

Bryce Kushmerick-McCune, M.A.

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology | College of Criminal Justice
Sam Houston State University

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EDUCATION

- 2027 (Exp.) **Doctor of Philosophy**, Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sam Houston State University
- 2023 **Master of Arts**, Criminology, Law and Society, George Mason University
Thesis: *The Operational Pains of Carceral Confinement: Prison Staff as Front-Line Arbiters of Punishment*
Thesis Committee: Drs. Robert Norris (Chair); Yasemin Irvin-Erickson; Janani Umamaheswar; Danielle S. Rudes
- 2021 **Bachelor of Science**, Criminology, Law and Society, George Mason University
Minor, Forensic Psychology
Minor, Philosophy
Magna cum laude

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Institutional Corrections
Adjustment to Incarceration and Coping
Carceral Staff Discretion, Well-Being, and Relationships
Prison and Jail Administration

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023 - **Graduate Research Assistant**, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sam Houston State University
- Project Manager:** “*Enhancing Correctional Spaces & Cultures*” (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). I oversee a team of 5 faculty members and 4 graduate (PhD/MA) research assistants working on an eight-state qualitative corrections project (631 total interviews). I mentor scholars learning qualitative methods, supervise data coding and analysis, conduct qualitative coding with Atlas.ti, manage carceral mail correspondence, and write technical reports. For data collection, I interviewed 75 incarcerated people and staff.

Researcher: *“Behavioral Health Literacy Interventions in Incarceration Settings”* (PI: Danielle S. Rudes & Carrie Pettus). Qualitative data coding and analysis with Atlas.ti and ethnographic observations of prison staff behavioral health training sessions.

2021- **Research Assistant**, Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

Researcher: *“HEAL Connections Needs Assessment”* (PI: Faye S. Taxman). Landscape analysis of NIH-funded studies on pain and opioid use. Use of Qualtrics to extract information from 923 research projects and qualitative data analysis of these abstracts with Atlas.ti.

Researcher: *“Developing Practice Guidelines for Supervision Agencies”* (PI: Faye S. Taxman). Duties included qualitative data analysis of focus group interviews with probation officers and those on supervision with Atlas.ti.

Researcher: *“Understanding Supervision in Maryland”* (PI: Faye S. Taxman). Assisted with IRB applications.

Researcher: *“Change the Hole Mind: Living and Working in Solitary Confinement During Reform”* (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). Management of prison mail correspondence, qualitative data analysis of staff and incarcerated people’s interview transcripts with Atlas.ti, and assistance with IRB applications.

2022- **Consultant**, Danielle S. Rudes Consulting

Researcher: *“Qualitative Staff Interviews at Critical Access Opioid Treatment Delivery Units”* (PI: Harrold Pollack & Danielle S. Rudes). Virtual recruitment of interview participants, interviews with rural OUD treatment providers (3) and qualitative data analysis with Atlas.ti.

Researcher: *“Examining the Current State of Civil Court Data Research in the U.S.”* (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). Virtual recruitment of interview participants, interviews with civil court research scholars (10), qualitative data analysis with Atlas.ti, and technical report writing.

Researcher: *“Court Service Unit Evaluation”* (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). Virtual recruitment of interview participants, interviews with probation officers (9), qualitative data analysis with Atlas.ti, and technical report writing.

2021-2023 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Department of Criminology, Law, and Society, George Mason University

Researcher: *“Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Victimization Risk and Service Needs for Domestic Violence Victims and*

Survivors” (PI: Yasemin Irvin-Erickson & Mangai Natarajan). Created a national inventory of domestic violence service providers, supervised undergraduate research assistants, and assisted with IRB applications.

Researcher: *“Coalition to Enhance the Capacity of Policing Mental Health Problems in Virginia – CIT Training” (PI: Sue-Ming Yang & Yasemin Irvin-Erickson). Created and implemented surveys using Qualtrics and assisted with IRB applications.*

Researcher: *“Community-Oriented Policing to Reduce Crime, Disorder, and Fear and Improve Legitimacy and Satisfaction with Police: A Systematic Review” (PI: Charlotte Gill). Prepared documents for meta-analysis using Zotero.*

2018-2021 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

Researcher: *“Implementation Mechanisms for Justice and Behavioral Health” (PI: Faye S. Taxman). Data collection on state systems from government, non-profit and academic websites and virtual recruitment of survey participants.*

Researcher: *“Change the Hole Mind: Living and Working in Solitary Confinement During Reform” (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). Management of prison mail correspondence and qualitative data analysis with Atlas.ti.*

Researcher: *“Knowledge and Perceptions of Students on Changing Title IX Guidelines” (PI: Lindsay Smith). Transcription of interview recordings.*

Researcher: *“Bureau of Prisons National Jail Compendium” (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). Correspondence with jails across the nation to create a comprehensive database of all facilities.*

2018 **Undergraduate Research Scholar**, Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research, George Mason University

Undergraduate Research Scholar: *“Change the Hole Mind: Living and Working in Solitary Confinement During Reform” (PI: Danielle S. Rudes). Interviews with 20 incarcerated people and staff and qualitative data analysis with Atlas.ti.*

FIELD EXPERIENCE

2019-2021 **Service Coordinator**, *Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources (OAR) of Northern Virginia, Fairfax, VA.* Provided immediate services and entry-level case management to people recently released from the Fairfax Adult Detention Center, instructed a bi-weekly Shoplifting Prevention Program class, and recruited participants for alternative sentencing programs at the Fairfax County Courthouse

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Rudes, D. S., Magnuson, S., Shaw, C., Smith, L., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Hartwell, T. N., Appleton, C., & Foudray, C. (2023). Recognizing and Remediating: Reflexive and Inclusive Approaches to Engaging in Research with Individuals in Carceral Settings. In D. S. Rudes, K. Kras, T. J. Carter, & G. Armstrong (Eds.), *Handbook on prisons and jails* (Vol. 8). Routledge.

Kushmerick-McCune, B., Ingel, S., Rudes, D. S., & Lasalle, C. M. B. (in press). Hunger, Health, and Harm: Perceptions of Prison Food, Medical Care, and Well-Being. In N. Link, M. Novisky, & C. Fahmy (Eds.), *Contemporary issues in health and punishment* (Vol. 9). Routledge.

Kushmerick-McCune, B. (in press). A Neo-Institutional Account of Prisonization. In D. S. Rudes & J. Ingram (Eds.), *Using organizational theory to study, explain, and understand criminal legal organizations*. Springer.

Technical Reports

Rudes, D.S., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Narvey, C., Toman, E., Craig, M., Lasalle, C.B., Ingel, S., Mata, A., Brown, W., Ogonnaya, S., & Magana, J. (2024). *Final Report: Enhancing Corrections Spaces & Cultures*. Report prepared for the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Kushmerick-McCune, B. & Rudes, D.S. (2024). *State Report: New York Prisons*. Report prepared for the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

Rudes, D.S., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, & Toman, E. (2024). *State Report: Texas Prisons*. Report prepared for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Rudes, D.S., Ingel, S., & **Kushmerick-McCune, B.** (2023). *System Review of Fairfax County's Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court (adult)*. Report prepared for Fairfax County (Virginia) Court Services Unit.

Rudes, D. S., Ingel, S., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Smith, L., & McPherson, M. (2022). *Examining the Current State of Civil Court Research in the United States*. Report prepared for Legal Services Corporation.

Other Publications

Kushmerick-McCune, B. (2023). *The operational pains of carceral confinement: Prison staff as front-line arbiters of punishment*. [Master's thesis, George Mason University]. Mason Archival Repository Service. <http://hdl.handle.net/1920/13374>

Smith, L., Suh, B., & **Kushmerick-McCune, B.** (2022). Mentoring During a Pandemic: Doctoral Student Approaches to Virtual Mentorship with Master's and Undergraduate Students. *Criminologist* (47)3, 28-29. <https://asc41.com/wp-content/uploads/ASC-Criminologist-2022-05.pdf>

Under Review & In-Progress

Kushmerick-McCune, B., Magnuson, S., Rudes, D. S., & Hattery, A. (under review). "Without any support, you can't survive jail": People's Access to Coping in Restricted Housing Units.

Kushmerick-McCune, B., Ingel, S., Rudes, D. S., & Brown, W. (under review). Statewide Prison Language Mandates: Where Intention and Implementation Diverge.

Kushmerick-McCune, B., Ingel, S., Rudes, D. S., Toman, E., & Brown, W. (in progress). Why, How, and So What? Unpacking Coworker Relationships in Prisons and Jails

Kushmerick-McCune, B. & Rudes, D. S. (in progress). We're in the trenches while he sits in an office: Administrative Neglect in Prisons and Jails.

Kushmerick-McCune, B., Narvey, C., Toman, E., Brown, W., & Rudes, D. S. (in progress). Narrative Resilience Among People Sentenced to Die in U.S. Prisons.

Rudes, D. S., Flaherty, A., Dickerson, D., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, & Narvey, C. (in progress). Hope and Help: Peer Support and Peer-Led Programs within Texas Prisons.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

(* Denotes presenter)

Kushmerick-McCune, B.* & Rudes, D.S. (2024, Upcoming). *We're in the trenches while he sits in an office: Administrative Neglect in Prisons and Jails*. Oral presentation to be given at the 2024 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

- Kushmerick-McCune, B.***, Narvey, C., Toman, E., Brown, W., & Rudes, D.S. (2024, Upcoming). *Narrative Resilience Among People Sentenced to Die in U.S. Prisons*. Oral presentation to be given at the 2024 European Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Bucharest, Romania.
- Rudes, D.S.* & **Kushmerick-McCune, B.*** (2024, Upcoming). *The Nested Mentoring Model & The Undergraduate Research Lab: Research Experiences for Real Life*. Oral presentation to be given at the 2024 Sam Houston State University Teaching and Learning Conference, Huntsville, TX.
- Kushmerick-McCune, B.***, Ingel, S., Rudes, D. S., Toman, E., & Brown, W. (2024, Upcoming). *Why, How, and So What? Unpacking Coworker Relationships in Prisons and Jails*. Oral presentation to be given at the 2024 Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Brown, W.*, Rudes, D.S., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Ingel, S., & Bauer, C. (2023, November). *Deciphering the Impact of COVID Protocols and Practices through the Perspectives of Prison Staff and Residents in Two Politically Distinct US States*. Oral presentation given at the 2023 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Ingel, S.*, Bauer, C., & Rudes, D. S. (2023, November). “*Can we talk about the food in these places?*”: *Prison Food and Harm to Wellbeing*. Oral presentation given at the 2023 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Suh, B.*, Smith, L., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Natarajan, M., & Irvin-Erickson, Y. (2023, November). *Rapid Assessment Methodology in Advancing Evidence-Based Research: The COVID-19 Pandemic’s Impact on Domestic Violence in the United States*. Oral presentation given at the 2023 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Natarajan, M.*, Irvin-Erickson, Y., Suh, B., Smith, L., & **Kushmerick-McCune, B.** (2023, November). *Best Practices in Addressing Challenges in Assisting Domestic Violence Victims and Survivors During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Service Providers’ Narratives*. Oral presentation given at the 2023 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Kushmerick-McCune, B.***, Ingel, S., Bauer, C., & Rudes, D. S. (2023, September). “*Can we talk about the food in these places?*”: *Prison Food and Harm to Wellbeing*. Oral

presentation given at the 2023 European Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Florence, Italy.

Kushmerick-McCune, B.*, Ingel, S.*, & Rudes, D. S. (2023, June). *“They should call me by my name”: Incarcerated individual’s perceptions of labels*. Oral presentation given at the 2023 Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Rudes, D. S.*, Bauer, C., Ingel, S., & **Kushmerick-McCune, B.** (2023, June). *Scapegoating HALT: Naming, blaming, and discrediting practice changes within correctional Restricted Housing Units*. Oral presentation given at the 2023 Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Kushmerick-McCune, B.* (2022, November). *Prison as punishment or prison for punishment: An exploratory analysis of carceral resident letters*. Oral presentation given at the 2022 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Natarajan, M.*, Irvin-Erickson, Y., Suh, B., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, & Smith, L. (2022, November). *Lessons learned: Best practices in meeting the needs of domestic violence victims and survivors during the covid-19 pandemic*. Oral presentation given at the 2022 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Suh, B.*, **Kushmerick-McCune, B.***, Smith, L., Martinez, E., Amdahl, A., Natarajan, M., & Irvin-Erickson, Y. (2022, November). *An assessment of service needs of victims and survivors of domestic violence during the covid-19 pandemic*. Oral presentation given at the 2022 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Irvin-Erickson, Y.*, Natarajan, M., Smith, L., Suh, B., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, & Martinez, E. (2022, November). *Domestic violence risk during the covid-19 pandemic*. Oral Presentation given at the 2022 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Kushmerick-McCune, B.*, Pickett, H., Magnuson, S., Rudes, D. S., & Hattery, A. (2022, July). *Navigating life in lockdown: Institutional barriers to carceral resident coping in Restricted Housing Units*. Oral presentation given at the 2022 Law and Society Association Global Conference, Lisbon, Portugal.

Mackey, B. J.*, Meyer, L. F., Lee, C., Davis, L., Hartwell, T., Adams, S., Hancock, V., **Kushmerick-McCune, B.**, Moffett, M., Sosorburam, T., & Taxman, F. S. (2021, November). *Devolutionary practices and unique bureaucratic structures in community supervision: Examining state-level variation in all 50 United States*. Oral presentation given at the 2021 American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

Kushmerick-McCune, B.,* & Adams, S.* (2021, April). *Availability and funding of mental health and substance use disorder treatment services in state jails*. Oral presentation given at the 2021 Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities and Research Celebration of Student Scholarship, Fairfax, VA. [virtual conference]

Kushmerick-McCune, B.,* Pickett, H.,* Magnuson, S., Rudes, D., & Hattery, A. (2019, April). *Accessing a W(hole) New Life: Inmate Pathways to Coping While Living in Solitary Confinement*. Poster presentation given at the 2019 National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Kennesaw, GA.

Kushmerick-McCune, B.,* Pickett, H.,* Magnuson, S., Rudes, D., & Hattery, A. (2019, March). *Accessing a W(hole) New Life: Inmate Pathways to Coping While Living in Solitary Confinement*. Oral presentation given at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Kushmerick-McCune, B.,* Pickett, H.,* Magnuson, S., Rudes, D. S., & Hattery, A. (2018, August). *Accessing a W(hole) New Life: Inmate Pathways to Coping While Living in Solitary Confinement*. Poster presentation given at the 2018 Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities and Research Summer Celebration of Student Scholarship, Fairfax, VA.

HONORS & AWARDS

2024	Hoover Summer Research Fellowship , Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology (\$6,672).
2024	Rolando, Josefa and Jocelyn del Carmen Criminal Justice Doctoral Scholarship , Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology (\$4,000).
2024	Graduate Student Travel Funding , Sam Houston State University, Graduate & Professional School (\$810).
2023	First-Time Enrollment Incentive Scholarship , Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology (\$1,000).
2023	Start Strong Graduate Scholarship , Sam Houston State University, Graduate & Professional School (\$500).
2023	Graduate Fellowship , Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology (\$26,000 per academic year).
2023	Outstanding Student Honoree (MA level) , George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society.

- 2023 **Outstanding Graduate Service Award**, George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society.
- 2022 **Graduate Student Travel Fund**, George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society (\$1,000).
- 2022 **Doctoral Summer Scholarship**, George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society (\$600).
- 2021 **Graduate Fellowship**, George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society (\$25,000 per academic year).
- 2021 **Outstanding Service Award**, George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society.
- 2021 **Academic Excellence Award**, George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society.
- 2020 **Best Undergraduate Student Paper Award in Interdisciplinary Legal Studies**, the Consortium for Undergraduate Law and Justice Programs.

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

Leadership

Co-Director, *Carceral Research Team*, Sam Houston State University. Project management for a team of 5 faculty members and 4 graduate (PhD/MA) research assistants working on an eight-state qualitative corrections project, including supervision of four undergraduate research assistants working at the Emerging Scholars Lab.

Guest Lecturing

Lecture on prison staff culture, Correctional Systems and Practices, Sam Houston State University, Spring 2024 (Dr. Danielle Rudes).

Lecture on correctional programming, Correctional Systems and Practices, Sam Houston State University, Fall 2023 (Dr. Chelsey Narvey).

Training Delivered

Qualitative workshops on theory and data analysis to ACE! research assistants at George Mason University and the Carceral Research Team at Sam Houston State University.

Student Mentorship

Cynetha Looper	SHSU Undergraduate RA (Spring 2024-present)
Makenna McDaniel	SHSU Undergraduate RA (Spring 2024-present)
Hedy Martinez	SHSU Undergraduate RA (Spring 2024-present)
Juan Guzman	SHSU Undergraduate RA (Spring 2024-present)
Jaylyn Magana	SHSU Masters RA (Fall 2023-present)
Patricia Snell	ACE! Undergraduate RA (Spring 2022 - Fall 2023)
Mackenzie Bell	ACE! Undergraduate RA (Spring 2022)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & SERVICE

2022 -	American Society of Criminology, Division on Corrections and Sentencing.
2022-2023	Criminology Law and Society Student Association, George Mason University.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023	Interviewer Training, QualCore Research Partners.
2018	Atlas.ti Training Series, ACE!, July.
2018	Qualitative Data Analysis Training Series, ACE!, July.
2018	Qualitative Research Methods, ACE!, June.