (2022-2023)

Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Recruitment Committee, School of Sociology, University of Arizona. (2018-2019)

Co-Chair, Graduate Studies Association, School of Sociology, University of Arizona. (2016-2017)

College Service

Member, Commencement Committee, Sam Houston State University (2023-2025)

Service to the Discipline

Editorial Board Memberships

Social Currents (2026 – present)

Journal Manuscript Reviewer

American Sociological Review, Law & Society Review, Crime & Delinquency, PLOS One, Poetics, Sociological Forum, Sociological Focus, Chinese Sociological Review, Aggression and Violent Behavior, Journal of School Violence, Journal of Criminal Justice, Social Sciences, International Journal of Drug Policy, Social Currents.

Professional Association Committees

Member, ASC Division of Corrections & Sentencing Student Paper Award Committee

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Criminology (ASC)
Southern Sociological Association (SSS)

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Available upon request.