

Jamie J. Abernathy, MCJ
Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

Address: School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Nebraska at Omaha
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Omaha, NE 68182
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Education

Expected 2029	Ph.D. Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha
2024	MCJ, Criminal Justice, Loyola University New Orleans
2022	B.A. Criminal Justice, Loyola University New Orleans

Research Interests

Victimization	Child Abuse & Neglect	Sexual violence
Human Trafficking	Intimate Partner Violence	Vicarious trauma

Research Positions

2025-Present	A National Review of Multidisciplinary Teams Addressing Child Sexual Exploitation ● Funding: National Institute of Justice (Approximately \$1.5 million) ● Role: Research Assistant (Drs. Teresa Kulig, Tara Richards & Michaela Benson-Goldsmith) ○ Conducted Google searches to identify multidisciplinary teams in Midwestern states using key terms ○ Reached out to multidisciplinary teams via agency contact forms and phone calls to obtain an appropriate point of contact for surveys to be sent to ○ Assisted in training other research interns in the state search protocol when they were onboarded to the project ○ Prepared meeting agendas, monthly progress emails, and took meeting minutes for the research team (University of Nebraska-Omaha, University of South Florida, and Northeastern University)
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Professional & Conference Presentations

“*In-Person and Online Stalking Victimization Experiences among U.S. Adults*” [Manuscript in progress]. Authors: Jamie Abernathy, Dr. Teresa Kulig, and Hanna Kober. Will be Presented at the American Society of Criminology Conference in Chicago, IL- November 2026.

“Emotional Abuse as the Central Driver of Secondary Traumatic Stress Among Forensic Interviewers” [Manuscript in progress]. Authors: Jamie Abernathy, Dr. Christopher Torres, and Dr. Erik Cruz. Presented at the American Society of Criminology Conference in Washington, D.C.- November 2025.

Teaching Experience

Invited Guest Lecture

University of Nebraska Omaha
2026 CRCJ 4410: Victimology

Invited Guest Lecture

Loyola University New Orleans
2025 CRIM A480: Criminology Senior Capstone

Invited Guest Lecture

Loyola University New Orleans
2024 CRIM A285: Crisis Intervention

Invited Guest Lecture

Loyola University New Orleans
2024 CRIM A480: Criminology Senior Capstone

Invited Guest Lecture

Loyola University New Orleans
2024 CRIM A280: Sexual Assault

Invited Guest Lecture

Loyola University New Orleans
2023 CRIM A280: Sexual Assault

Invited Guest Lecture

Loyola University New Orleans
2023 CRIM A480: Criminology Senior Capstone

Instructor

Loyola University New Orleans
2025 FRSC-A294-WA1: Forensic Interviewing

Instructor

Loyola University New Orleans
2025 FRSC-A494-WZ1: Forensic Interviewing

Instructor

Loyola University New Orleans
2025 FRSC-A494-WA1: Forensic Interviewing

Grants, Honors, & Awards

- 2026 University of Nebraska at Omaha Graduate Research and Creative Activity Fund (GRACA), \$5,000
- 2025 University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Conference Travel Fund (SCTF), \$500

Professional Experience

- 2023-2025 *Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center*
Role: **Forensic Interviewer**
-Conducted 417 evidence-gathering interviews of children (ages 2-17) who have alleged abuse or have witnessed a crime
-Provided testimony to present and defend interviews in court
- 2023-2025 *Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center*
Role: **Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator**
-Coordinated bi-monthly meetings with all disciplines involved in child abuse investigations
-Ensured effective communication amongst the various disciplines to keep all parties informed about recent cases, and to help guarantee the best outcomes for the involved children and families
- 2023-2025 *Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center*
Role: **Louisiana Alliance of CACs Peer Review Facilitator**
-Facilitated quarterly meetings that allowed forensic interviewers located in Southern Louisiana to network and collaborate
-Presented relevant research about forensic interviewing and facilitated conversations about best practices when it comes to interviewing child victims
- 2023-2025 *Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center*
Role: **Darkness to Light Authorized Facilitator**
-Hosted and delivered the *Stewards of Children* child sexual abuse prevention program to adults in an organization or community, such as police academies, schools, etc.
-Engaged adults who are interested in protecting children in effective conversations about how to recognize and respond to child sexual abuse

University Service

- 2026 *Volunteer*, UNO Graduate Student Welcome Event
Volunteer, SCCJ Preview Visit: Research Lab Presentation
Volunteer, SCCJ Director Candidate Search Presentation
- 2025 *Volunteer*, SCCJ Golf Scramble
Volunteer, Lydia House- Open Door Mission

Professional Development

- 2026 -Attended Seminar “Generating Policy Relevant Research and Communicating it Effectively” by Dr. Nancy La Vigne”
-Attended Seminar “Navigating the Job Market” by Dr. Jenn Tostlebe
-Attended Seminar “UNO Creating Engaging Content in Canvas- Beginner Workshop
-Attended Seminar “Theorizing Punishment” by Dr. Ashley Rubin
-Attended Seminar “What I’ve Learned from Studying Violent Crime: Reflections on Research, Responsibility, and Relationships” by Dr. James Densley
-Attended Seminar “Understanding Abolition” by Dr. Abigail Henson

Certifications

- 2023 Trained in the National Children’s Advocacy Center Forensic Interviewing Protocol

Professional Affiliations

- 2023-Present American Society of Criminology
2023-Present American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children