

Monica Merrill

Department of Sociology
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Education:

PhD, Sociology, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. Expected graduation: 5/2014.

Specialty Areas: Criminology, Deviance & Inequalities.
Comprehensive Exam Areas: Criminology, Deviance (passed Fall 2012)
Research Interests: Victimization, Sexual Violence, & Inequalities

Master of Arts, Sociology, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. Aug. 2011.

Thesis Title: “The Effect of Method of Coercion on the Decision to Informally Disclose Sexual Victimization”

Bachelor of Arts, Justice Studies & Psychology. Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. Dec. 2006.

Teaching Experience

Fall 2011- Present Instructor- “Introduction to Sociology”, Department of Sociology, University of Akron.

Summer 2013 Teaching Assistant for Dr. Stacey Nofziger, “Crime in Media” ONLINE course.

Summer 2011 Teaching Assistant for Dr. Robert Peralta, “Introduction to Sociology”, Department of Sociology, University of Akron.

Spring 2011 Teaching Assistant for Dr. Emily Asencio, “Criminology”, Department of Sociology, University of Akron.

Fall 2010 &- Spring 2011 *Sociology Teaching Lab*- This position required providing in depth tutoring to both individual students as well as small groups. This tutoring extended to any class offered within the sociology department.

Undergraduate Advising- In this position I was part of team that managed the departmental advising for undergraduate students. This involved working directly with the students as well as coordinating with other departments within the College of Arts & Sciences.

Spring 2010 Teaching Assistant for Professor Robert Peralta, Ph.D., “Social Inequalities” &

“Deviant Behavior”, Department of Sociology, University of Akron

Fall 2009 Teaching Assistant for Assistant Professor Emily Asencio, Ph.D.,
“Criminology”, Department of Sociology, University of Akron

Teaching Related Professional Development

- 2013 “Certification in Synchronous Distance Learning.” Sponsored by the University of Akron. Akron, OH, April.
- 2013 “From Initial Design to Final Assessment: Increased Learning Through Intentional Pedagogy” Workshop Sponsored by The North Central Sociological Association (NCSA), Indianapolis, IN. April.
- 2012 “Quality Matters- Online Course Development”- Sponsored by the University of Akron Akron, Ohio
- 2011 “Future Faculty Program”- Sponsored by: The North Central Sociological Association (NCSA), Cleveland, Ohio

Guest Lectures:

- 2011- “Feminist Perspective & Sexual Victimization”- Intro. to Women’s Studies: Nicole Rosen
- 2011- “Community Policing”- Criminology: Dr. Emily Asencio
- 2011- “Socialization Processes” – Intro. to Sociology: Dr. Robert Peralta
- 2011- “Social Construction of the Family”- Intro. to Sociology: Dr. Robert Peralta
- 2011- “Deviance, Social Control and Sexual Assault” -Intro to Sociology: Dr. Rachel Schneider
- 2010- “Sexual Assault on College Campuses.”- Intro to Sociology- Dr. Rachel Schneider
- 2010- “Masculinities and Violence”- Intro to Sociology: Michael Rickles
- 2010-“Underprivileged Deviance and Street Crime”- Deviant Behavior: Dr. Robert Peralta

Research Experience

- 2012 (Summer) Research Assistant for Associate Professor Emily Asencio, Department of Sociology, University of Akron
- Engaged in reconstructing existing *quantitative* data, data analysis, composing literature reviews and preparing manuscripts.
- 2010 Research Assistant for Professor Robert Peralta, Department of Sociology,

- University of Akron.
 -Engaged in *qualitative* data collection (in-depth interviews), data coding, data analysis, composing literature reviews and preparing manuscripts.
- 2009 Research Assistant for Assistant Professor Emily Asencio, Department of Sociology, University of Akron.
 -Engaged in *quantitative* data collection (paper & online), data analysis, composing literature reviews and preparing manuscripts.
- 2009- Present Graduate Assistantship, Department of Sociology, University of Akron
 -Assorted collaborative and individual projects that have resulted in potential publications and/or presentations.

Coursework and Training in Research Methodologies

Qualitative

Qualitative Methodology I
 Writing a Qualitative Dissertation
 NVIVO workshop

Quantitative

Research Design and Methods (SPSS)
 Multivariate Techniques in Sociology (SPSS)
 Advanced Data Analysis (SAS)
 Longitudinal Data Analysis (SAS)

Works Under Revise and Resubmit

Emily Asencio, **Monica Oliva** and Michael Steiner. "Self Esteem, Fear of Crime, and The Decision to Protect Oneself from Victimization". (Revise and Resubmit, *Sociological Perspectives*, resubmitted Sep. 2013).

Works Submitted In Progress

Robert L. Peralta, **Monica Oliva**, and Lia Wiley. "Unraveling the Meaning of Deviance Labeling: A Study of Attributions and Characteristics of the Discredited". (Presented at ASA, draft in progress).

Monica Merrill, Robert L. Peralta, and Lia Wiley. "The Effect of Race and Privilege on Deviant Identities." (Presenting at ASC, draft in progress).

Papers & Posters Presented at Professional Meetings:

2013 **Monica Merrill**, Robert L. Peralta and Lia Wiley "How Does Race Affect the Social Construction of Criminal and Deviant Identities?" American Society of Criminology (ASC). Atlanta, GA. November.

- 2013 **Monica Oliva** “A Qualitative Examination of Privilege: Status Privileges and the Privilege to Label.” North Central Sociological Association (NCSA). Indianapolis, IN. March.
- 2012 Emily Asencio, **Monica Oliva**, & Michael Steiner “Examining the Components of Self, Fear of Crime, and Defensive Behaviors”. American Society of Criminology (ASC). Chicago, IL. November.

Monica Oliva “A Reexamination of Formal Reporting and Informal Disclosure Practices of Female Victims of Sexual Assault” American Sociological Association (ASA). Denver, Colorado. August.

Robert Peralta, **Monica Oliva** and Lia Wiley “Unraveling the Meaning of Deviance Labeling: A Qualitative Study of Attributions Towards Characterization Of Deviant Behavior and Identities by the Privileged” American Sociological Association, Denver, Colorado. August.

Lori Hale & **Monica Oliva**. “An Examination of Ideal Levels of Social Equality and Political Ideologies by Race” North Central Sociological Association (NCSA), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. April.

Monica Oliva. “Fear of and Perceived Risk of Sexual Victimization on College Campuses” North Central Sociological Association (NCSA), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. April.

- 2011 Emily Asencio, **Monica Oliva**, Michael Steiner. “Fear of Crime on Campus: Outcomes of Perceived Safety.” American Society of Criminology (ASC). Washington, D.C., November.

Monica Oliva. “A Preliminary Look at the Effects of Formally Reporting and Informally Disclosing Sexual Victimization on the Levels of Sexual Self-Esteem Among College Females”. American Society of Criminology (ASC). Washington, D.C., November

Michael Steiner & **Monica Oliva**. “Using Identity Theory to Measure Risk of Sexual Victimization.” American Society of Criminology (ASC). Washington, D.C., November.

Monica Oliva. “Social Isolation as an Outcome of Acknowledging Sexual Victimization.” North Central Sociological Association (NCSA). Cleveland, Ohio, March.

Service

2011- Present	Summit County Rape Crisis Center
2011- Present	Service Chair for Alpha Kappa Delta, the University of Akron
2010- 2011	Treasurer for Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), University of Akron and Kent State University Chapter.
2009-2011	Graduate Student Representative to the Joint Executive Committee
2009-2010	Co-President Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), University of Akron and Kent State University Chapter
2009- Present	Undergraduate Student Mentoring Program

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association (ASA), Sections: Teaching and Learning
American Society of Criminology (ASC), Sections: Women in Crime
North Central Sociological Association (NCSA)
Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS)