

# Austin C. Barber

School of Criminal Justice  
Michigan State University  
142 Baker Hall | 655 Auditorium Road  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Phone: (402) 405-1003  
Email: barberau@msu.com  
ORCID: 0009-0000-1038-3496

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## Education

- 2026 (Expected)      Ph.D. Criminal Justice, Michigan State University  
Dissertation Title: *Sovereign Citizens and the Bureau of Land Management: Expressing the Irony of Anti-Government Sentiments*  
Chair: *Steven M. Chermak, Ph.D.*
- 2022                      M.A. Sociology, University of Arkansas  
Concentration: *Criminology*  
Thesis Title: *Examining the Escalation to Violence at Political Protests: A Conjunctive Analysis*  
Chair: *Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.*
- 2020                      B.S. Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
Minor: *National Security Studies*

## Scholarly Interests

Terrorism/Extremism, Wildlife Criminology, Human Trafficking, Transnational Crime, Foreign Policy, National Security

## Professional Appointments

- 2022 – 2026              Graduate Research Assistant. School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University* – Steven M. Chermak, Ph.D.
- 2020 – 2022              Graduate Research Assistant. Terrorism Research Center, *University of Arkansas* – Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.
- 2021, Spring              Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of Sociology and Criminology, *University of Arkansas* – Grant R. Drawve, Ph.D.; Kayla Allison-Gruenewald, Ph.D.
- 2019 – 2020              Correctional Officer Intern. Lincoln Correctional Center, *Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.*

## Scholarly Affiliations

- 2024 – Present “Bias Homicide Database (BHDB).” Terrorism Research Center (TRC), Fulbright College, *University of Arkansas*.
- 2022 – Present “U.S. Extremist Crime Database (ECDB).” School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*.
- 2021 – Present “The American Terrorism Study (ATS).” Terrorism Research Center (TRC), Fulbright College, *University of Arkansas*.
- 2020 – 2022 “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” Department of Criminal Justice, *John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY)*.

## Funded Research Experience

- 2022 – Present Project Manager (with J. Gruenewald, S. Chermak, J. Freilich, & T. Holt). “From Dot Coms to Pipe Bombs: Online Radicalization and Mobilization to Violence (DCPB).” National Institute of Justice (NIJ), *Department of Justice (DOJ)*.

## Publications

### Under Review

- 2025 **Barber, A. C.**, Chermak, S., Freilich, J. D., & Gruenewald, J. Whose turn is it? Evaluating causal relationships between terrorist ideologies.

### In Progress

1. **Barber, A. C.** Cutting corners: Analyzing public access to ‘checkerboard’ lands.
2. **Barber, A. C.**, Chermak, S., Freilich, J. D., & Gruenewald, J. What went wrong: A comparison of far-right unsuccessful and completed plots.
3. **Barber, A. C.**, Chermak, S., Freilich, J. D, Gruenewald, J., & Ravndal, J. A. Extremism without borders: Comparing far-right plot characteristics between the United States and the United Kingdom.

## Presentations

### Conference Presentations

- 2024 **Barber, A. C.** “Whose turn is it? Evaluating causal relationships between terrorist ideologies.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting* (San Francisco, CA).

- 2023                    **Barber, A. C.** “Cutting corners: Analyzing public access to ‘checkerboard’ lands.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting* (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2022                    **Barber, A. C.** “Examining the escalation to violence at political protests: A conjunctive analysis.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting* (Atlanta, GA).

### **Invited Presentations**

- 2022                    Guest Lecture. “Examining the escalation to violence at political protests: A conjunctive analysis.” *Criminological Theory (CRIM 3023)*, *University of Arkansas*.
- 2022                    Guest Lecture. “Examining the escalation to violence at political protests: A conjunctive analysis.” *Spatial Analyses for Social Data (CRIM 4303)*, *University of Arkansas*.
- 2022                    Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, *University of Arkansas*.
- 2022                    Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, *University of Arkansas*.
- 2021                    Guest Lecture. “U.S. Protests Database (USPDB).” *Social Research (SOCI 3313)*, *University of Arkansas*.

### **Media**

- 2021                    “The changing face of terrorism in the United States” *Scripps Media, Incorporated*. <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/national/the-changing-face-of-terrorism-in-the-united-states>.

### **Teaching**

#### **University of Arkansas (Served as a Teaching Assistant)**

- 2021, Spring                    CRIM 2003: Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice  
     SOCI 3223: Social Psychology  
     SOCI 3423: Social Theory

### **Fellowships, Scholarships, and Awards**

#### **Research Fellowships and Grants**

- 2024 School of Criminal Justice Summer Research Fellowship (\$3,000).  
*Michigan State University*
- 2023 School of Criminal Justice Summer Research Fellowship (\$3,000).  
*Michigan State University*
- 2019, Fall Sigma Chi John T. Meier Scholarship for Academic Excellence (\$500).  
*University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019, Spring Sigma Chi Living the Jordan Standard Scholarship (\$500). *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2018, Fall Sigma Chi Living the Jordan Standard Scholarship (\$500). *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

**Travel Funding**

- 2023 Warren & Mary Huff Travel Endowment Award (\$830). *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Warren & Mary Huff Travel Endowment Award (\$703). *Michigan State University*
- 2021 Terrorism Research Center Travel Funding (\$1,000). *University of Arkansas*

**Awards and Honors**

- 2020 Degree Conferral with Distinction. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2020, Spring Dean’s List. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019, Fall Dean’s List. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019, Spring Dean’s List. *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

**Committee and Administrative Service**

**Michigan State University**

- 2024 – 2026 Graduate Student Representative, College Hearing Board, *College of Social Sciences*
- 2024 – 2025 Vice President, Graduate Student Association (GSA), *School of Criminal Justice (SCJ)*

- 2024 – 2025 Co-Coordinator, Graduate Student Network (GSN), *School of Criminal Justice*
- 2023 – 2025 Graduate Student Mentor, Graduate Student Association (GSN), *School of Criminal Justice*
- 2023 – 2024 Event Coordinator, Graduate Student Association (GSA), *School of Criminal Justice*
- 2023 – 2024 Fundraising Committee Member, Graduate Student Association (GSA), *School of Criminal Justice*

## **Affiliations**

- 2021 – Present American Society of Criminology (ASC)
- 2021 – Present American Society of Criminology – Division on Terrorism and Bias Crimes (ASC-DTBC)
- 2018 – 2020 PREVENT: Sexual Assault and the Law
- 2017 – 2018 Undergraduate Psychology and Social Sciences Association

## **Advanced Training and Professional Development**

### **Responsible and Ethical Conduct for Research (RECR)**

- 2023 Data Management. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*
- 2023 Conflicts of Interest and Commitment. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*
- 2023 Collaborative Research. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*
- 2023 Plagiarism. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*
- 2023 Research Misconduct. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*
- 2023 Authorship. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*

- 2023 Introduction to RCT. Provided by the CITI Program. *Michigan State University*
- 2023 Salami Slicing: Unethical Publication Strategies. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2023 P-Hacking: What is it and why is it Wrong. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Novel Data Collection Methods. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Ethics and Regulations in Human Research. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*
- 2022 Overview of Human Research Protection. Provided by the School of Criminal Justice, *Michigan State University*

#### **Other Relevant Professional Development**

- 2019 FEMA IS-00100.c: Introduction to the Incident Command System, 2 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 FEMA IS-00200.c: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, 4 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 FEMA IS-00700.b: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System, 3.5 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 FEMA IS-00800.c: An Introduction to National Response Framework, 3 hrs. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, *University of Nebraska – Lincoln*
- 2019 Institutional Crisis Intervention and Conflict Resolution, 24 hrs. Provided by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

## References

*Steven M. Chermak, Ph.D.: Michigan State University*

Position(s): Professor

Relationship: Professor, Graduate Committee Chair, Assistantship Chair

Phone: (517) 355-2210

Email: [chermak@msu.edu](mailto:chermak@msu.edu)

*Jeffrey A. Gruenewald, Ph.D.: University of Arkansas – Terrorism Research Center*

Position(s): Professor – Director

Relationship: Professor, Assistantship Chair, Thesis Chair

Phone: (479) 575-3205

Email: [jgruenew@uark.edu](mailto:jgruenew@uark.edu)

*Scott E. Wolfe, Ph.D.: Michigan State University*

Positions(s): Professor, Ph.D. Program Director, Associate Director

Relationship: Professor, Graduate Committee Member

Phone: (517) 355-2210

Email: [wolfesc1@msu.edu](mailto:wolfesc1@msu.edu)