

STEPHEN G. VAN GEEM

School of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Utah State University

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—EDUCATION—

Ph.D., Criminology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, May 2015

M.S., Sociology, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, May 2009

B.A., Psychology and Art Studio, University of California at Santa Barbara, June 1999

—ACADEMIC POSITIONS—

Department of Sociology Anthropology & Criminal Justice, Utah State University

Assistant Professor, Fall 2020 – Present

Senior Lecturer, Fall 2018 – Summer 2020

Lecturer, Fall 2014 – Summer 2018

Temporary Instructor, Fall 2012 – Summer 2014

—HONORS AND AWARDS—

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah State University

Lawrence O. Cannon Teaching Excellence Award, 2024-2025

Dean’s “Giraffe Award” Nominee, “Establishing a 4-Year Criminal Justice Emphasis within Sociology”, 2017-2018

Lecturer of the Year, 2016-2017

Department of Sociology Anthropology and Criminal Justice, Utah State University

Undergraduate Mentor of the Year (Non-Research), 2024-2025, 2023-2024, 2022-2023

Lecture of the Year, 2016-2017, 2012-2013

Center for Intersectional Gender Studies and Research (CIGSR), Utah State University

CIGSR Teaching Fellow, 2024-2025

—ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS—

School of Social Sciences, Utah State University

Undergraduate Director, Sociology Program, Summer 2025 – Present

Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship Coordinator, Sociology Program,
Summer 2025 – Present

Department of Sociology Anthropology and Criminal Justice, Utah State University

Undergraduate Director, Sociology Program, Summer 2021 – Summer 2025

Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship Coordinator, Sociology Program,
Summer 2022 – Summer 2025

Interim Program Director, Sociology Program, Summer 2023 – Summer 2024

Coordinator and Advisor, Sociology Teaching Minor, Fall 2015 – Summer 2024

Coordinator, Criminal Justice Emphasis, Sociology Program, Spr 2018 – Sum 2021

—ACADEMIC SERVICE—

Department of Sociology Anthropology & Criminal Justice, Utah State University

Department Awards Committee, Fall 2022 – Fall 2024, Fall 2019

Undergraduate Scholarship Committee (Sociology and Criminal Justice),
Fall 2021 – Spring 2025

SSWA Human Rights and Social Justice Ambassadorship Selection Committee,
Fall 2016 – Spring 2018

College of Arts and Sciences, Utah State University

Curriculum Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2025 – Present

College Steering Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2025 – Spring 2026

Outcomes and Assessment Fellow, Office of Data and Analytics, Fall 2025 – Present

College of Humanities & Social Sciences, Utah State University
Outcomes and Assessment Fellow, Office of Data and Analytics, Spring 2025
Interdisciplinary Programs Committee, College of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Spring 2022 – Spring 2024
College Awards Committee, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

Utah State University
General Education Social Sciences Steering Committee, Summer 2025 – Present
General Education Social Sciences Subcommittee, Summer 2024 – Present
**Sociology Representative, Utah Systems of Higher Education (USHE) Majors
Committee**, Summer 2021 – Present
**Non-Scientist, Utah State University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
(IACUC)**, Summer 2015 – Present

—**COURSES TAUGHT**— (*Courses that require intense one-on-one mentoring)

School of Social Sciences (formerly Department of Sociology Anthropology & Criminal Justice),
Utah State University

- ***USU 1010: Connections** (f25, f24, f23, f19, f18, f17, f16)
- CJ 1010: Introduction to Criminal Justice** (face-to-face and broadcast; f15, s14, s13)
- SOC 3110: Research Methods** (s14, 12)
- SOC 3120: Social Statistics I** (face-to-face and broadcast; s26, f25, 2xs25, f24, s24, f23, f22,
s22, 2xf16, 2xf15, 2xf14, sum13, f12, sum12, f11)
- SOC 3410: Juvenile Delinquency** (f19, f18, f17, f16, f15)
- SOC 3420: Criminology** (face-to-face, broadcast, and online; s26, f25, f24, f23, 2xf21, s18,
s17, s16, f14, f13, s13, f12, s12)
- SOC 3430: Social Deviance** (face-to-face and broadcast; f21, s21, s19, s18, s17, s16, s15,
f13, s13, f12, s12)
- SOC 4420: Law and Society** (broadcast and online; f25, s25, f24, 2xf23, s23, 2xf22, s22,
f21, s21, f20, s20, f19, s19, 2xf18, 2xs18)

Honors College, Utah State University

- ***USU 1010: Connections** (f22, f21, f20)
- ***Honors Book Lab: *Dying of Whiteness* by Johnathan M. Metzger** (s25)
- ***Honors Book Lab: *Gang Leader for a Day* by Sudhir Venkatesh** (s23)
- ***Honors Book Lab: *We Were Eight Years in Power* by Ta-Nahisi Coates** (s18)

—**COURSES DEVELOPED**—

Department of Sociology Anthropology and Criminal Justice, Utah State University

- SOC 2120 (formerly 2800): Social Statistics in Everyday Life** (f19, f17)
- SOC 4410 (formerly 4800): Race and Crime** (face-to-face and online; s26, f25, s25, f22,
f20, s19, s17, s16, s15, f13)
- ***SOC/CJ 4770: Criminal Justice Field Education and Experience** (broadcast and online;
f24, s24, s23, s22, s21, f20, s20)
- SOC 4800: Special Topics: Intro to Psychopathy** (summer workshop; sum11, sum10)

—**ACADEMIC ADVISING**—

Graduate Instructor Mentor, Sociology Anthropology and Criminal Justice, Utah State University

- Jesse Shircliff, SOC 3110: Research Methods**, Summer 2024
- Jesse Shircliff, SOC 3120: Social Statistics I**, Spring 2024
- Bosede Adejugbe, SOC 1020: Social Problems**, Fall 2023
- Beth Bennett, SOC 3120: Social Statistics I**, Spring 2023
- Leonard Henderson, SOC 1020: Social Problems**, Fall 2022

Claudia Wright, SOC 1010: Introduction, Summer 2020 (2022 Graduate Instructor of the Year for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences)

Curtis Smith, SOC 1020: Social Problems, Spring 2016 (2017, 2018 Graduate Instructor of the Year for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences)

Master's Thesis Committee Member, Utah State University

Sociology: Laura Strong, Mental Health Stigma and Death Penalty Support, Spring 2026

Folklore: Samuel Knowles, "Use of Police and Prisons in the Online Game *City Skylines II*"
Spring 2025

Sociology: Sarah Werman, "Newspaper Representations of Homelessness", Spring 2018

Sociology: Christian Fritz, "Utah Refugees", Spring 2016

American Studies: Naomie Barnes, "Killer Fandoms: Balladry, Murderabilia, & Crime-Tripping", Fall 2015

Undergraduate Research Advisor, Utah State University

Paper Series: Paula Hogg, Sociology, "Experiences with the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center", Spring 2025 SOC 4900: Capstone Experience

Paper: Quinn Balser, Sociology, "Coping Cards: An Accessible Mental Health Tool for Students", Spring 2025 SOC 4900: Capstone Experience

Poster: Yocheved Ramirez, Sociology, "Variations Among Legal Definitions of Minors",
Fall 2020 USU Undergraduate Research Symposium

Presentation: Yocheved Ramirez, Sociology, "Variations Among Age of Consent and 'Romeo and Juliet' Laws", Spring 2020 USU Undergraduate Research Symposium

Honor's Contract Advisor, Utah State University

Sociology: Austin LaBau, "History of Mental Health Courts", Fall 2012

Sociology: Dallen Hansen, "Psychopaths in Business", Spring 2012

—CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND SPONSORED RESEARCH—

Co-Principal Investigator, Private: \$13,640, Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

w/Judge Kevin Allen, Center for Growth and Opportunity, Utah State University

Co-Principal Investigator, Private: \$14,420, Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

w/Judge Kevin Allen, Center for Growth and Opportunity, Utah State University

Co-Principal Investigator, Mountain West Center for Regional Studies: \$5,000, 2015

w/Dr. Jennifer Roark, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah State University

—PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS—

Henderson, Howard, and **Stephen Van Geem**. 2022. *Rural White-Majority Geographies Have a Criminal Justice Problem Too*. Washington, DC: TheHill.com.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/congressblog/3492365-rural-white-majority-geographies-have-a-criminal-justice-problem-too/>

Henderson, Howard, Chris Ferguson, Sven Smith, and **Stephen Van Geem**. 2022. *Incarceration, Crime, Unemployment, and Rural Spaces* (CJR Report, March 2022 edition). Houston, TX: Center for Justice Research.

Lundstrom, Kacy, Britt Fagerheim, and **Stephen Van Geem**. 2021. "Library Teaching Anxiety: Understanding and Supporting a Persistent Issue in Librarianship." *College & Research Libraries* 82(3): 389-409.

Van Geem, Stephen, and Kevin Allen. 2020. *The Criminal Justice Response to Persons with Serious Mental Illness: A Pilot Study*. Logan, UT: Center for Growth and Opportunity.

—PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS— (**Invited Lecture)

What to Do When the Genie is Out of the Bottle: Ideas and Exercises Using AI in Introductory Sociology w/ Jason Leiker, Julie Gast, Amy Carpenter, and Madison Brunell
2025 Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, March 27, 2025

****Lightning Talk: Revisiting the “Old Ways”: Re-Incorporating Oral Examinations into Upper Division Courses**
2024 Utah State University Empowering Teaching Excellence Conference, Aug 14, 2024

****Creating Truly Meaningful Online Discussions**
2024 Utah State University eLearnX Conference, Logan, UT, June 21, 2024

****Labeling Theory and Negative Stigmatization**
Cache High School, Logan, UT, May 11, 2023

****Young Community Developers Panel on Social Justice**
Young Community Developers, San Francisco, CA, April 14, 2023

Teaching “Habits of Mind”: The Impact of Study Strategies on Student Success in Introductory Courses w/ Jason Leiker, Julie Gast, and Brooke Hutchinson
2023 Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, March 31, 2023

Academic Preparedness in Introductory Courses: The Impact of Study Strategies on Student Success w/ Jason Leiker, Julie Gast, Melanie Chambers, and Brooke Hutchinson
2022 Midwest Sociological Society, April 15, 2022

Coordinating Student Online Debates About Contentious Issues in Criminal Justice
2022 Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, April 9, 2022

****Labeling Theory and Negative Stigmatization**
Cache High School, Logan, UT, September 21, 2021

One Picture, One Graph, One Map, and Two Posts: A Description and Analysis of a Cornerstone Teaching Activity w/ Jason Leiker, Julie Gast, and Rana Abulbasal
2021 Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, VIRTUAL, March 20, 2021

Facilitating Group Presentations in an Online Course w/ Elisa Taylor
2018 Utah State University Empowering Teaching Excellence Conference, Aug 15, 2018

Conducting Mental Health Court Evaluations
2018 National Mental Health Court Summit, July 18-20, 2018

Does MHC Work? What Current Research Indicates about MHC
2016 National Mental Health Court Summit, July 13-15, 2016

Why Do Mental Health Courts Work? A Qualitative Exploration of Program Compliance in Utah’s First District Court
2016 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, March 30-April 2, 2016

Batman and Criminal Justice: A Procedural Nightmare
2015 Westminster College Academic Comic Book Symposium, November 13, 2015

Utah’s First District Mental Health Court: How Swift is Diversion? What is the Role of Judicial Sanctions?
2015 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, March 4-7, 2015

The Promise of Mental Health Courts: A Case Study
2014 New Dawn and Sustain Training Conference, September 16, 2014

What We Know: An Examination of Utah’s First District Mental Health Court
2014 Intermountain Mental Health Court Conference, July 9-11, 2014

Utah’s First District Mental Health Court: A Preliminary Evaluation
2013 American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 20-23, 2013

Autobots or Decepticons?: Theorizing American Criminal Justice Through The Transformers w/ Carl Root
2012 International Crime, Media and Pop Culture Studies Conference, Sep 17-19, 2012

Neighborhood Crime Trajectories and Social Structures of Accumulation w/ Jon Maskaly
2011 American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 16-19, 2011

Broad Indicators and Narrow Factors that Unify Psychopathy and Low Self-Control Theory w/Dr. Shayne Jones

2010 American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 17-20, 2010

Temperament and the Formation of Secondary Psychopathy

2010 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, February 23-27, 2010

Empirically Exploring Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck's Multidisciplinary Model of Adolescent Delinquency w/Dr. Kelly H. Hardwick

American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 14-17, 2007

--POSTER PRESENTATIONS--

Utah's First District Mental Health Court: A Formative Evaluation

2014 American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 19-22, 2014