

Katelynn P. Towne, Ph.D.

Nebraska Center for Justice Research
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Evaluation, Social Inequities, Criminal Legal System, Reentry, Policing, Victimization

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018-Present **Research Coordinator.** Nebraska Center for Justice Research, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha.
Projects: Poverty Elimination Action Plan – Omaha, NE, Juvenile Justice Case Study, Vocational & Life Skills Program Evaluation, Nebraska Department of Corrections Program Evaluations, and NE Evidence Based Practices Program Inventory.
Responsibilities: program evaluation, data collection and management, data analysis, develop logic models/theory of change, measure development, community engagement, technical assistance, supervise research assistants, report writing, manuscript writing, research presentations, and grant writing.
- 2012-2018 **Graduate Assistant.** Sociology Department, University of Missouri at Columbia.
Research Projects: Missouri Crime Victimization Survey funded by the National Institute of Justice for the Missouri Highway Patrol.
Responsibilities: Literature reviews, data management, data analysis, grading, teaching, teaching assistance, mentoring, and report writing.
- 2015 **Stata Consultant.** Doctoral Candidate in Health Sciences, Tulane University.
Responsibilities: Data management, coding, and analysis.

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Sociology:** University of Missouri-Columbia
Dissertation: “Woke: Social Media and Attitudes towards Police Use of Force.”
Committee Members: Eileen Avery, Joan Hermsen, Eric Brown, S. David Mitchell
Concentrations in Social Control & Deviance and Social Inequality
- M.A. Sociology:** University of Missouri-Columbia
Master Thesis: “Economic Downturns and Distrust in the Police.”
Committee Members: Eileen Avery, Joan Hermsen, Eric Brown
- B.A. Major Sociology, Minor: Psychology:** University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Senior Thesis: “Racial-Ethnic Variation in Attitudes towards the Police.”
Alpha Kappa Delta Honors Graduate
- A.A. General Studies:** Southeast Community College-Lincoln, NE

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Avery, Eileen E., and **Katelynn Towne**. 2025. "Perceptions of Procedural Justice among Law Enforcement Agencies in Rural and Urban Context." *Under Review*.
- Butler, H. Daniel., Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2022. "Understanding Volunteerism: The Role of the Participant in Non-Clinical Correctional Programming." *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation* 61(7): 357-374.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn, and Amber Richey. 2022. "'Put it in your Toolbox': How Vocational Reentry Programs Support Formerly Incarcerated Persons through Desistance." *Crime & Delinquency*.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2022. "My Friends Keep Me Woke About these Things": How College Students Experience and Engage with Police Use of Force Content on social media." *Sociological Spectrum* 1-14.
- Hermesen, Joan, Eileen Avery, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2020. "Crime Victimization Distress, Neighborhood Social Cohesion, and Perceived Police Effectiveness." *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology* 30(6), 581-592.

GRANTS & AWARDS

2018	Habenstein Dissertation Fellowship, MU Sociology Department \$2,400
2017	Graduate Research Award, MU Sociology Department \$1,200
2017	Student Travel Award, Mizzou Advantage \$900
2017	Travel Grant, Graduate Professional Council \$400
2016	Graduate Student Support Grant, MU Sociology Department \$750
2016	Research & Training Award, MU Sociology Department \$750
2016	Travel Grant, Graduate Student Association \$100
2013	Travel Grant, Graduate Professional Council \$500
2012	Travel Grant, Graduate Student Association \$300
2012	OTS MU Sociology Departmental Fellowship \$3,000

GRANTS SUBMITTED; NOT FUNDED

- Co-Investigator. Evaluating the Tennessee Technology Training Workforce Alliance Program, 2023-2025. Funding Agency: Persevere. \$483,211 (3 years)
- Co-PI. Assessing the Effectiveness of the Second Chance Act Grant Program: A Phased Evaluation Approach, Fiscal Year 2020. Funding agency: U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs. \$1,227,289 (2 years)

RESEARCH REPORTS

- Abby Hayes and **Katelynn Towne**. 2024. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Five, Quarter Five*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Hobbs, Anne., Ryan Spohn, **Katelynn Towne**, Faith Hall, and Sadie Brewer. 2024. *Persistent Juvenile Offending: A Review of Selected Cases*. [Unpublished internal report]. Douglas County Juvenile Probation.

- Hayes, Abigail, **Katelynn Towne**, Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn, and Tara Grell. 2024. *Vocational & Life Skills Evaluation Annual Report, Grant Cycle Four: Year Three*. Prepared for the Nebraska Judiciary Committee and the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Abby Hayes and **Katelynn Towne**. 2024. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Five, Quarter Four*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Abby Hayes. 2024. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Five, Quarter Three*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Abby Hayes. 2024. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Five, Quarter Two*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Abby Hayes. 2023. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Five, Quarter One*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Campagna, Michael, **Katelynn Towne**, Ryan Spohn, Zachary Hamilton, Jenn Tostlebe, Amber Krushas, Brian Gildea, John Ursino, Sarah Al Falatah, Abby Hayes. 2024. *Evaluation Report: Violence Reduction Program at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services*. Nebraska Center for Justice Research, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska Omaha.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Laura Dueland, Ryan Spohn, Baylee Allen, and Tara Grell. 2023. *Employer Perspectives on Hiring and Working with Justice-Involved Individuals*. Prepared for the Nebraska Judiciary Committee and the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn, Laura Brooks Dueland, and Tara Grell. 2022. *Vocational & Life Skills Evaluation Annual Report, Grant Cycle Four: Year Two*. Prepared for the Nebraska Judiciary Committee and the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Christopher Campbell, Monica Miles-Steffens, Brian Gildea, John Ursino, Ryan Spohn, Zachary Hamilton, Michael Campagna, Addison Kobie, Taylor Claxton, Laura Dueland, Tara Grell. 2023. *Evidence-Based Inventory of Criminal Justice Programs in Nebraska*. For the Nebraska Legislature.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Abby Hayes. 2023. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Twelve*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2023. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Eleven*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2023. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Ten*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2022. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Nine*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2022. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Eight*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2022. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Seven*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Taylor Claxton. 2021. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Six*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Taylor Claxton. 2021. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Five*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.

- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, and Ryan Spohn. 2021. *Vocational & Life Skills Evaluation Annual Report, Grant Cycle Four: Year One*. Prepared for the Nebraska Judiciary Committee and the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, and Ryan Spohn. 2021. *Ready & Resilient: Qualitative Findings from Life Story Interviews with Vocational and Life Skills Program Participants*. Prepared for the Nebraska Judiciary Committee and the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2021. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Four*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2021. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Three*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2021. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Four, Quarter Two*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Toto, Sara, Emily Wright, Michael Campagna, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2020. *Adult Justice in Nebraska, 2019*. For the Nebraska Legislature.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2020. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter One*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2020. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Eight*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2020. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Seven*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2020. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Six*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Toto, Sara, Emily Wright, Michael Campagna, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2020. *Adult Justice in Nebraska, 2019*. For the Nebraska Legislature.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2019. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Five*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2019. *Vocational and Life Skills Annual Report: Grant Cycle Three, Year One*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2019. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Four*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2019. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Three*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2019. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter Two*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Towne, Katelynn** and Michael Campagna. 2018. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter One*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Campagna, Michael and **Katelynn Towne**. 2018. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Three, Quarter One*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Campagna, Michael and **Katelynn Towne**. 2018. *Vocational and Life Skills Quarterly Report: Grant Cycle Two, Quarter Eight*. For the Nebraska Department of Corrections.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, **Katelynn Towne**, and Don Willis. 2017. *Missouri Crime Victimization Survey, 2016: Executive Report*. University of Missouri Columbia.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, **Katelynn Towne**, and Don Willis. 2017. *Missouri Crime Victimization Survey, 2016: Intimate Partner Violence*. University of Missouri Columbia.

- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, **Katelynn Towne**, and Don Willis. 2017. *Missouri Crime Victimization Survey, 2016: Neighborhood Trust, Safety, and Fear*. University of Missouri Columbia.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, **Katelynn Towne**, and Don Willis. 2017. *Missouri Crime Victimization Survey, 2016: Perceptions of Law Enforcement*. University of Missouri Columbia.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, Matt Knudtson, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2017. *Missouri Crime Victimization Survey, 2016: Summary Report*. University of Missouri Columbia.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Hayes, Abigal, **Katelynn Towne**, and Ryan Spohn. 2024. "Vocational Programming on Racial Disparities in Reentry Employment." American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Ryan Spohn, Zachary Hamilton, Michael Campagna, Brian Gildea. 2023. "Evidence-Based Program Inventory of Nebraska's Criminal Justice Programs." American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.
- Michael Campagna, **Katelynn Towne**, Andrea Walker, and Ryan Spohn. 2023. "It Takes a Village: A Spectrum of Voices on Reentry Services." American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.
- Britton, Anthony, Kasey Parker, LaVon Stennis Williams, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2022. "State-Level Reentry Initiatives: How Florida and Nebraska do Reentry." Reentry Summit. West Palm Beach, FL.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn. 2021. "Reentry Employment During Covid-19." American Society of Criminology. Chicago, IL.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2019. "Internet News and Neoliberal Ideology on Police Use of Force Approval Attitudes." American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn. 2019. "Where There is a Will, the Way is Still Hard: Qualitative Themes of Ex-Offender Reentry." American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA.
- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Ryan Spohn. 2019. "Reentry Program Satisfaction & Remaining Challenges." Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2019. "My Friends Keep Me Woke About These Things." Policing and Society Conference. Akureyri, Iceland.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2017. "Perceptions of Police: Procedural Justice in Rural and Urban Neighborhoods." *American Society of Criminology*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, **Katelynn Towne**, and Mark Ritchey. 2017. "Distress from Violent Victimization: Impacts on Concerns about Crime and Perceptions of Law Enforcement." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2017. "Urban-Rural Differences in Worry about Crime, Race Relations, and Illegal Immigration in Missouri, USA." *World Association for Public Opinion Research*, Lisbon, Portugal.

- Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, **Katelynn Towne**, and Matt Knudtson. 2016. "Urban-Rural Differences in Perceptions of Policing: Preliminary Evidence from the 2016 Missouri Crime and Victimization Survey." *American Society of Criminology*, New Orleans, LA.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2016. "Black Lives Matter to Blue Lives Matter: The Movement and the Backlash on Facebook." *Midwest Sociological Society*, Chicago, IL.
- Carrey, Rebecca, Evonnia Woods, Kristen McCowan, Monica Hand, and **Katelynn Towne**. 2015. "Women and Crime." *Women and Gender Studies Conference*, University of Missouri-Columbia, MO.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2013. "Characteristics of Victim and Offender on Reporting." *American Society of Criminology*, Atlanta, GA.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2013. "Economic Downturns and Trust in the Police." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, New York, NY.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Towne, Katelynn**, Michael Campagna, Laura Dueland, Ryan Spohn, and Baylee Allen. 2023. "Employer Perspectives in Hiring and Working with Justice-Involved Individuals." A virtual research presentation prepared for the Re-Entry Task Force.
- Kohut, Mike, Brian Knop, **Katelynn Towne**, Ty Miller. 2023. "Social Science Research Careers." A virtual panel presented by Sociology Department at Winthrop University.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2023. "Research, Evaluation, & Impact" Guest lecture at University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Lincoln, NE.
- Towne, Katelynn**. 2019. "Based on What Evidence?" Guest lecture at Emporia State University, Emporia, KS.

TRAININGS PROVIDED

- Towne, Katelynn**. "Vocational and Life Skills Participant Survey Training." Technical assistance training provided to the Mental Health Association of Nebraska funded by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. In person in Lincoln, NE on 4/19/23.
- Towne, Katelynn**. "QuickBase to NiCaMS Transition: How to use NiCaMS for VLS Data Management." A technical assistance training provided to Vocational and Life Skill grantees funded by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. In person in Lincoln, NE on 9/19/22.
- Towne, Katelynn**. "Using QuickBase 2.0." Technical assistance training provided to Vocational and Life Skill grantees funded by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. Online using the Webex on 11/6/2020.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| 2024 | Adjunct Instructor, Race, Ethnicity, and CJ (Online), UN-Omaha |
| 2022 | Adjunct Instructor, Police and Society (Online), UN-Lincoln |
| 2020 | Adjunct Instructor, Sociological Theory, Nebraska Wesleyan University |
| 2020 | Adjunct Instructor, Introduction to Sociology, Nebraska Wesleyan University |
| 2018 | Graduate Instructor, Social Deviance (Online), MU-Columbia |
| 2018 | Graduate Instructor, Criminology, MU-Columbia |

2015	Guest Lecture, "Crime Data & Policing Attitudes." Deviance, MU-Columbia
2015	Guest Lecture, "Urbanization." Social Problems, MU-Columbia
2015	Graduate Instructor, Criminology, MU-Columbia
2015	Graduate Instructor, Introduction to Sociology, MU-Columbia
2014	Graduate Instructor, Social Deviance, MU-Columbia
2014	Graduate Instructor, Introduction to Sociology, MU-Columbia
2014	Teaching Assistant, Advanced Social Statistics, MU-Columbia
2013	Teaching Assistant, Social Statistics, MU-Columbia
2013	Teaching Assistant, Social Deviance, MU-Columbia
2013	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology, MU-Columbia
2012	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology, MU-Columbia
2012	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Peace Studies, MU-Columbia

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

2024	American Evaluation Association: Introduction to Focus Groups, Online Course
2022	LinkedIn Learning: UX Deep Dive, Remote Research, Online Course
2022	LinkedIn Learning: UX Foundations, Research, Online Course
2022	LinkedIn Learning: Getting Started in User Experience, Online Course
2022	LinkedIn Learning: Leading Virtual Meetings, Online Course
2022	LinkedIn Learning: Being an Effective Team Member, Online Course
2022	LinkedIn Learning: Speaking Confidently & Effectively, Online Course
2022	UNL: Institute for Online Teaching, Lincoln, NE
2021	UNO: Introduction to OneDrive and SharePoint, Online Webinar Training
2021	TEI: Foundations & Contemporary Issues in Evaluation Practice, Online Course
2020	Evaluate: Adapting Evaluations in the Era of Social Distancing. Online Webinar
2020	AEA: Becoming a Trauma Informed Evaluator, Online Course
2019	UNO: First Generation Student Symposium, Omaha, NE
2019	TEI: Introduction to Cost-Benefit & Cost-Effectiveness Analysis, Rockville, MD
2019	UNO: Microaggression Awareness Program, Omaha, NE
2019	ACJS: CJ Media Training Workshop, Baltimore, MD
2019	UNO: Appreciating Difference, Omaha, NE
2018	Empower Network: Sex Trafficking, Social Media, and our Youth, Omaha, NE
2018	UNO: Trust & Communication, Omaha, NE
2018	UNMC: The Power of Followership, Omaha, NE
2018	UNO SCCJ: Restrictive Housing Workshop, Omaha, NE
2017	UM-C Barnard: Social Media Research Workshop, Columbia, MO
2016	Curran-Bauer: Multilevel Modeling Workshop, Chapel Hill, NC
2014	UM-C: Safe Space, Columbia, MO

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2013-2025	American Society of Criminology
2014-2023	Midwest Sociological Society
2018-2020	Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

2013-2018 American Sociological Association
 2017-2018 World Association for Public Opinion Research

SERVICE

Community

2017-2018 Board Member, Citizen Police Review Board, Columbia, MO
 2016 Day volunteer, Fundraising efforts for The Center Project, Columbia, MO
 2016 Day volunteer, Art in the Park, Columbia, MO
 2013-2015 Volunteer, Food Bank, Columbia, MO
 2014 Day volunteer, Clean up Columbia, Columbia, MO
 2014 Volunteer, Volunteer Income Tax Preparation, Columbia, MO

Discipline

2021-2023 Board Member, Women in the Profession, Midwest Sociological Society
 2019-2021 Member, TRAC: Nebraska Prison Post-Secondary Education Project, UN-Omaha
 2015-2017 Student Member, Sociology Conversations, MU-Columbia
 2016-2017 Co-Chair, Women and Gender Studies Student Group, MU-Columbia
 2015-2017 Planning Committee, Women and Gender Studies Conference, MU-Columbia
 2015-2017 Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Group, MU-Columbia
 2012-2017 Student Member, Sociology Graduate Student Group, MU-Columbia

Scholarly Reviews

2024 National Science Foundation: Grant Proposal
 2022 International Journal of Offender Therapy & Comparative Crim.: Manuscript
 2021 Police Quarterly: Manuscript