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 Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
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EDUCATION

- 2016 American University, School of Public Affairs, Washington, DC Ph.D.
 Fields: Criminology and Public Policy.
Dissertation: If You See Something, Do You Say Something?: The Role of Legitimacy and Trust in Policing Minority Communities in Counterterrorism
 Committee: Joseph K. Young (Chair), Edward R. Maguire, Thomas Zeitzoff, Gary LaFree (University of Maryland)
- 2012 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, New York, NY M.A.
 Major: Forensic Psychology.
- 2005 Miami University, Oxford, OH B.A.
 Majors: Political Science & Psychology. Minor: European Area Studies.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2017 - present Assistant Professor
 University of Alabama, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
- 2020, Spring Research Associate (on pre-tenure research leave)
 Miami University Dolibois European Center, Differdange, Luxembourg
- 2016 - 2017 Postdoctoral Research Fellow
 Georgia State University, Global Studies Institute, Atlanta, GA

AWARDS

- 2016 Winner of the American Society of Criminology's Division of International Criminology Outstanding Student Paper Award
- 2015 Winner of the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) Symposium Best Student Paper Award

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

*graduate student; **undergraduate student

14. 2020. Delehanty, C. & **Kearns, E.M.** "Wait, There's Torture in Zootopia?: Examining the Prevalence of Torture in Popular Movies." Online first, *Perspectives on Politics*.
 • Media Coverage: *Cinemascene FilmTalk*, *Tuscaloosa News*
13. 2019. **Shupard, M. & **Kearns, E.M.** "Why Do Officers Support Community Policing?: A Cross-Departmental and Cross-Temporal Comparison." *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, 37: 665-680.
12. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.**, **Ashooh, E. & Lowery-Kinberg, B. "Racial Differences in Conceptualizing Legitimacy and Trust in Police." Online first, *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, 37: 665-680.

11. 2019. Dolliver, M. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Is it Terrorism: Public Perceptions, Media, and Labeling the Las Vegas Shooting.” Online first, *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*.
10. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.** “When to Take Credit for Terrorism?: A Cross-National Examination of Claims and Attributions.” Online first, *Terrorism & Political Violence*.
 - Media Coverage: *The Economist*
 - 2016 ASC Division of International Criminology Outstanding Student Paper Award
 - 2015 START Symposium Best Student Paper Award
9. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.**, *Betus, A., & Lemieux, A. “Why Do Some Terrorist Attacks Receive More Media Attention Than Others?” *Justice Quarterly*, 36(6): 985-1022.
 - Select Media Coverage: *ABC Australia*, *Cato Institute*, *The Economist*, *Foreign Policy*, *MSNBC with Ari Melber*, *NPR’s All Things Considered*, *NPR’s Hidden Brain Podcast*, *NPR’s Morning Edition*, *Reason*, *The Independent*, *The Washington Post*
 - Policy Coverage: *United Nations Secretary-General*
8. 2019. **Kearns, E.M.**, *Betus, A., & Lemieux, A. “When Data Don’t Matter: Exploring Public Perceptions of Terrorism.” Online first, *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*.
7. 2018. **Kearns, E.M.**, Asal, V., Walsh, J., Federico, C., & Lemieux, A. “Political Action as a Function of Political Grievances and Social Identity: An Experimental Approach.” Online first, *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*.
6. 2018. **Kearns, E.M.** “Exploring Officer Views of Community Policing in Counterterrorism.” *Police Practice and Research*, 21, 1: 18-32.
5. 2018. **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K. “If Torture is Wrong, What About 24?: Torture and the Hollywood Effect.” *Crime & Delinquency*, 64(12): 1568-1589.
 - Media Coverage: *CNN*, *Pacific Standard*, *Vox*, *The Washington Post*
4. 2017. Lemieux, A., **Kearns, E.M.**, Asal, V., & Walsh, J. “Support for Political Mobilization, Protest, and Terrorism in Egypt and Morocco: An Online Experimental Study.” *Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict*, 10(2-3): 124-142.
3. 2017. **Kearns, E.M.** “Why Are Some Police Officers More Supportive of Community Policing with Minorities than Others?” *Justice Quarterly*, 34(7): 1213-1245.
2. 2015. **Kearns, E.M.** “The Study of Torture: Why It Persists, Why Perceptions of It Are Malleable, and Why It Is Difficult to Eradicate.” *Laws*, 5(1): 1-15.
1. 2014. **Kearns, E.M.**, **Conlon, B.L., & Young, J.K. “Lying About Terrorism.” *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 37(5): 422-439.

BOOK

1. 2020. **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K. “Tortured Logic: Why Some Americans Support Torture in Counterterrorism.” Forthcoming, *Columbia University Press*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

2. 2016. Young, J.K. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Empirical Challenges to Studying Terrorism and Homicide.” in *The Handbook on Homicide*, eds. Fiona Brookman, Edward R. Maguire, and Mike Maguire. Wiley-Blackwell.
1. 2013. **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K. “Military Tactics in Civil War.” in *The Routledge Companion to Civil War Studies*, eds. Edward Newman and Karl DeRouen. Routledge.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

4. **Kearns, E.M.**, Federico, C., Asal, V., Walsh, J., *Betus, A. & Lemieux, A. “Intergroup Images, Protest, and Terrorism.”
 - Media Coverage: *The Trace*
3. *Senn, S. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Officer Support for Community Policing with Racial Minorities Post-Ferguson.”
2. *Betus, A., **Kearns, E.M.** & Lemieux, A. “How Perpetrator Identity (Sometimes) Influences Media Framing Attacks as ‘Terrorism’ or ‘Mental Illness.’”
 - Media Coverage: *Washington Post*
1. Lowery-Kinberg, B., *Mellinger, H. & **Kearns, E.M.** “How Social Dominance Orientation Shapes Perceptions of Police.”

WORKING PAPERS - Draft Available

4. **Kearns, E.M.** “Why Are Some Crimes Reported to Police While Others Aren’t?”
3. **Kearns, E.M.** “If You See Something, Do You Say Something?: Using A Conjoint Experiment to Examine Why People Report Terrorism to Police.”
2. *Bowman, R. & **Kearns, E.M.** “How Race, Experience with Police, and Experience with Crime Influence Perceptions of Legitimacy and Trust in Police.”
1. *Sharo, C. & **Kearns, E.M.** “When to Call the Police?: How Crime Type and Contextual Factors Impact Crime Reporting.”

WORKING PAPERS - Data Collected & Drafting in Progress

9. **Kearns, E.M.** “Conceptualizing Legitimacy and Trust in Police Across Racial Groups.”
8. **Kearns, E.M.** “See Something, Say Something?: Reporting Potential Terrorism Activities to Police.”
7. **Kearns, E.M.** “Teaching Statistics: A Quasi-Experimental Comparison of Traditional versus Flipped Classroom Models.”
6. **Kearns, E.M.** & Nix, J. “When do Policing Surveys Replicate?: A Review of Multi-Agency Studies.”
5. **Kearns, E.M.** & *Senn, S. “Changes over Time in Officer Support for Community Policing Across Crime Types.”
4. Fisher, D. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Theorizing Terrorism within Criminological Scholarship.”
3. Ghazi-Tehrani, A. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Differentiating Between Terrorism, Hate Crimes, and Other Violence: A Conceptual Approach”
2. Ghazi-Tehrani, A. & **Kearns, E.M.** “Media Coverage of Terrorism & Hate Crimes.”
1. Betus, A., **Kearns, E.M.** & Becker, M. “Media and Fear of Terrorism.”

WORKING PAPERS - Funded & Data Collection Pending

2. **Kearns, E.M.** & Delehanty, C. “Experimentally Testing Public Perceptions of Media Depictions of Torture.”

1. **Kearns, E.M.** & Ghazi-Tehrani, A. “Differentiating Between Terrorism, Hate Crimes, and Other Violence: An Experimental Approach.”

GOVERNMENT & POLICY REPORTS

4. 2020. “Terrorism as Communicative and Miscommunicative Violence.” In *Counterterrorism Yearbook 2020*, Australian Strategic Policy Institute. Author.
3. 2015. “When to Claim: A Cross-National Study of Terrorist Attacks.” National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism Research Brief. Author.
2. 2015. “The Role of Law Enforcement in Fighting Terrorism.” in *Comprehensive Law Enforcement Review*, Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Consulting researcher and co-author.
1. 2015. *Presidential Task Force on 21st Century Policing*. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Consulting researcher.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Funded

- 2018 Research Grants Committee (RGC) - \$3,000, University of Alabama
- 2018 College Academy for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity (CARSCA) - \$4,327, University of Alabama
- 2015 Fellow, Peace & Violence Research Lab - \$4,000, American University
- 2015 Doctoral Research Award - \$4,994, American University
- 2014 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Terrorism Research Award - \$5,000, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism
- 2014 Faculty Support Research Grant - \$10,000, American University
- 2013 School of Public Affairs Research Scholars Grant - \$5,000, American University
- 2012 Graduate Assistantship - fully funded for four years, American University
- 2004 Undergraduate Summer Scholars Grant - \$2,000, Miami University

Not Funded

- 2019 Consortium member through START/University of Maryland, Terrorism Prevention and Counterterrorism Research (TPCR) Center of Excellence (COE), PI, “Evaluating State-Level Initiatives to Prevent Terrorism and Targeted Violence,” \$339,514 for UA.
- 2019 Consortium member through Georgetown University, Terrorism Prevention and Counterterrorism Research (TPCR) Center of Excellence (COE), PI, “Reporting Terrorism and Targeted Violence,” \$233,000 for UA.
- 2019 Asal, V., **Kearns, E.M.**, Zhuang, J., Baxter, P., Weedon, S. & Jahanbani, N. “Lying about Killing: Deception in Security Claims and Behavior.” *DoD Minerva Research Initiative*, \$1,133,917 total, \$92,452 for UA.
- 2014 **Kearns, E.M.**, Lemieux, A. & Young, J. “Media Depictions of Torture and Public Policy.” *DoD Minerva Research Initiative*, \$517,049.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Select Interviews

- 2019 [Untenured Tracks](#), October 7.
- 2019 [Police Chief Magazine](#), September.

- 2019 [CBC Radio Canada, 6 interviews across CBC stations](#), August 6.
 2018 [NPR's All Things Considered, Code Switch segment](#), March 23.
 2018 [Humanity in the Headlines](#), February 24.
 2017 [Colorado Public Radio](#), November 9.
 2017 [ABC Australia, Radio National](#), July 6.
 2017 [NPR's Morning Edition](#), June 20.
 2017 [NPR's Hidden Brain](#) podcast with Shankar Vedantam, June 19.
 2017 [CBS/KCBS Radio San Francisco](#) with Susan Kennedy, March 19.
 2014 [CNN Newsroom with Brooke Baldwin](#), December 11.

Web-Based Publications

- 2019 Betus, A., **Kearns, E.M.**, & Lemieux, A. "Who's a Terrorist and Who's Mentally Ill? We looked at 10 years of news coverage to find out," *Washington Post*, August 8.
 2019 **Kearns, E.M.** & Amarasingam, A. "How News Media Talk about Terrorism & What the Evidence Shows," *Just Security*, April 5.
 2017 **Kearns, E.M.**. "An Expert on Political Violence Explains why the NRA's Ads Matter," *The Trace*, August 8.
 2017 **Kearns, E.M.**, Betus, A., & Lemieux, A. "Yes, the Media Do Underreport Some Terrorist Attacks, Just not the Ones Most People Think," *Washington Post*, March 13.
 2017 **Kearns, E.M.**, "Torture Doesn't Work, So Why are We Still Discussing It?" *Political Violence at a Glance*, February 2.
 2014 **Kearns, E.M.** & Young, J.K., "Dramatic Depictions of Torture Increase Support for It," *Washington Post*, December 12.

INVITED TALKS

- 2020 "Tortured Logic." Presented at the University of Essex.
 2020 "Lying about Terrorism." Presented at Royal Holloway, University of London.
 2020 "How Groups Misrepresent Violence & Implications for Coding." Presented to the terrorism Prosecution Project (tPP) at Miami University.
 2019 "Expanding the Counterterrorism Aperture: New Perspectives for a New Decade." Panelist at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence & Research (INR)/National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC)/National Intelligence Council (NIC) annual conference.
 2019 "Tortured Logic: Why Americans Support Torture in Counterterrorism." Presented at the Dayton International Peace Museum/Dayton Council on World Affairs.
 2017 "Political Action as a Function of Grievance, Opportunity, Risk, and Identity: Experimental Approaches." Presented at the Department of Homeland Security
 2014 "Torture and the Hollywood Effect." Presented for the DHS/START and SMA Technical Lecture Series

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences: 2011, 2015, 2016
- American Political Science Association: 2014
- American Society of Criminology: 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
- International Studies Association: 2017, 2018, 2019
- Midwest Political Science Association: 2019
- START Annual Symposium: 2015; 2016

International Security; International Studies Review; Journal of Global Security Studies; Journal of Interpersonal Violence; Journal of Peace Research; Journal of Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism; Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency; Journalism; Mass Communication and Society; Migration Letters; Perspectives on Terrorism; Policing & Society; Political Psychology; Political Research Quarterly; Social Science Research; Sociological Quarterly; Studies in Conflict & Terrorism; Terrorism and Political Violence

- Ad Hoc Book Proposal Reviewer: *Oxford University Press; Routledge*
- Ad Hoc Book Reviewer: *Oxford University Press*
- Committee Member:
 - ASC, Division of Terrorism and Bias Crimes, Social Media (2018 - present)
 - ASC, Division of Terrorism and Bias Crimes, Student Paper Competition (2018)
 - ASC, Division of International Criminology, Graduate Fellowship Competition (2019, Chair 2020)
 - ASC, Division of International Criminology, Student Paper Competition (2018, 2019)

Service to the University

- Faculty Mentor, Tide Together, University of Alabama (2018)
- Judge for Crimson Classic Mock Trial Tournament, University of Alabama (2018)
- Institutional Review Board (IRB) Student Representative, American University (2014 - 2016)
- Judge for SPA Undergraduate Research Symposium, American University (2013, 2014)
- Greenberg PhD Seminars for Effective Teaching, Selected Participant, American University (2012 - 2014)
- Psi Chi, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (2011 - 2012)
- Master's Student Research Group, Mentor, John College of Criminal Justice (2011 - 2012)
- Cheryl Williams Award, Selection Committee, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (2011)

Service to the Department

- Graduate Committee, University of Alabama (2017 - present)
- Diversity Committee, University of Alabama (2017 - present)
- Scholarship Committee, University of Alabama (2019 - present)
- Faculty Search Committee, University of Alabama (2018 - 2019)
- PhD Program Development Committee, University of Alabama (2018 - 2019)
- Colloquium Committee, University of Alabama (2017 - 2019)
- Terrorism and Security Policy Search Committee, American University (2013, 2014)

Student Research Supervision

PhD

- Allison Betus — Committee Member, Georgia State University (2019-present)

Masters

- Rachel McNealy — Research independent study, University of Alabama (2019; ASC presentation & in revision for publication)
- Carol Ann Sharo — Chair, University of Alabama (2019; ASC presentation & in revision for publication)
- Epiphany Storey — Committee Member, University of Alabama (2019)

Undergraduate

- Grace Tully — Chair, University of Alabama (2019-present)
- Mary Shupard — Chair, University of Alabama (2019; ASC poster & published in peer-reviewed journal)
- Emma Ashooh— Co-Chair, American University (2016; published in peer-reviewed journal)
- Josh Eisenberg— Chair, American University (2016)
- Erin Connolly & Lorrin Melanson — Chair, American University (2015; ASC poster)
- John Driscoll, Chris Tonelli, Greg Schaefer & Felicia Sych — Chair, American University (2015; ASC poster)
- Holly Wenger — Co-Chair, Marymount University (2015)
- Brendan Conlon — Co-Chair, American University (2013; published in peer-reviewed journal)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2019 ICPSR (R: Learning by Example)
- 2015 ICPSR (Time-Series Analyses, Bayesian Analyses, R & Qualitative Methods)
- 2014 Stata (Estimating Average Treatment Effects)
- 2014 American University (Certification to teach online and hybrid courses)
- 2011 Summer School on Crime, Law and Psychology, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2011 U.S Department of Justice, FBI, Behavioral Science Unit, Certificate of Research in Violent Behavior