

SHAUN A. THOMAS
Curriculum Vitae

(October 2011)

The Department of Criminal Justice
The University of Arkansas – Little Rock
Little Rock, AR 72204
Phone: (501)569-3461 E-mail: sathomas@ualr.edu

EDUCATION:

- 2009 PhD in Sociology, *Louisiana State University*.

 Dissertation Title: “Beyond Crime Quantities: A Multilevel Analysis of the Relative Prevalence of Interracial Violence”

 Committee: Matthew R. Lee (chair), William B. Bankston, Edward S. Shihadeh, and Troy Blanchard
- 2006 M.A., Sociology, *Louisiana State University* (4.0 G.P.A)

 Thesis Title: “An Analysis of the Efficacy of Community Oriented Policing in Reducing Violent Crime in Large Cities.”
- 2002 B.A., Sociology (Magna Cum Laude), *The University of Akron*.

EMPLOYMENT

- 08/09 to Present Assistant Professor - Department of Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas - Little Rock

COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate: Advanced Statistics, Secondary Data Analysis and Management, Criminological Theory, Regression Analysis

Undergraduate: Deviant Behavior*, Victimology*, Current Social Problems, and Introduction to Criminal Justice*

* indicates class was also taught online

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Violence, crime as a public health issue, communities and crime, race and ethnicity, institutions of social control, juvenile delinquency, the nature of violence, civic engagement, victimology, deviant behavior, statistics, methods, drugs and crime, rural and urban studies, multicultural issues in criminal justice, police and the community.

PUBLICATIONS

- Lee, Matthew R. and Shaun A. Thomas. 2010. "Civic Community, Population Change, and Violent Crime in Rural Communities." *The Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*.
- Lee, Mathew R., Shaun A. Thomas and Graham C. Ousey. 2010. "Southern Culture and Homicide: Examining the Cracker Culture / Black Redneck Thesis." *Deviant Behavior*.
- Thomas, Shaun A. 2009 "Community Oriented Policing and Lethal Violence: A Macro Level Analysis." *The International Journal of Crime, Law, and Criminal Justice*.
- Lee, Matthew R., Timothy C. Hayes, and Shaun A. Thomas. 2008. "Regional Variation in the Effects of Structural Factors on Violence in Nonmetropolitan Areas." *The Social Science Journal* 45(1):76-94.
- * Discussed in: Vedantam, Shankar. 2008. "What Obama Might Learn From Emily Dickinson." *Washington Post* April 21, A02.
- Thomas, Shaun A. 2007 "Lies, Damn Lies and Rumors: An Analysis of Collective Efficacy, Rumors, and Fear in the Wake of Katrina" *Sociological Spectrum* 27(6):679-703.
- Lee, Matthew R., William B. Bankston, Timothy C. Hayes, and Shaun A. Thomas. 2007. "Re-Visiting the Southern Culture of Violence Thesis." *The Sociological Quarterly* 48(2):253-275.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW:

- Thomas, Shaun and Edward Shihadeh. "Institutional Attachment and Violent Crime: An Analysis of the Concentration of Youth Disengagement" (Revise and Resubmit from *Social Science Research*)
- Moak, Stacy C., Shaun A. Thomas, and Jeffrey T. Walker. "Community Context and Disproportionate Minority Contact: An HLM Model." (Will be under review at *Youth and Society* by end of October 2011)
- Thomas, Shaun A., Stacy C. Moak, and Jeffrey T. Walker. "Racial Bias in Detention and Community Context: The Role of Racial versus Symbolic Threat." (Will be under review at *Race and Justice* by end of October 2011)
- Thomas, Shaun. "A Down Side of Up: The Impact of Civic Structure and Resource Disadvantage on Interracial Contact and Violence." (Will be under review at *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* in November 2011)

Thomas, Shaun, Timothy Hayes and Lynn Pazzoni. "Strangers and Non-Strangers in the Midst: A Multilevel Analysis of Violence between Family, Friends, and Strangers" (Analysis Complete. Will be under review in late 2011 or early 2012)

Thomas, Shaun and Kyle Burgason. "Community Disadvantage, Incident Characteristics, and the Nature of Violence: A Multi-Level Analysis of Weapon Use and Extent of Victim Injury in Aggravated Assaults and Robberies." (Analysis Complete. Will be under review by January 2012)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:

Thomas, Shaun. "A Multi-Level Analysis of Offender Motivation in Aggravated Assaults." (Analysis Complete)

Thomas, Shaun and Lacie M. Michel. "Collective Efficacy and Volunteerism in the Wake of Katrina." (Analysis Complete)

Thomas, Shaun A., Matthew R. Lee, and Timothy C. Brown. "A New Look at the Macro Level Relation between Crime and Community Oriented Policing." (Analysis Complete)

Thomas, Shaun. "Equal Opportunity Victimization: The role of Civic and Economic Institutions on Inter-Ethnic Association and Violence." (Analysis in progress. Project will be submitted for 2012 ASA/BJS Small Grant Program and NIJ Secondary Data Analysis Grant Program)

Barranco, Raymond, Shaun A. Thomas, and Jessica Simpson. "Does Size Always Matter: An Analysis of Manufacturing Firm Size and Violent Crime." (Analysis in progress)

Thomas, Shaun. "Bonding vs. Bridging: Religious Denominations, Social Capital, and Inter-Group Associations." (Gathering Data – Possible submission to NIJ Secondary data Analysis Grant Program)

GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING

Thomas, Shaun, Stacy Moak, and Jeffrey Walker. 2011. "A Down Side of Up: Civic Structure, Resource Disadvantage, and Interracial Violence." Submitted to The American Statistical Association / Bureau of Justice Statistics Small Grants Research Program for Analysis of Crime and Justice Data. (Not Funded)

Thomas, Shaun. 2011. "A Down Side of Up: Civic Structure, Resource Disadvantage, and Interracial Violence." Submitted to The University of Arkansas at Little Rock College of Professional Studies Summer Research Grant. (Funded at \$5,000)

Thomas, Shaun. 2010. Awarded funding from UALR to develop and deliver an online Deviant Behavior course

Thomas, Shaun. 2010. Awarded funding from UALR to develop and deliver an online Victimology course

Thomas, Shaun. 2008. "Beyond Crime Quantities: A Multilevel Analysis of the Relative Prevalence of Interracial Violence" Submitted to the Louisiana State University Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship Program. (Funded at \$18,000 + tuition)

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS

2010 Selected as a mentor for Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program

2008 Nominated for the LSU sociology instructor of the year award.

2007 Awarded the Rudolph Heberle Award for Exceptional Progress and Scholarship for a graduate student in sociology sponsored by the Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University.

2006 Awarded the Graduate Student "Paper of Distinction" Award sponsored by the Mid-South Sociological Association.

2006 Awarded the Graduate Student Paper Competition Award sponsored by Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society (Third Place).

2002 Awarded the Dr. Charles C. Rogler Scholarship sponsored by the Department of Sociology, The University of Akron. \$1,000.

96-02 Dean's List (Fall 1996 – Fall 2002).

WORKS PRESENTED:

Thomas, Shaun A., Stacy C. Moak, and Jeffrey T. Walker. March 2012. Racial Bias in Detention and Community Context: The Role of Racial versus Symbolic Threat. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in New York, NY.

Thomas, Shaun. November 2011. Informal Social Control and At-Risk Youth: Linking Contextual Environments, Institutionally Isolated Youth, and Crime. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Washington, DC.

Moak, Stacy C., Shaun A. Thomas, and Jeffrey T. Walker. March 2011 "Community Context

- and Disproportionate Minority Contact: An HLM Model.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Toronto, Canada.
- Thomas, Shaun. November 2010. The Influence of Region, County Characteristics, and Situational Factors on Argument Based Assaults. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco, CA.
- Thomas, Shaun. October 2010. The Floater Effect and Lethal Violence: An Analysis of the Impact of Institutionally Disengaged Youth on Homicide Subtypes. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association in Baton Rouge, LA.
- Thomas, Shaun and Vakeyia Dulaney. September 2010. “(In)variance in the Effect of Institutionally Disengaged Youth on Lethal Violence.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice in Little Rock, AR.
- Thomas, Shaun. February 2010. “A Multi-Level Analysis of Variation in the Extent of Physical Injury Suffered by Victims of Violent Crime.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in San Diego, CA.
- Thomas, Shaun A. and Timothy C. Hayes. November 2009. “Strangers and Non-Strangers in the Midst: A Multilevel Analysis of Violence between Family, Friends, and Strangers.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Philadelphia, PA
- Thomas, Shaun A. April 2009. “Beyond Quantities: A Multilevel Analysis of variation in the Nature of Violent Crime in the U.S.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society in New Orleans, LA.
- Thomas, Shaun A. and Lacie M. Michel. April 2009. “Volunteerism in the Wake of Katrina: How did Community Cohesion, Rumors of Crime, and Fear of Victimization Affect Decisions to Volunteer.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society in New Orleans, LA.
- Thomas, Shaun A. November 2008. “A Multi-Level Analysis of Racial Inequality and Segregation on Inter-racial and Intra-racial Robbery and Aggravated Assault.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in St. Louis, MO.
- Thomas, Johanna M. and Shaun A. Thomas. November 2008. “Youth at Risk: A Longitudinal Analysis of the Criminal Trajectories of Juvenile Offenders.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in St. Louis, MO.
- Shihadeh, Edward S. and Shaun A. Thomas. November 2007. “Institutional Attachment and Violence: The Concentration of Youth Disengagement and Serious Crime.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Atlanta, GA.

- Lee, Matthew R. and Shaun A. Thomas. November 2007. "Changes in Civil Society and Rural Crime, 1980-2000." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Atlanta, GA.
- Barranco, Raymond E., Shaun A. Thomas, and Jessica Simpson. November 2007. "Does Size Matter Everywhere: Linking Manufacturing Firm Size, Concentrated Disadvantage, and Crime in Metropolitan Areas." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Atlanta, GA.
- Lee, Matthew R., Timothy C. Hayes and Shaun A. Thomas. August 2007. "Resource Disadvantage and Homicide: Regional variations in the Rural Context." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in New York, NY.
- Thomas, Shaun A. March 2007. "Lies, Damn Lies, and Rumors: An Analysis of Collective Efficacy, Rumors and Fear in the Wake of Katrina." Invited lecture on the effects of Katrina presented to representatives from Stanford University and hosted by the Crime and Policy Evaluation Research (CAPER) group, Louisiana State University.
- Thomas, Shaun A., Matthew R. Lee, and Timothy C. Brown. October 2006. "An Examination of the Macro Level Crime Reducing Capabilities of Community Oriented Policing." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of Mid-South Sociological Association in Lafayette, LA.
- Thomas, Shaun A. October 2006. "Lies, Damn Lies, and Rumors: An Analysis of Collective Efficacy, Rumors and Fear in the Wake of Katrina." Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of Mid-South Sociological Association in Lafayette, LA.
- Lee, Matthew R., Shaun A. Thomas, Michael O. Maume, and Graham C. Ousey. August 2006. "Structural versus Cultural Sources of Black Homicide in Rural Communities." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in Montreal, Canada.
- Thomas, Shaun A. March 2006. "Collective Efficacy, Rumors, and Fear of Crime in Baton Rouge after Hurricane Katrina." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Thomas, Shaun A. March 2006. "An Analysis of the Efficacy of Community Oriented Policing: Does it Reduce Crime in large Cities?" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Lee, Matthew R., William B. Bankston, Timothy C. Hayes and Shaun A. Thomas. November 2005. "Re-Visiting the Southern Culture of Violence Thesis." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Toronto, Canada.
- Lee, Matthew R., Timothy C. Hayes and Shaun A. Thomas. April 2005. "Regional Variation in the Effects of Structural Factors on Violence in Nonmetropolitan Areas." Paper

presented at the Theory and Research Workshop, Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University.

Lee, Matthew R., Timothy C. Hayes and Shaun A. Thomas. March 2005. "Regional Variation in the Effects of Structural Factors on Violence in Nonmetropolitan Areas." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association, New Orleans, Louisiana.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES and PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT:

- 2008 Statistical and Data Analysis Consultant, The School of Social Work at Louisiana State University.
- 2006- Associate Research Fellow, The Crime And Policy Evaluation Research
present Group (CAPER), Louisiana State University.
- 2004- Graduate Research Assistant. "CAREER: Institutional Structures, Civic
2008 Engagement, and Crime in Nonmetropolitan America." National Science
Foundation Early Career Development Program grant number SES 0237968. PI:
Matthew R. Lee. Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University.
- 2008 Interviewer, Reconstituting Community: The Contribution of Social Capital and
Social Organization to Disaster Recovery. Conducted face to face interviews with
residents of New Orleans concerning their post Katrina experiences and
interpretations of recovery efforts. Funded by the National Science Foundation.
PI: Fredrick Weil. Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University.
- 2007 Interviewer, Culture and Violence in Rural America. Conducted face to face
interviews with residents of rural Louisiana concerning cultural acceptance of
violence. Funded by the Office of Research and Economic Development Faculty
Research Grant Program, Louisiana State University. PI: Matthew R. Lee.
- 2007 Data Collection, Optinet Resources, LLC and the Army Corps of Engineers.
Collected data for a structure inventory of the 100 and 500 year flood plains in the
greater New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas
- 2006 Interviewer, The Social Fabric Under Stress. Conducted post Katrina interviews
with residents of Baton Rouge. Funded by National Science Foundation award
number: 0554572. PI's: Fredrick Weil, Edward Shihadeh, and Matthew R. Lee.
Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University.
- 2005 Interviewer, Advanced Research Methods graduate seminar. Conducted telephone
interviews with residents of East Baton Rouge Parish in regards to their
experiences immediately following hurricane Katrina.

- 2002 Undergraduate Research Assistant for Dr. Nancy Miller and Virginia Smerglia
M.A. Department of Sociology, The University of Akron.
- 2001-02 Supervisor, Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Survey Research
Lab. The University of Akron Center for Policy Studies.

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

Topics: Gangs, Age and Crime, Fear of crime, Drugs and Alcohol, Gender and Crime, and Rural Violence.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Department and College Level

Faculty Search Committee Chair (Fall 2011) 2-4 Tenure Track Positions and more than 50 Applications.

Applied for Faculty Advisor Position with The University District Engaged Scholars Program. (Not selected)

Mentor for Six Criminal Justice Majors Selected for The University District Engaged Scholars Program

Dissertation Committee Chair for Kyle Burgason

Dissertation Committee Member for Gavin Lee and Thomas Zawisza

Comp paper committee chair for Kyle Bergason and Tom Zawisza

Thesis Committee Member for Taylor Oxley (Graduated Fall 2011)

Faculty Advisor to the University of Arkansas in Little Rock Criminal Justice Society. (2010)

Member of the Department Assessment Committee for the College of Professional Studies – UALR (2010)

President of the Louisiana State University Graduate Student Sociological Association. (06-07)

Member (non-voting) of the Department of Sociology Faculty Search Committee as a representative of the Graduate Student Sociological Association at Louisiana State University. (2006-2007)

Member of the Social Activities Committee for the Graduate Student Sociological Association at Louisiana State University (2007-2008)

University Level

Contributor / statistical consultant for The University of Arkansas' Promise Neighborhoods Grant Application.

Member of The University of Arkansas Chancellor's Committee on Race. (2010)

Participated as a Mentor for the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program (2010 - Vakeyia Dulaney)

Mentor and Tutor for student-athletes with the LSU Cox Communications Academic Center for Student Athletes, Louisiana State University. (2007)

Profession

Session Chair for 2012 Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual New York, NY.

Selected as the Chair of 2011 Local Arrangements Committee for the Annual Meeting of Mid-South Sociological Society in Little Rock, AR.

Ad Hoc Reviewer for Criminology, The Journal of Quantitative Criminology, The American Journal of Sociology, The Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, and Social Science Research

Faculty Advisor for the UALR Quiz Bowl Team at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice in Little Rock, AR. (2010)

Volunteer for the at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice in Little Rock, AR. (2010)

Member of the Awards Nominations Committee for The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. (2010)

Community

Volunteer with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Baton Rouge, LA. (2006-2007)

Intern with Safe Landing Youth Shelter. Akron, OH. Internship Director Dr. Matthew T. Lee. Department of Sociology, The University of Akron. (2002)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS:

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)
American Society of Criminology (ASC)
American Sociological Association (ASA)
Mid-South Sociological Association (MSSA)
Southern Sociological Society (SSS)
Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ)

HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS:

Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society (AKD)
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
Phi Sigma Alpha Scholastic Honorary Society
Golden Key International Honor Society