

Matthew J. Thompson

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Department of Sociology
University of California, Davis
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EDUCATION

- 2020
(expected) Ph.D. in progress
University of California, Davis, Department of Sociology
Dissertation: “Deadly Decisions: Policing Organizations, Use of Force Policies, and Officer-Involved Shootings”
Dissertation Committee: Ryken Grattet (Chair), Chris Smith, Bill McCarthy, Tom Beamish
- 2011 M.A. Sociology
University of Wyoming, Department of Sociology
Thesis: “Kids and Guns: The Impact of Children and Parenthood on Adult Support for Gun Control”
- 2008 B.A. History
Montana State University, Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies
- B.S. Sociology
Montana State University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Criminology, policing, firearm violence, social network analysis, policy analysis, quantitative analysis, sociology of complex organizations

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Thompson, Matthew J. “Peer Review: Competing Processes of Peer Selection Among U.S. Colleges and Universities.” [Revise and Resubmit at *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*]

Thompson, Matthew J. “Organizational Variation in California Police Departments’ Rates of Fatal and Non-Fatal Force.” [Working paper for dissertation]

Thompson, Matthew J. “Deadly Decisions: Policing Organizations, Use of Force Policies, and Officer-Involved Fatalities among the 100 Largest U.S. Police Departments.” [Working paper for dissertation]

Thompson, Matthew J. “The Standard Template: Content and Similarities in California Law Enforcement Agencies’ Use of Force Policies.” [Working paper for dissertation]

Smith, Chris M., and Matthew J. Thompson. “Race, Violence, and Threat: California Police Use of Force.” [Working paper]

EXTERNAL GRANTS

2019 National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research, Dissertation Award
\$25,000

2019 University of California Firearm Violence Research Center
Small Grants Program
\$10,000

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2019 Evans, Ethan J., and **Matthew J. Thompson**. “Questions and Answers from Research Centers on Gun Violence.” *Heath and Social Work* 44(4):221-223.

Smith, Chris M., and **Matthew J. Thompson**. “[How California is Leading the Way in Gathering and Publicizing Data on the Use of Force by Police.](#)” Scholars Strategy Network, March 14.

2017 Thompson, Matthew J., and Chris M. Smith. “[Citizen Science and Crowdsourced Data Collection, not Government Statistics, Provide the Most Reliable Count of Citizen Fatalities by Police.](#)” The London School of Economics Public Policy Group. *USAPP American Politics and Policy Blog*, May 5.

AWARDS

2011 American Sociological Association Student Forum Best Paper Award

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2015-2019 Graduate student researcher and database manager
Project: Police and Civilian Outcomes of Threatening Encounters
PI: Dr. Chris Smith
Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis
- 2012 Field interviewer (Montana)
Project: National Survey of Early Care and Education
NORC at the University of Chicago
- 2011 Research consultant
Project: Teton County Electrical Energy Management Survey
PI: Dr. Eric Arnould
College of Business, University of Wyoming
- 2011 Graduate student archival research assistant
Project: The Sagebrush Rebellion
PI: Dr. Donna Barnes
Department of Sociology, University of Wyoming
- 2010 Enumerator (Wyoming)
United States Bureau of the Census
- 2008 Undergraduate research assistant
Project: The Decision Making of Human Resources Personnel and the
Organizational Life of Discrimination Law
PI: Dr. Beth Quinn
Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Montana State University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 Thompson, Matthew J. "Use of Force Policies: Evaluating Department Variation in Rates of Use of Force." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, November 15, San Francisco, CA.
- 2019 Thompson, Matthew J. "Use of Force Policies and Constraining Fatal Police Violence." Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, August 9, New York, NY.
- 2018 Thompson, Matthew J. "Organizational Variation in Structure and Policy as a Source of Fatal Police Use of Force." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, November 17, Atlanta, GA.

- 2017 Smith, Chris M., and **Matthew J. Thompson**. "Race, Violence, and Threat: A National Analysis of Police and Civilian Interactions, 2015." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, November 15, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2011 Thompson, Matthew J. "Kids and Guns." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August 23, Las Vegas, NV.

INVITED TALKS

- 2019 Thompson, Matthew J. "Deadly Decisions: Policing Organizations, Use of Force Policies, and Officer Involved Shootings (Dissertation Award)." Presented at the National Collaborative for Gun Violence Research Grantees Meeting. December 16, Washington, D.C.
- Smith, Chris M., and **Matthew J. Thompson**. "Planning and Managing Original Data Collection." Presented at the University of California, Davis, Department of Sociology Quantitative Working Group. May 21, Davis, CA.
- 2017 Thompson, Matthew J. "Network Data in the Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS)." Presented at the University of California, Davis, Institute for Social Sciences Social Network Pro-Seminar. April 12, Davis, CA.
- 2017 Smith, Chris M., and **Matthew J. Thompson**. "Research in Progress: Race Effects in Threatening Interactions between Police and Civilians." Presented at the Violence Prevention Research Program at the University of California, Davis Medical Center. February 10, Sacramento, CA.
- 2016 Thompson, Matthew J. "What is a Peer Institution? Organizational Searches for Relevant Comparisons among U.S. Colleges and Universities." Presented at the Department of Sociology Graduate Student Research and Design Conference at the University of California, Davis. May 6, Davis, CA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses developed and taught

- 2018 University of California, Davis, Department of Sociology
Criminal Justice System
- 2015 Social Problems

Teaching assistantships

	Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis
2019	Law and Society
2015-2019	Criminology
2018	Graduate Quantitative Methods
2017	Criminal Justice System
2015	Intercultural Relations in Multicultural Societies
2014	Urban Sociology
2014	Intermediate Statistics for Social Science
2013-2014	Introduction to Social Research
2013	Introduction to Sociology
2013	Immigration
2012	Social Problems
	Department of Sociology, University of Wyoming
2011	Graduate Statistical Methods for Social Science
2010	Principles of Sociology
	Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Montana State University
2008-2009	Introduction to Social Theory
2008	Introduction to Social Inquiry

PEER REVIEWER

Gender and Violence

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Committees

	Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis
2018-2019	Undergraduate Program Committee, Graduate Student Member
2018-2020	Sociology Writes, Graduate Student Co-Organizer
2017-2020	Graduate Student Research and Design Conference, Co-Organizer
2017-2020	Lemert Lecture and Colloquia Committee, Graduate Student Member

Workshops

	Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis
2020	QuanTea Data Wrangling in R Workshop, Co-Organizer and Presenter
2017-2019	Graduate Student Research and Design Conference, Discussant
2016	Graduate Student Research and Design Conference, Presenter

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2019-2020 Society for the Study of Social Problems
2019-2020 Scholars Strategy Network, Sacramento Chapter
2016-2020 American Society of Criminology
2011-2020 American Sociological Association