

Kat Albrecht
Georgia State University
55 Park Place, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303
kalbrecht@gsu.edu | www.katalbrecht.org

Academic and Related Appointments

Georgia State University, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice and Criminology, Aug. 2021 – Present

UC Hastings School of Law, California Public Records Clinic
Community Partner, Aug. 2021 – Present

Duke University Center for Firearms Law
Funded Research Affiliate, 2019 – 2020
Project: “Data Transparency and the Disparate Impact of the Felony Murder Rule”

Education

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
J.D., 2022

Northwestern University
Ph.D (Sociology), 2021
M.A (Sociology), 2018
Dissertation: “Data Distortions and the Quantification of Fear”
Committee: Andrew Papachristos, Laura Beth Nielsen, and Robert Nelson

University of Minnesota
B.S. (Sociology of Crime, Law, and Deviance), summa cum laude, 2016
Honors Thesis: “Newsworthiness in Minnesota Homicide”
Winner of Undergraduate Thesis Award

Fellowships

Duke University Social Science Research Institute
Social Networks and Health Fellow, 2020 – 2022
Project: “Co-Presence and Drug Overdose Networks in Small-Town Ohio”

Buffett Institute for Global Affairs
Global Impacts Fellow, 2020 – 2021
Project: “Put a Tracker on it: Fear, Surveillance, and International Human Rights Law”

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
Law and Sciences Fellow, 2018 – 2020

Academic Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

“Learning to Listen” Types of Musical Knowledge and Genre Preferences,” (with Anna Michelson), *Music and Arts in Action* (Accepted 2022).

“Data Transparency, Compounding Bias, and the Felony Murder Rule,” *Mississippi Law Journal* [peer reviewed forum] (Accepted 2022).

“Getting Jumped in Vacationland: The Complicated Rhetoric and Realities of Assault in a Small Town,” (with Andrew Burns), *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice and Criminology* (2022).

“Assigning Punishment: Reader Responses to Crime News,” (with Janice Nadler), 13 *Frontiers in Psychology* (2022).

“Data Control and Surveillance in the Global TB Response: A Human Rights Analysis,” (with Brian Citro), 2(1) *Law, Technology, and Humans* 107 (2020).

“The Deserving Worker: Decisions about Workplace Accommodation by Judges and Laypeople,” (with Jill Weinberg and Laura Beth Nielsen), 41(3) *Law & Policy* 286–309 (2019).

“Economic Insecurity and the Rise of Gun Violence at US Schools,” (with Adam Pah, John Hagan, Aditya Jain, Adam Hockenberry, and Luis Amaral), 1(2) *Nature Human Behavior* 1–6 (2017).

Law Review Articles

“Public Records Aren’t Public: Systemic Barriers to Quantifying Racism,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), 113 *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* (Accepted 2022).

“Regulating Harm: Tensions Between Data Privacy & Data Transparency,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), *Journal of Regulatory Compliance* (Accepted 2022).

“The Serial Effect,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), *New Mexico Law Review* (Accepted 2022).

“Justice Delayed: The Complex System of Delays in Criminal Court,” (with Maria Hawilo, Thomas Geraghty, and Meredith Rountree), *Loyola University of Chicago Law Journal* (Accepted 2022).

“How Culture Impacts Courtrooms: An Empirical Study of Alienation and Detachment in the Cook County Court System,” (with Maria Hawilo, Thomas Geraghty, and Meredith Rountree), 112 *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* 171 (2022).

“Including but Not Limited To, Personal Injury, Disability and Death: The Problems of University Liability Waivers for COVID-19 Protections,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), 31 *Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy* 89 (2021).

Anthology Chapters

“Truths, Lies, and Suspiciously Large Snakes,” in *Creature Features in the Classroom* (Cristy Tidwell and Bridgette Barclay, eds.), *Lever Press* (Accepted 2022).

“Genre Tropes and Cinematic Risk-taking in the Conjuring Universe,” in *Critical Conversations in Horror Studies* (Todd Platts, ed.), *Lehigh University Press* (Accepted 2022).

“Practical Magic: The Role of Practical Special Effects in Creating Fear,” in *A Critical Companion to Wes Craven* (Fernando Gabriel Pagnoni Berns and John Darowski, eds.) *Lexington Books* (Accepted 2022).

"Maximizing Charges: Overcriminalization and Prosecutorial Practices During the Crime Decline," in *After Imprisonment* (Austin Sarat, ed.) *Emerald Publishing Limited* (2018).

Other Writing

Book Review, “Appearance Bias and Crime by Bonnie Berry,” *Contemporary Sociology* (2021).

Blog Post, “Data Transparency and the Disparate Impact of the Felony Murder Rule,” *Duke University Center for Firearms Law* (2020).

Blog Post, "Data Control and Surveillance in the Covid-19 Response," (with Brian Citro), *Northwestern University Law Review Online*.

Working Papers and Manuscripts Under Review

“Seeing the Shadow Users: How Covid-19 is Worsening the Opioid Epidemic,” (with Andrew Burns), *The Russell Sage Journal of the Social Sciences* issue on The Social and Political Impact of Covid-19 in the US (Accepted proposal in revisions with special issue).

“Law Misunderstood: Undergraduates’ Analysis of Campus Title IX Policies,” (with Laura Beth Nielsen and Lydia Wuorinen). R&R at *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*.

“Weaponizing Rhetoric to Legitimize Regulatory Failure,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), Under Review.

Teaching Experience

Faculty Teaching and Learning Community, Teaching Skills in Response to a Changing Job Market, Georgia State University, 2021 – 2022

Searle Teaching Certificate Program, Northwestern University, 2020 – 2021

Pedagogy Awards

Robert F. Winch Award for Outstanding Grad Student Instructor, Northwestern University, 2020

Robert F. Winch Award for Outstanding Grad Student TA, Northwestern University, 2017

Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Award, University of Minnesota, 2013

Courses

Georgia State University, 2021 – Present

- Research Methods in Criminal Justice (Undergrad)

Northwestern University, 2020 – 2020

- Law and Society (Undergrad)
- Sociology of Fear (Undergrad)

Northwestern University, 2016 – 2021 [teaching assistant]

- Leadership and Organizations (Executive MBA)
- Human and Machine Intelligence (x13) (MBA)
- Social Dynamics and Network Analysis (x3) (MBA)
- Introduction to Python Programming (Grad/Undergrad)
- Law and Society (Undergrad)
- Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Power (Undergrad)
- School Policy (Undergrad)

University of Minnesota, 2013 – 2016 [teaching assistant]

- Sociological Research Methods (x4) (Undergrad)
- Sociology of Killing (Undergrad)
- Sociology of Race, Class, and Gender (Undergrad)

Summer Institutes

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS) Site Organizer

[Website: The Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science](#)

SICSS Chicago, Organizer, 2018 – 2021

[Chicago Location: SICSS Chicago](#)

Funded by Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (\$54,700 cumulatively)

SICSS Atlanta, Organizer, 2022

[Atlanta Location: SICSS Atlanta](#)

Funded by Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (\$6,000 cumulatively)

Additional financial support recruited from The Kellogg School of Management, The Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems (NICO), The Community Data Science Collective, the Science of Networks in Communities group (SONIC), The Graduate School at Northwestern University, and the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University.

Grants and Awards

NSF Subaward. Systematic Content Analysis of Litigation Open Knowledge Network, Senior Personnel, \$101,394, 2021.

- Subaward of the NSF funded Systematic Content Analysis of Litigation EventS Open Knowledge Network (SCALES OKN), total award \$5 million, 2020.

Sociology Department Research Grant, Northwestern University, \$500, 2021.

ACJS Doctoral Summit Selectee, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, 2020.

MacArthur Summer Research Grant (with Laura Beth Nielsen), \$1,000, 2020.

American Sociology Association Methods Section Travel Award, \$450, 2020.

Fiction Research Award (with Kaitlyn Filip), Sisters in Crime, \$500, 2019.

Richard R. Block Award, Homicide Research Working Group, \$500, 2018.

Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University, \$2,400, 2018.

Russell Sage Foundation Pilot Award through SICSS (with Maria Rodriguez), \$2,500, 2017.

Northwestern University Quantitative Fellowship, \$2,500, 2016.

Talle Family Scholar, University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts, 2015.

Selected Research/Computational Consulting (full list upon request)

Legal Consulting

Computational Science Consultant/Expert, 2017 – Present

Over the past several years I have worked consistently in California as a computational legal consultant and expert for the defense. I have consulted in several counties in California, including Santa Clara, Santa Barbara, Orange, and San Francisco. My work consists of compiling social scientific and data evidence to present in court. I principally work on cases involving the Racial Justice Act, Life Without the Opportunity of Parole (LWOP), and other serious/violent felonies. While I principally act as a computational expert, preparing models and data-driven outputs for active cases, I also have served as a social science expert. Recently this work has expanded to include assisting in the data preparations for a proposed bill to amend California Penal Code section 1170.91 and preparing data to come before the California Supreme Court.

Recent/Current/Recurring Clients: Brian McComas (Law Office of B.C. McComas, LLP), Adam Vining (Orange County Public Defender), Jerry Fong (Law Offices of Jerry Fong), Mark Iverson (San Francisco Public Defender's Office). More information available upon request.

Other Research/Computational Consulting Experience

UK Court Coding Project, 2021
Northwestern Neighborhood and Network Initiative (N3), 2018 – 2021
American Bar Foundation, 2016 – 2021
Golden Set Analytics, 2020
International Human Rights Clinic, Bluhm Legal Clinic, 2019 – 2020
Northwestern Research Computing, 2018 – 2019
Karen DeCrow Project (archival), 2018
Data Science Initiative, Northwestern University, 2016 – 2018
University of Minnesota Pediatrics, 2013 – 2016
Food Protection and Defense Center, 2015 – 2016
Summer 2015 National Science Foundation REU, University of Texas at Austin

Selected Invited Talks and Workshops (full list upon request)

“Litigating the Racial Justice Act,” (with Brian McComas), *California Defense Practitioners Monthly Meetings* (2022).

“California Public Record Act Requests & Life Without the Opportunity of Parole,” (with Brian McComas), *UC Hastings Progressive Law Conference* (2021).

Pre-conference workshop on Computational Criminology at *American Criminological Society Annual Meeting* (2021).

Invited Speaker at Data Science for Public Good Conference. *Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics* (2021).

“Sociology of Fear.” *Unite the World w/ Africa Foundation* (2020).

“Data Distortions and the Felony Murder Rule.” *Duke Firearms Law Symposium* (2020).

“Machine Learning and Data Driven Law.” *Institute for Future Law Practice* (2019).

“Computational Techniques to Study Homicide.” Workshop at *Homicide Research Working Group Annual Meeting* (2019).

“Fundamental Data Science to Investigate Social Problems.” *Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems, Data Science Hack Nights* (2018).

Selected Conference Presentations (full list upon request)

“Public Records Aren’t Public,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), *Computational Legal Studies Conference (SMU)* (2022).

“Weaponizing Rhetoric to Legitimize Regulatory Failure,” (with Kaitlyn Filip), *Law and Society Association* (2021).

“Predicting Punishment: Reader Responses to Crime News,” (with Janice Nadler), *American Sociological Association* (2021).

“Data Surveillance, Tuberculosis, and Human Rights,” (with Brian Citro), *51st Union Conference on Lung Health* (2020).

“Co-Presence in Drug Overdose,” (with Andrew Burns), *The Criminology Consortium* (2020).

“Law’s Failure: Title IX Policies, Managerialized Rights, and Undergraduate Understanding,” (with Laura Beth Nielsen and Lydia Wuorinen), *Law and Society National Meeting* (2020).

“Crime Doesn’t Matter: Dynamic Longitudinal Measures of Legal Cynicism in Chicago,” *American Sociological Association* (2020).

“Getting Jumped in Vacationland: The Complicated Rhetoric and Realities of Assault in a Small Town,” (with Andrew Burns), *American Sociological Association* (2019).

“Comparative Methodology in Newsworthiness Research,” *American Society of Criminology* (2019).

“Modelling Gun Violence in Schools,” *American Sociological Association* (2019).

“The Aspiration v. Attainment Gap: Gun Violence in Schools,” *American Society of Criminology* (2018).

“Redefining Crime Categories,” *American Society of Criminology* (2018).

“Prosecutorial Bias in Dyadic Homicide Sentencing,” *Law and Society National Meeting* (2018).

“Big Data Approaches to Homicide Research,” *Homicide Research Working Group* (2018).

Affiliations

Legal Analytics Lab, Georgia State University, 2022 – Present

Systematic Content Analysis of Litigation Events Open Knowledge Network (SCALES OKN),

Data engineering team, 2021 – Present

Law and Society Association, 2018 – Present

American Sociological Association, 2017 – Present

Homicide Research Working Group, 2016 – Present

American Society of Criminology, 2016 – Present

Graduate Fellow in Legal Studies, 2017 – 2021

Amaral Complex Systems Lab, Northwestern University, 2016 – 2021

Princeton Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, 2017

Service to the Profession

Article Reviewer

Network Science; PLOS ONE; Crime, Law, and Social Change; Homicide Studies; Social Problems; Contemporary Sociology, Northwestern University Law Review, Journal of Crime and Justice, Deviant Behavior

Grant Reviewer

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Professional Organizations/Workshops

Workshop Program Committee, SCALES Open Justice Research Workshop, 2022
Conference Program Committee, Homicide Research Working Group, 2021 – 2022
Chris Rasche Award Committee, Homicide Research Working Group, 2022
Mentor, American Sociological Association Methodology Mentorship Program, 2021
Richard R. Block Award Committee, Homicide Research Working Group, 2018 – 2021
Graduate Representative, American Sociological Association, Methodology, 2019 – 2021
Student Coordinator, Crime, Law, & Deviance Workshop, Northwestern University, 2020 – 2021
Conference Program Committee, ASA Methodology Mid-Year Meeting, 2020¹
Service Chair, Academic Liaison, Graduate Women Across Northwestern, 2017 – 2021
Student Coordinator, Applied Quant. Methods Workshop, Northwestern University, 2017 - 2018

Departmental Committees

3rd year review committee (clinical line), Georgia State University, 2022
Faculty search committee (tenure track line), Georgia State University, 2021
Ad-hoc Committee on Workshops, Northwestern University, 2021

Languages/Software

Python, STATA, SPSS, Q/GIS, Qualtrics, RedCap, Git, basic R, ActiGraph

¹ Meeting ultimately cancelled due to Covid-19.