

# Seth A. Williams

Assistant Professor, Louisiana State University

## Address

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## Scholarly Interests

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Spatial Inequality, Crime, Housing, Criminal Justice, Neighborhood Change, Urban Political Economy, Quantitative/Spatial Methods

## Academic Appointments

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**2024 – Present**   Assistant Professor of Sociology, Louisiana State University

**2022 – 2024**     **Postdoctoral Fellow, Rice University**  
Department of Sociology  
Baker Institute Center for Health and Biosciences

## Education

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**2022**             **University of California Irvine, PhD in Criminology, Law & Society**

**Dissertation:** “The Political Economy of Place and Crime”  
**Committee:** John Hipp (Chair), Charis Kubrin, Bryan Sykes, Jae Hong Kim,  
Manuel Aalbers (University of Leuven, Belgium)

**2015**             **Bowling Green State University, BA & MA in Sociology**

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

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**Williams, Seth A.** and Matthew R. Lehnert. 2025. "Sociospatial Divisions and Neighborhood Crime: Housing Tenure as a Social Boundary." *Journal of Crime and Justice*, 1-21.

**Williams, S. A.** 2024. "Decomposing Neighbourhood (In) Stability: The Structural Determinants of Turnover and Implications for Neighbourhood Crime." *The British Journal of Criminology* 64(2), 361-380.

- Honorable Mention - 2024 ASC Division of Communities & Place Robert J. Bursik Junior Scholar Award

Lehnert, Matthew R., and **Seth A. Williams**. 2022. "Ellis Act Eviction Notices in San Francisco: 'absolute' and 'relative' clustering." *The Professional Geographer* 74(2), 221-230.

**Williams, Seth A.** and John R. Hipp. 2022. "The Shape of Neighborhoods to Come: Examining Patterns and Trajectories of (Re)Gentrification in Los Angeles County, 1980 – 2010." *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space* 54(2):265-294.

Hipp, John R., and **Seth A. Williams**. 2021. "Accounting for Neighborhood Effects When Estimating Models using City-level Crime Data: Introducing a Novel Imputation Technique." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 37(4), 915-951.

Hipp, John R., and **Seth A. Williams**. 2020. "Advances in Spatial Criminology: The Spatial Scale of Crime." *Annual Review of Criminology* 3(1): 75-95.

Hipp, John R., **Seth A. Williams**, Young-An Kim, Jae Hong Kim. 2019. "Fight or Flight? Crime as a Driving Force in Business Death and Business Mobility." *Social Science Research* 82:164-180.

**Williams, Seth A.** and John R. Hipp. 2019. "How Great and How Good?: Third Places, Neighbor Interaction, and Cohesion in the Neighborhood Context." *Social Science Research* 77:68-78.

Hipp, John R., **Seth A. Williams** and Adam Boessen. 2018. "Disagreement in Assessing Neighboring and Collective Efficacy: The Role of Social Distance." *Socius* 4.

### Under Review

**Williams, Seth A.** "The Cyclical Structure of Neighborhood Decline: Landlord Disinvestment and the Consequences of Substandard Rental Housing for Neighborhood Violence."

**Williams, Seth A.** and Matthew R. Lehnert. "Marginalization and the Spatial Production of Violence: Theorizing Toxic Facility Presence Beyond Opportunity."

Hipp, John R. and **Seth A. Williams**. "Functional Spatial Proxies: A Novel Technique to Account for Spatial Mobility and Sociospatial Context in Neighborhood Research."

## In Preparation

Williams, Seth A. "Rent Gap Closure Under Regulatory Constraint: The Spatiotemporal Dynamics of Cash-for-Keys Displacement in San Francisco."

Williams, Seth A. "Renter Exploitation and Neighborhood Violent Crime."

Bryan, Brielle and Seth A. Williams. "The Neighborhood Context of Felony Record Exclusion: How Local Conditions Shape Landlord Screening"

Bryan, Brielle and Seth A. Williams. "Spatial Determinants of Post-Conviction Health."

## Other Publications

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Williams, S. A. (2023, April 11). *Bodegas, Barbershops and the Ties that Bind: How Third Places Promote Cohesion*. Vital City. <https://www.vitalcitynyc.org/articles/how-third-places-promote-cohesion>

Hipp, John R., Clarissa Iliff, Emily G. Owens, George Tita, and Seth Williams. 2022. "The Impact of Affordable Housing on Housing and Crime in Orange County." Livable Cities Lab, Irvine, CA.

Williams, S. A. (2015). Film Review: My Brooklyn. *Teaching Sociology*, 43(4), 321-324.

## Honors & Awards

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- 2026 Manship Summer Research Fellowship, Louisiana State University - \$5,000
- 2025 Co-Investigator (with Brielle Bryan, PI). Center for Computational Insights on Inequality and Society at Rice University: *"The Neighborhood & Market Context of Felony Record Exclusion: How Local Conditions Shape Landlord Screening & Implications for Neighborhood Quality"* - \$10,260
- 2025 Manship Summer Research Fellowship, Louisiana State University - \$5,000
- 2024 ASC Division of Communities & Place Robert J. Bursik Junior Scholar Award, Honorable Mention
- 2022 Summer Teaching Apprenticeship Program Fellowship (UCI Division of Teaching Excellence & Innovation) - \$5,000
- 2021 CLS Dean's Quarterly Fellowship, Fall
- 2020 Michelle Smith-Pontell Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Graduate Study (UCI-CLS) - \$2,000
- 2020 Service Commendation for Editorial Board of Sociological Perspectives, Pacific Sociological Association
- 2019 Gil Geis Award for Excellence in Research (UCI-CLS) - \$500
- 2013 BGSU Friends of the Library Undergraduate Research Award - \$250
- 2012-2013 Dr. Aida Tomeh Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Sociology Major – Graduating Senior (BGSU) - \$500

## Teaching

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Louisiana State University: 2024 - Present

Introduction to Crime Studies  
Communities & Crime  
Crime & Place (Graduate)

University of California, Irvine: 2017 - 2022

Summer Teaching Apprenticeship Program Fellow, 2022  
Crime Measurement, 2021  
Social Ecology Statistics Camp (Graduate), 2017-2019

## Professional Service

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- 2025                      Advisory Board Member, Texas Research Data Center (TXRDC)
- 2025                      Working Group Member, Durable HSS (Humanities & Social Sciences), LSU
- 1/20 – 7/22              Student Editorial Board Member, *Sociological Perspectives*  
Editors: Dr. Bryan Sykes & Dr. Black Hawk Hancock
- 2020                      Graduate Representative, CLS Assistant Professor Search Committee
- 2020                      Graduate Student Recruitment Representative,  
UC Irvine, Criminology, Law & Society

### Referee for Journals:

*American Sociological Review; Criminology; Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency; Journal of Urban Affairs; Urban Studies; Punishment & Society; Sociological Perspectives; Annals of the American Association of Geographers; Environment & Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science; Wellbeing, Space & Society; International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development; Journal of Crime and Justice.*

### Professional Memberships:

- *American Society of Criminology (Section: Communities & Place)*
- *Population Association of America*
- *American Sociological Association (Sections: Crime, Law & Deviance; Community & Urban Sociology Section)*

*\*Please contact me for a list of past conference presentations.*

## Software & Programming Languages

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**Programming / Statistical:** Stata, Python  
**Spatial / GIS:** ArcGIS Pro, Python (ArcPy, GeoPandas, Shapely)  
**Data Management / Processing:** DuckDB, PostgreSQL, Parquet, PyArrow  
**Computing:** SLURM (HPC), parallel processing