

CURRICULUM VITAE

James C. Wo

University of Iowa
Department of Sociology and Criminology
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Academic Positions ([Faculty webpage](#))

University of Iowa

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminology	2023-
Associate Professor (by courtesy), School of Planning and Public Affairs	2023-
Researcher Affiliate, Center for Social Science Innovation	2024-
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminology	2017-2023
Assistant Professor (by courtesy), School of Planning and Public Affairs	2023
Research Fellow, Public Policy Center	2019-2024

Education

Ph.D. Criminology, Law and Society University of California, Irvine	June 2017
M.A. Social Ecology University of California, Irvine	December 2012
B.A. Sociology (<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>) University of California, Irvine	March 2010

Areas of Interest

Criminology, Urban Sociology, Land Uses, Community Organizations, Research Methods, Statistics

Journal Articles ([Google Scholar](#))

* indicates a student co-author

Kim, Young-An. and **James C. Wo.** 2025. Linking Neighborhood Crime to Racial Diversity, Immigrant Concentration, and Ethnic Heterogeneity among Immigrants. *Race and Justice*.

Wo, James C. 2025. Moving beyond “Does it reduce crime”: The curvilinear and moderating effects of greenspace. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0047235225000200>

Wo, James C., Kim, Young-An and Mark T Berg. 2024. Alleyways and crime in Denver, Colorado census blocks. *Cities*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264275124003524>

Wo, James C. and Ethan M. Rogers. 2024. Urban greenspace and neighborhood crime. *Criminology*, 1-40. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9125.12365>

- Invited speaker, discussed the article on *Criminology Academy* podcast, Episode 110 “Urban Greenspaces and Crime,” hosted by Dr. Jose Sanchez and Dr. Jenn Tostlebe, October 2024. <https://thecriminologyacademy.com/episode-110-wo/>

Wo, James C., Malone, Sarah* and Ethan M. Rogers. 2024. “Examining the relationship between tree-canopy coverage and crime: An examination of within-neighborhood change.” *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 1-19. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07352166.2024.2311162>

Wo, James C., Kim, Young-An and Sarah Malone*. 2023. “Examining the spatial distribution of parking tickets in San Francisco neighborhoods: An overlooked form of urban inequality?” *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 1-32.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07352166.2023.2239956>

Kim, Young-An. and **James C. Wo.** 2023. “The Time-Varying Effects of Physical Environment for Walkability on Neighborhood Crime.” *Cities*, 1-12.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264275123003426>

Wo, James C. 2023. “Crime Generators or Social Capital Organizations? Examining the effects of places of worship on neighborhood crime.” *Plos One*, 1-20.
<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0282196>

- Article featured in *Tech Explorist*. March 9, 2023. “Places of worship might unintentionally boost crime in Washington, D.C.” <https://www.techexplorist.com/places-worship-might-unintentionally-boost-crime-washington-d-c/57419/>

Zaloznaya, Marina, Yakes, Alexandria* and **James C. Wo.** 2023. “Is White Collar Crime White? Racialization of Offenders in National Press Coverage of White-Collar Crime, 1950-2010.” *Law & Social Inquiry*, 1117-1137. <https://doi.org/10.1017/lsi.2023.2>

- Wo, James C.** 2022. "Neighborhood Effects on Crime: The concentration of racial/ethnic groups and the heterogeneity among such groups." *Crime & Delinquency*, 1-28.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287221134592>
- Kim, Young-An, **James C. Wo** and John R. Hipp. 2022. "An Examination of Age-graded Effects of Businesses on Crime in Place." *Justice Quarterly*, 40(3):403-426.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2022.2107943>
- Wo, James C.**, Ethan Rogers, Mart T. Berg and Caglar Koylu. 2022. "Recreating human mobility patterns through the lens of social media: Using Twitter to model the social ecology of crime." *Crime & Delinquency*, 1-28. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287221106946>
- Wo, James C.** and Young-An Kim. 2022. "Unintended Consequences? The effects of neighborhood walkability on crime in 9 U.S. cities." *British Journal of Criminology*, 304-329.
<https://academic.oup.com/bjc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bjc/azac011/6555985?searchresult=1>
- Kim, Young-An and **James C. Wo**. 2022. "Revisiting the Relationship between Racial Heterogeneity and Neighborhood Crime: Do Spatial Scale and Functional Form Matter?" *Crime & Delinquency*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/eprint/Y8HZCIG3RHG5JVS285RR/full>
- Kim, Young-An and **James C. Wo**. 2021. "Seasonality and Crime in Orlando Neighborhoods." *British Journal of Criminology*, 62(1):124-144. <https://academic.oup.com/bjc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bjc/azab048/6290774?searchresult=1>
- Kim, Young-An and **James C. Wo**. 2021. "Topography and Crime in Place: The Effects of Elevation, Slope, and Betweenness in San Francisco Street Segments." *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 45(6) 1120-1144. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07352166.2021.1901591>
- Wo, James C.** and Young-An Kim. (2020, in print 2021). "A Longitudinal Examination of Building Demolitions on Neighborhood Crime Rates." *British Journal of Criminology*, 61(3):710-732.
<https://academic.oup.com/bjc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bjc/azaa077/6012315?searchresult=1>
- Kim, Young-An and **James C. Wo**. 2020. "A Spatial and Temporal Examination of Housing Demolitions on Crime in Los Angeles Blocks." *Journal of Crime & Justice*, 44(4):441-457.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/TAJ4R8JWSDZJFKXRWA4J/full?target=10.1080/0735648X.2020.1819376>
- Wo, James C.** and Young-An Kim. 2020. "Neighborhood Effects on Crime in San Francisco: An Examination of Residential, Nonresidential, and 'Mixed' Land Uses." *Deviant Behavior*, 43(1):61-78.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/C8YIJEQIY7QYT3C3FZ5M/full?target=10.1080/01639625.2020.1779988>
- Hipp, John R., Young-An Kim and **James C. Wo**. 2020. "Micro-scale, macro-scale, and temporal scale: Comparing the relative importance for robbery risk in New York City."

Justice Quarterly, 38(5):767–791.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07418825.2020.1730423>

Wo, James C. and JiHye Park*. 2020. “An Examination of Schools, Social Ecological Factors, and Neighborhood Crime.” *British Journal of Criminology*, 60(4): 851-872.

<https://academic.oup.com/bjc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bjc/azaa002/5721436>

Wo, James C. 2019. “Understanding the Differential Effects of Land Uses on Crime: An Examination across Philadelphia Neighborhoods.” *British Journal of Criminology*, 59(6): 1432-1454.

<https://academic.oup.com/bjc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bjc/azz019/5420485?searchresult=1>

Wo, James C. 2019. “Mixed Land Use and Neighborhood Crime.” *Social Science Research*, 78 (February): 170-186.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X18305763>

Wo, James C. and JiHye Park*. (2018, in print 2019). “Places not Cases? Re-thinking Probation: The Effects of Nonprofit Organizations on Rearrest Rates of Probationers.” *Crime & Delinquency*, 65(5): 657-680.

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0011128718788046>

Wo, James C. (2018, in print 2019). “Revisiting the crime control benefits of Voluntary Organizations: Organizational Presence, Organizational Capacity, and Crime Rates in Los Angeles Neighborhoods.” *Crime & Delinquency*, 65(7): 916-940.

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0011128718787517>

Wo, James C. 2018. “Understanding the Density of Nonprofit Organizations across Los Angeles Neighborhoods: Does Concentrated Disadvantage and Violent Crime Matter?” *Social Science Research*, 71(March): 56-71.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X17304040>

Hipp, John R., **James C. Wo** and Young-An Kim. 2017. “Studying Neighborhood Crime Across Different Macro Spatial Scales: The Case of Robbery in 4 Cities.”

Social Science Research, 68(November): 15-29.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X16307931>

Wo, James C., John R. Hipp and Adam Boessen. 2016. “Voluntary Organizations and Neighborhood Crime: A Dynamic Perspective.” *Criminology*, 54(2): 212-241.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1745-9125.12101/abstract>

- Article featured in *The Society Pages*. Larson, Ryan. November 15, 2016. “Neighborhood Associations Need Time to Reduce Crime.”

<https://thesocietypages.org/discoveries/2016/11/15/neighborhood-associations-need-time-to-reduce-crime/>

Wo, James C. (2014, in print 2016). “Community Context of Crime: A Longitudinal Examination of the Effects of Local Institutions on Neighborhood Crime.” *Crime and Delinquency*, 62(10): 1286-1312.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0011128714542501>

Gerlinger, Julie and **James C. Wo**. (2014, in print 2016). "Preventing School Bullying: Should Schools Prioritize an Authoritative School Discipline Approach Over Security Measures?" *Journal of School Violence*, 15(2): 133-157.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15388220.2014.956321#.VHKp00vNpg0>

Gennip, Y., Hunter, B., Ahn, R., Elliott, P., Luh, K., Halvorson, M., Reid, S.E., Valasik, M., **Wo, J.**, Tita, G., Bertozzi, A., and Brantingham, J. 2013. "Community detection using spectral clustering on sparse geosocial data." *Siam journal of applied mathematics*, 73(1): 67-83.

<http://epubs.siam.org/doi/abs/10.1137/120882093>

Book Chapters, Encyclopedia Entries, Other Articles

Rogers, Ethan M, Mark T. Berg, **James C. Wo** and William Alex Pridemore. December 30, 2022. "Interpersonal Violence Beyond the Cityscape." Book chapter for *Rural Victims of Crime: Representations, Realities and Responses*, Edited by Dr Rachel Hale and Dr Alistair Harkness.

<https://www.routledge.com/Rural-Victims-of-Crime-Representations-Realities-and-Responses/Hale-Harkness/p/book/9780367677633>

Kim, Young-An and **James C. Wo**. 2022. "Racially diverse neighborhoods in diverse areas are linked to lower crime rates." *Invited contributor for the American Politics and Policy Blog at The London School of Economics and Political Science*.

Online at: <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2022/04/01/racially-diverse-neighborhoods-in-diverse-areas-are-linked-to-lower-crime-rates/>

Wo, James C. 2017. "I want to get a 'good' job, but I also want to master research methods." *Newsletter for the Crime, Law & Deviance section of the American Sociological Association*.

https://www.asanet.org/sites/default/files/winter_2017_newsletter.pdf

Kubrin, Charis E. and **James C. Wo**. 2015. "Social disorganization theory's greatest challenge: Linking structural characteristics to crime in socially disorganized neighborhoods." In Alex R. Piquero (Ed.), *Handbook of Criminological Theory*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781118512449.ch7/summary>

Hipp, John R. and **James C. Wo**. 2015. "Collective Efficacy and Crime." In James Wright (2nd Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences*.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/B9780080970868450452>

Wo, James C. 2014. "Neighborhood institutions like coffee shops and bars can have a significant positive or negative impact on local crime rates." *Invited contributor for the American Politics and Policy Blog at The London School of Economics and Political Science*.

Online at: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2014/08/22/neighborhood-institutions-like-coffee-shops-and-bars-can-have-a-significant-positive-or-negative-impact-on-local-crime-rates/>

Fellowships and Grants

Summer Scholars Project/Program with Caglar Koylu and Mark T Berg (\$3,000) Public Policy Center <i>University of Iowa</i>	2019
Interdisciplinary Research Grant with Caglar Koylu (\$12,000) Obermann Center for Advanced Studies <i>University of Iowa</i>	2018
Professional Development Fellowship for Winter Quarter (\$10,745) Department of Criminology, Law and Society <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2017
Dean's Dissertation Writing Fellowship for Fall Quarter (\$11,669) School of Social Ecology <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2016
Summer Research Funding (\$7,950) Department of Criminology, Law and Society <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2011-2016
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (\$130,500) Field of Study: Sociology; three years of tuition, fees, and stipend <i>National Science Foundation</i>	2011
Graduate Opportunity Fellowship (\$31,416) Graduate Division <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2010–2011
Research Grant (\$300) Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2008–2009

Awards and Honors

Visiting Scholar Public Administration Program College of Social Sciences University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.	Fall 2024
Scholar-in-Residence (\$1500) Public Policy Center <i>University of Iowa</i>	Spring 2019
Gil Geis Award for excellence in research by a graduate student (\$500)	2016

Department of Criminology, Law and Society
University of California, Irvine

Third Place for the Gene Carte Student Paper Competition (\$200) “Community Context of Crime: A Longitudinal Examination of the Effects of Local Institutions on Neighborhood Crime.” <i>The American Society of Criminology</i>	2013
Order of Merit School of Social Sciences <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2010
Student Scholar of Distinction School of Social Sciences <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2010
Sociology Honors Program (thesis) School of Social Sciences <i>University of California, Irvine</i>	2008–2009

Presentations and Invited Speaking Engagements (Since 2017)

- “Understanding greenspace and crime.” Invited guest speaker for radio show run by the University of Hawaii, Manoa. Honolulu, HI, October 2024.
- “Social (dis)organization and crime.” Invited guest speaker, graduate seminar on crime and place for Professor Young-An Kim. College of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Tallahassee, Florida, September 2024.
- “Examining links between greenspace and crime in neighborhoods.” Invited guest speaker, colloquium series sponsored by the Department of Sociology at the University of Hawaii, Mānoa. Honolulu, HI, September 2024.
- “Neighborhood effects of urban tree canopy and vegetation: Going green to reduce crime?” (with Ethan M. Rogers). Co-author of presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2023.
- “The Time-Varying Effects of Physical Environment for Walkability on Neighborhood Crime” (with Young-An Kim). Co-author of presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2023.
- “Designing out Crime and Sustainable Neighborhoods” Invited guest lecture for a graduate course by Professor Lucie Laurian: Designing Sustainable and Healthy Cities. The University of Iowa, March 2023.

- “A Longitudinal Examination of the Effects of Land Uses and Crime in New York City.” (with Nan Li and Young-An Kim). Co-author of presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2022.
- “Neighborhood Walkability and Crime.” Faculty and Student Research Showcase (Zoom). University of Iowa, Department of Sociology & Criminology, March 2022.
- “Designing out Crime.” Invited guest lecture for an upper division course by Dr. Ethan Rogers: Iowa Criminal Justice Policy and Reform. The University of Iowa, October 2021.
- “Is White Collar Crime White? National Press Coverage of White-Collar Crime by African Americans, 1950-2010” (with Marina Zaloznaya and Alexandria Yakes). Co-author of presentation for the Conference and Symposium Celebrating the Research of John L. Hagan, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, IL,[online], 05/31/2021.
- “A Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Building Demolitions and Neighborhood Crime Rates” (with Young-An Kim). Presented at the Western Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, February 2020.
- “Building Demolitions and Neighborhood Crime” (with Young-An Kim). Presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 2019.
- “Age Matters? Examining Age-Graded Effects of Businesses on Crime in Place” (with Young-An Kim and John R. Hipp). Co-author of presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 2019.
- “Land Uses and Neighborhood Crime.” Presented at the University of Iowa Public Policy Center, scholars in residence talk, July 2019.
- “Understanding Neighborhood Crime: An examination of different predictors” (with Caglar Koylu and Mark T Berg). Presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2018.
- “Mixed Land Use and Neighborhood Crime.” Presented at Sociology colloquium, University of Iowa, March 2018.
- “Mixed Land Use and Neighborhood Crime.” Presented at Geographical and Sustainability Sciences colloquium, University of Iowa, March 2018.
- “Voluntary organizations and neighborhood crime: A longitudinal examination of organizational presence, organizational capacity, and crime rates.” Presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2017.
- “Places not cases? Re-thinking probation: The effects of nonprofit organizations on re-arrest rates of probationers” (with JJ Park). Co-author of presentation at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2017.

Instructor (University of Iowa)

+ indicates course has been taught at least twice. *indicates course has been taught at least three times.

“Research Methods in Criminology.” Undergraduate course, first taught in Fall 2017. *

“Communities and Crime.” Undergraduate course, first taught in Spring 2018. *

“Communities and Crime.” Graduate course, first taught in Fall 2018. *

“Crime and Public Policy” Undergraduate course, first taught in Spring 2020. +

“Environmental Criminology” Undergraduate course, first taught in Fall 2021.*

Service to the College

Member of the committee that decides on the allocation of student technology fee money, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) at the University of Iowa. 2023-

Service to the Department

Member of the Awards Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2024-2025 school year.

Faculty Assembly Representative, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa 2023-2024 school year.

Job Market Coordinator (Chair), Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2023-2024 school year.

Search Committee for Criminology, Law, and Justice Position; Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2023-2024 school year.

Member of the Executive Committee (elected), Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

Member of the Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2022-2023 school year.

Faculty Assembly Representative, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa 2022-2023 fall semester.

Colloquium Committee (Chair), Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2022-2023 school year.

Sociology & Criminology Club, Discussant, Graduate school considerations and registering for Fall 2022 classes considerations. February 2022.

Member of the Search Committee for Criminology, Law, and Justice Position; Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. Review applications, determine a shortlist of candidates for other faculty members, and coordinate candidate visits. Fall 2021.

Member of the Executive Committee (elected), Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2021-2022 school year.

Member of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2021-2022 school year.

Member of the Awards Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. 2021-2022 school year.

Member of the Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. Fall 2020.

Member of the Search Committee for Criminology, Law, and Justice Position; Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Iowa. Review applications, determine a shortlist of candidates for other faculty members, and coordinate candidate visits. Fall 2019.

Member of the Executive Committee (elected), Department of Sociology at the University of Iowa. 2018-2019 school year.

Member of the Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology at the University of Iowa. 2018-2019 school year.

Informal Sessions on Secondary Data Analysis using ArcGIS and Stata (held for graduate students). University of Iowa, Summer 2018.

Service to the Profession (Since 2017)

Reviewer for American Society of Criminology Division of Communities and Place Student Paper Competition. Spring 2025.

Discussant for Department of Sociology at the University of Hawaii, Mānoa, "Overview on graduate programs in sociology, criminology and criminal justice," with Katherine Irwin, October 2024.

Member of the American Society of Criminology 2022 Annual Meeting Program Committee, "Social Disorganization and Community Dynamics" Sub-Area Chair. Review paper abstracts and create thematic panel sessions. April 2022.

“Ideas on Student Safety and Well-Being for Punahou School.” Invited talk (Zoom). Punahou School, February 2022.

Reviewer for summer funding proposals, Public Policy Center at The University of Iowa. April 2021.

Discussant for the Irvine Laboratory for the Study of Space and Crime at the University of California, Irvine, “CV construction and making yourself marketable for the academic job market.” February 2021.

Chair of the American Society of Criminology Gene Carte Student Paper Competition. Collect submissions, establish review guidelines, and facilitate the process of determining winners. 2019.

Member of the American Society of Criminology Gene Carte Student Paper Competition Committee. Review submissions and determine winners of the competition. Summer 2018.

Member of the American Society of Criminology Methods Workshop Committee for the 2018 Annual Meeting. Identify and coordinate the methodological workshops for the 2018 Meeting. 2017.

Service to the Community

Iowa City Basketball, Volunteer Coach, Spring 2023.

Punahou School, Advisory Council for Student Safety, Honolulu, Hawaii. 2022-2024.

Big Brothers Big Sisters, Volunteer Mentor, Johnson County, Iowa. 2018-2019.

Iowa City T-ball, Volunteer Assistant Coach, Summer 2018.

Professional Associations

- The American Society of Criminology
 - Member of Communities and Place Division
- The Western Society of Criminology

Journal Editorial Board Membership

- *Criminology* Editorial Board, 2024-2026.
- *Plos One* Editorial Board as an Academic Editor, 2022-.
(Discipline): Social and Behavioral Sciences (Sections): Criminology, Sociology, Urban studies.

Referee for journals

- *Criminology; Journal of Quantitative Criminology; Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency; Justice Quarterly; Crime & Delinquency; Race and Justice; Journal of Criminal Justice; American Journal of Criminal Justice; Journal of Crime and Justice; Journal of School Violence; Public Administration Review; Applied Geography; City & Community; Journal of Urban Affairs; Urban Affairs Review; Urban Studies; Cities; Journal of Regional Science; American Sociological Review; Social Forces; Social Problems; Social Science Research; Sociology Compass; Plos One; Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly; American Journal of Community Psychology; Journal of Youth Studies.*

Graduate Student Committees

Kendall Riley	2022	M.A.	Committee	University of Iowa
Sarah Malone	2021	M.A.	Committee	University of Iowa
Kelly Guinn	2019	M.A.	Committee	University of Iowa
Matthew Schlimgen	2019	M.A.	Committee	University of Iowa
Ethan Rogers	2018-2019	Ph.D.	Committee	University of Iowa

Undergraduate Student Committees

Michaela Messier	2021-2022	Honors thesis	Supervisor	University of Iowa
Natalie Grodnitzky	2020-2021	Honors thesis	Supervisor	University of Iowa
Alessandra Sabra	2018-2019	Honors thesis	Supervisor	University of Iowa
Travis Carter	2018-2019	Honors thesis	Committee	University of Iowa

References

Available upon request