

Amanda P. Cook

1000 Hwy 19 North, Meridian, MS 39307

601-484-0140

acook@meridian.msstate.edu

Professional Overview

Extensive teaching, student advisement, and research experience in the fields of Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice.

Experience

Mississippi State University-Meridian, Department of Arts and Sciences Assistant Professor and Criminology Program Coordinator	August 2015- Present
Mississippi State University-Meridian, Department of Arts & Sciences Lecturer and Criminology Advisor	August 2012 – July 2015
Mississippi State University, Department of Sociology Lecturer	August 2008 - August 2012
Mississippi State University, Department of Sociology Teaching Assistant	August 2004 - May 2008
Mississippi State University, Department of Sociology Computer Lab Assistant	August 2003 - May 2004

Education

Mississippi State University Doctor of Philosophy: Sociology	Spring 2015
Mississippi State University Master of Science: Sociology	Spring 2007
Mississippi State University Bachelor of Arts: Sociology	Spring 2003

Thesis/Dissertation

- Spring 2007 "Capital and Punishment: Supporting the Death of Deterrence," Thesis submitted to the faculty of Mississippi State University in partial fulfillment for the degree of Master of Science in Sociology.
- May 2015 "Capital and Punishment: Prison's Revolving Door," Dissertation submitted to the faculty of Mississippi State University in partial fulfillment for the degree of Ph.D. in Sociology.

Courses Taught

Introduction to Sociology	Senior Seminar in Criminology
Contemporary Social Problems	Violence in the U.S.
Sociology of Sports	Juvenile Delinquency
The Criminal Justice System	Drugs, Crime, and Control
Criminological Theories	Gender, Crime, and Justice
Crime and Justice in America	Race, Crime, and Justice
Crime, Justice, and Inequality	Victimology
Introduction to Social Research	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
Social Research Practice	Correctional Systems
Community Crime Prevention	Law and Society
Globalization and Crime	Policing and Society
Deviant Behavior	

Academic Papers and Presentations

- 2011 Cook, A.P. "Capital and Punishment: Supporting the Death of Deterrence." Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Nashville, TN.
- 2013 Cook, A.P. "Lowering Recidivism Through Higher Education: The Case for Cooperation." Poster presented at the meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Virginia Beach, VA.
- 2014 Cook, A.P. "Recidivism and the Prison Experience." Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Clearwater Beach, FL.
- 2015 Cook, A.P. & Dunaway, R.G. "Punishment and Prison Capital: The Effects of Personal and Vicarious Punishment Experiences on Likelihood of Re-offending." Paper presented at the meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Orlando, FL.
- 2015 Wood, P.B., Cook, A.P., Dunaway, R.G., Wilson, J.A. "Prisonization in a Sample of Incarcerated Offenders." Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.

- 2015 Cook, A.P. "Capitalizing on Punishment: Time Served and Lessons Learned." Paper Presented at the meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Charleston, SC.
- 2016 Cook, A.P. "Imprisonment Pains, Reentry Strains, and the Successful Cessation of Crime." Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Savannah, GA.
- 2017 Cook, A.P. "Reentry and Re-offending: A Further Examination of Prison's Revolving Door." Paper presented at the meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, New Orleans, LA.
- 2018 Cook, A.P., May, D., Wood, P.B., Haynes, S.H., Johnson, K. "Differences in Rural and Urban Inmates in Accumulating Social Capital in Prison." Paper presented at meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, New Orleans, LA.
- 2018 Wood, P.B., Cook, A., and May, D., "Features of a Criminal Lifestyle in a Sample of Incarcerated Offenders." Paper presented at meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, New Orleans, LA.
- 2018 Cook, A. and May, D., "Capital and Exchange Rates: Exploring the Impact on Inmates' Perceptions of Sanction Severity." Paper presented at meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Pensacola Beach, FL.
- 2019 Cook, A. and May, D. "Court Processing of Shoplifting Before and After the Passage of Mississippi House Bill 585." Paper presented at meeting of the Southern Criminal Justice Association, Nashville, TN.

Publications

- 2017 Cook, A.P. "Mississippi State Penitentiary (also known as Parchman)." In K. Kerley, H. Copes, S. Li, J. Lane, & S. Sharp (Eds.) *The Encyclopedia of Corrections*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell. (Accepted in 2015)
- 2017 Cook, A.P. "Chain Gangs." In K. Kerly, H. Copes, S. Li, J. Jane, & S. Sharp (Eds.) *The Encyclopedia of Corrections*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell. (Accepted in 2016)
- 2017 Cook, A.P. "Capital and Punishment: A Novel Model of Re-offending." *Corrections: Policy, Practice, and Research*.
- 2019 Cook, A.P. "Minor Crimes, Major Impacts: An Examination of Racially Disparate Outcomes in Misdemeanor Court Processing." In *The Lower Criminal Courts*. Eds. Alisa Smith and Sean Maddan.
- 2019 Cook, A. and May, D., "It's Just Shoplifting (Or Is It?): Examining Court Processing of Shoplifting Before and After the Passage of Mississippi House Bill 585." *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society* 20(2).

Research Interests

Prisons
Community Corrections
Recidivism
Misdemeanors
Violence

Research Experience

- 2011-2015 **Principal Investigator**
Research project conducted at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility aimed at better understanding recidivism
- Submitted proposal for approval
 - Designed survey instrument
 - Conducted research at the facility with two faculty research team members (R. Gregory Dunaway and Stacy Haynes)
 - Findings used in dissertation, conference papers, and journal articles
- 2015-2017 **Co-Principal Investigator**
Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Planning Grant (**Award Amount \$47,170**)
- Partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of East Mississippi
 - Assisted in the application process
 - Conducted a comprehensive crime assessment in the East End neighborhood of Meridian, Mississippi
 - Provided guidance and expertise to help the City of Meridian identify priorities and develop strategies of prevention, intervention, and suppression of crime.
 - Assisted in the application for BCJI Implementation Grant
- 2016-Present **Researcher**
Research project conducted at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility aimed at better understanding prisoner reentry challenges and predictors of success.
- Assisted with survey design
 - Conducted research at the facility with faculty research team members (David May, Stacy Haynes, and Kecia Johnson)
 - Findings used in conference papers
- 2017-Present **Co-Principal Investigator**
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice Grant (**Award Amount \$48,902**)
- Partnership with the City of Meridian, Mississippi and the Meridian Police Department
 - Assisted in the application process
 - Working with Meridian Police Department to set up a data collection system
 - Analyzing misdemeanor enforcement trends in Meridian, MS

- 2018-Present **Research Partner** for the U.S. Attorney's office for the southern district in MS
- Assist with data collection and analysis for Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative (Project EJECT) in the city of Meridian and Lauderdale county in Mississippi

Contract Experience

- 2018-Present **Program Evaluator**
Program Evaluator for a 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant
- Partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of East Mississippi
 - Working with program coordinator on data collection strategy
 - Evaluating whether the Boys & Girls Club is achieving project goals
- 2019 **Project Specialist**
Project Specialist for the Phil Hardin Foundation
- Designed a STEM project for the Boys & Girls Club of East Mississippi
 - Worked with BGC staff to recruit and hire a project facilitator
 - Conducting bi-annual evaluations of project effectiveness
 - Providing updates and reports to the Phil Hardin Foundation

Awards and Recognition

- Criminal Justice and Corrections Undergraduate Student of the Year Award, Mississippi State University, 2003
- Sociology Master's Student of the Year Award, 2005
- Commendation from the Mississippi Department of Corrections Commissioner for service to the Noxubee County Transition Center reentry program, 2018

Departmental and University Service

- Treasurer for Mississippi State Chapter of AKD, Fall 2004-Spring 2006
- Faculty Representative for Mississippi State Chapter of AKD, Fall 2006-Spring 2007
- Alpha Chi Sponsor at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Spring 2013-Fall 2014
- Chartered a chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Spring 2014
- Alpha Phi Sigma Sponsor at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Spring 2014-present
- Criminology Advisor at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Fall 2011-present
- Search committee for the Administrative Director and Head of Campus position at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Fall 2015
- Search committee for the Academic Advising Center Coordinator position at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Spring 2016
- Partner in the Social Science Research Center's Mississippi Crime and Justice Research Unit
- Search committee for the Division Head of Arts & Sciences position at Mississippi State University-Meridian, Fall 2017
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee at Mississippi State University-Meridian, 2017-present

Memberships/Scholarly Societies

- Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
- Southern Criminal Justice Association
 - Site Selection Committee (2017-2018)
 - Awards Committee (2017-2018)
 - Chair of Outstanding Undergraduate Committee (2019-2020)
- Alpha Phi Sigma
- Alpha Chi
- Phi Kappa Phi

Community Service Activities

- Member of the Meridian Leadership Council, whose aim is to reduce crime and revitalize the city of Meridian, MS
- Member of the Noxubee Transitional Advisory Board and serve as a guest speaker for a reentry program housed at Noxubee Community Work Center
- Volunteer Firefighter for the city of De Kalb, Mississippi