

**Rachel E. Davis**

MTSU Box 10, Todd 331  
1301 East Main St  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
(615) 898-2690  
Rachel.Davis@mtsu.edu

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**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

Assistant Professor of Sociology Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Department of Women's and Gender Studies. Graduate Faculty.	2023 – present
Faculty Affiliate University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Remote Center for Information, Technology and Public Life.	2023 – present

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**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Critical Feminist Criminology	Gendered Violence
Internet Studies	Sexual Labor
Feminist Sociology	Social Inequalities

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**EDUCATION**

University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY	
Ph.D. in Sociology	2023
Graduate Certificate in Gender & Women's Studies	2020
M.A. in Sociology	2019
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	
B.A. in Sociology	2017
B.A. in Women's Studies	2017

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**PUBLICATIONS****Peer-Reviewed Publications**

Davis, Rachel E. 2025. "Seeking and Surveilled: The Effects of Tumblr's Sexual Content Ban on Sugar Babies' Posts." *Feminist Media Studies* 25(3):704-720.  
doi:10.1080/14680777.2024.2310826.

Davis, Rachel E. 2024. "Debt, Sex, and Money: Imperialist Discourses of Transactional Sex Across Three Geographic and Cultural Contexts." *Criminology & Criminal Justice*. doi:10.1177/17488958241231879. (Online first)

Davis, Rachel E., and Claire Renzetti. 2022. "Is Religious Self-Regulation a Risk or Protective Factor for Men's Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration?" *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 37(11-12):NP9981–NP10006. doi:10.1177/0886260520985497.

Noe, Marcia, **Rachel E. Davis**, and Brittain Whiteside-Galloway. 2014. "Performative Fashion in the Short Fiction of Kate Chopin." *Midwestern Miscellany* 42:19-31. <https://ssml.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2014-Fall-MISC.pdf>

### Editorially Reviewed Publications

Davis, Rachel E. "Digital Sovereignty, Material Atrocities: Social Media Corporations as State Criminal Actors." In *Handbook of State Crime*, edited by D. L. Rothe, V. E. Collins, and C. Cain. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. (Forthcoming)

Davis, Rachel E. "OnlyFans Digital Threats." In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Crime and Gender*, edited by J. P. Stamatel. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications. (Forthcoming)

Love, Tony P., Jenny L. Davis, **Rachel E. Davis**, William Fisher, and Rachel Barczak. 2023. "Assessing Collective Identity (Non)Verification with Social Media Data through Web Scraping, Sentiment Analysis, and Qualitative Coding." Pp. 260–273 in *Handbook of Research Methods for Studying Identity In and Around Organizations: Usual Suspects and Beyond*, edited by R. Cascón-Pereira, I. Winkler, and S. Reissner. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. doi:10.4337/9781802207972.00034.

### Manuscripts Under Review

Baltimore, Vaun, **Rachel E. Davis**, Ugur Orak, Leyla Solakoglu, and Chloe Davenport. "Early Perceptions, Enduring Consequences: How School Safety Concerns Shape Criminal Trajectories Through Developmental Pathways." *Journal of Developmental & Life Course Criminology*.

Davenport, Chloe, **Rachel E. Davis**, Ugur Orak, and Vaun Baltimore. "Unhoused and Unfairly Treated: Intersectional Insights into Homelessness and Perceptions of Unfair Police Treatment." *Critical Criminology*.

### Manuscripts in Preparation

Davis, Rachel E. *Level Up, Ladies: Feminism, Hypergamy, and "Harm" on Social Media*. Bloomsbury Academic. (Under advance contract)

Guinn, Melissa, and Rachel E. Davis. "Law Enforcement Perceptions of Sexual Assault and Sex Trafficking."

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## PRESENTATIONS

### Conference

Guinn, Melissa, and **Rachel E. Davis**. 2025. "Law Enforcement Perceptions of Sexual Assault and Sex Trafficking." Paper presented at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 11, Charlotte, NC.

Davis, Rachel E. 2024. "(In)Capable Guardians: Campus Sexual Assault Adjudication." Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 15, San Francisco, CA.

Guinn, Melissa, and **Rachel E. Davis**. 2024. "Law Enforcement Perceptions on Sexual Assault and Sex Trafficking." Poster presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 14, San Francisco, CA.

Davis, Rachel E. 2024. "Digital Sovereignty, Material Atrocities: Social Media Corporations as State Criminal Actors." Paper presented at the Mid-South Southern Sociological Association Annual Meeting, October 17, Nashville, TN.

Davis, Rachel E. 2024. "Financed Femininity: Sugar Babies, Spoiled Girlfriends, and High-Value Women on TikTok." Paper presented at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 6, New Orleans, LA.

Davis, Rachel E. 2023. "Debt, Sex, and Money: Imperialist Discourses of Transactional Sex Across Three Geographic and Cultural Contexts." Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, August 18, Philadelphia, PA.

Davis, Rachel E. 2022. "Sweet and Sour: The Impact of Tumblr's Adult Content Ban on Sugar Babies." Paper presented at American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 17, Atlanta, GA.

Davis, Rachel E. 2021. "Seeking and Surveilled: The Effects of FOSTA on Sugar Babies' Tumblr Activities." Paper presented at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 9, online due to COVID-19.

Davis, Rachel E. 2019. "The Fear of God: Religious Motivations and Men's Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration." Paper presented at Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, April 11, Atlanta, GA.

### Campus

Davis, Rachel E. 2025. "Law Enforcement Perceptions of Sex Trafficking." Middle Tennessee State University Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Raider Research Series, April 7, Murfreesboro, TN.

- Davis, Rachel E. 2025. "Level Up, Ladies: Sugar Babies, Spoiled Girlfriends, and High-Value Women on Tumblr and TikTok." Middle Tennessee State University Women's and Gender Studies Spring Research Series, February 26, Murfreesboro, TN.
- Davis, Rachel E. 2024. "Human Trafficking: Putting a Name to My Face." Middle Tennessee State University Expert Panel, March 20, Murfreesboro, TN.
- Davis, Rachel E. 2021. "Seeking and Surveilled: The Effects of FOSTA on Sugar Babies' Tumblr Activities." University of Kentucky Sociology Beers Lecture. April 29, online due to COVID-19.
- Davis, Rachel E. 2020. "Seeking and Surveilled: The Effects of FOSTA on Sugar Babies' Tumblr Activities." University of Kentucky Gender and Women's Studies Fall 2020 Colloquium, October 9, online due to COVID-19.
- Davis, Rachel E. 2019. "The Fear of God: Intersection of Religiosity with Intimate Partner Violence." Center for Research on Violence Against Women Brown Bag Series, March 27, Lexington, KY.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

### Received

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| Undergraduate Research Experience and Creative Activity (URECA) Grant \$3,000<br>MTSU Undergraduate Research Center<br>Grant funding Melissa Guinn's summer research project entitled "The Role and Effectiveness of Sex Education in Sexual Abuse Awareness and Prevention." | 2025 |
| Undergraduate Research Experience and Creative Activity (URECA) Grant \$4,000<br>MTSU Undergraduate Research Center<br>Grant funding Melissa Guinn's research project entitled "Law Enforcement Perceptions on Sexual Assault and Sex Trafficking."                           | 2024 |

### Under Review

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|---|------|
| CLA Faculty Research/Creative Activity Fund \$7,250<br>MTSU College of Liberal Arts | 2025 |
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### Applied, Not Received

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| Undergraduate Research Experience and Creative Activity (URECA) Grant<br>MTSU Undergraduate Research Center | 2025        |
| Research Grant on Social, Political, and Economic Inequality \$200,000<br>Russell Sage Foundation           | 2024 – 2025 |

Small Research Grant on Education \$50,000 Spencer Foundation	2024 – 2025
MT-IGO Research Grant \$10,000 (Revise & Resubmit Decision) Middle Tennessee State University	2024 – 2025
Undergraduate Research Experience and Creative Activity (URECA) Grant MTSU Undergraduate Research Center	2024

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## AWARDS

Outstanding Advising Award Women's and Gender Studies Program	2025
Influential Faculty Member Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society	2025
Making a Difference Recognition MTSU Office of Student Affairs	2025
Outstanding Undergraduate Mentor of the Year, Nominee MTSU Office of Undergraduate Research	2025

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## EXPERIENCE

### Research

Qualitative Data Analyst On Contract. Remote Performed secondary coding analysis on interview data about female criminal offending in China after the one-child policy.	2019 – 2020
Interviewer University of Kentucky Survey Research Center. Lexington, KY Conducted 70 survey interviews on sensitive topics over the phone and entered survey data for clients including the Centers for Disease Control and the National Cancer Institute.	2019
Research Assistant University of Kentucky Center for Research on Violence Against Women. Lexington, KY Conducted qualitative analysis on data regarding 864 undergraduate students' ideas of appropriate punishment for hypothetical sexual assault scenarios.	2018

## Teaching

- Assistant Professor 2023 – present  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
SOC 2010 Social Problems. SOC 3210 Drugs in Society (Engage Certified). SOC 3250 Social Deviance. SOC 4300-5300 Criminology (Engage Certified). SOC 4150-5150 Topics in Sociology: Social Media and Society. SOC 4400-6545 Sex Trafficking (Engage Certified). SOC 6010 Social Policy Analysis. SOC 6560 Sociological Theory. WGST 6000 Feminist Theory. Develop and teach undergraduate and graduate courses of 8 to 35 students, both online and in person.
- Guest Lecturer 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
Presented a guest lecture on my sex trafficking research in an upper-level Sexuality Studies course of 10 students.
- Workshop Co-Facilitator 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
Co-developed and co-facilitated the workshop “Resilience Over Harm: Tools for Trauma-Informed Pedagogy.”
- Guest Lecturer 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
Presented a guest lecture on Intersectionality in an upper-level Feminist Theory course of 10 students.
- Online Course Developer 2024 – 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
Developed upper-level course SOC 4150 Topics in Sociology: Social Media and Society and revised upper-level course SOC 4400 Sex Trafficking.
- Workshop Facilitator 2024  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
Developed and led a workshop on organizing your workplace in a right-to-work state at the Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Meeting.
- Workshop Facilitator 2024  
Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, TN  
Developed and led a workshop on citation management software for the Sociology Graduate Student Professional Development Seminar.
- Graduate Instructor 2020 – 2023  
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY  
SOC 235 Inequalities in Society. SOC 335 Sociology of Gender. SOC 339 Introduction to Criminology. SOC 350 Crime & Disasters. Independently developed and taught lower-level and upper-level courses of 18 to 72 students from a variety of majors, both online and in person.

Guest Lecturer	2022
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY	
Presented a guest lecture on my dissertation research in upper-level Sociology of the Body course of 20 students.	
Guest Discussion Facilitator	2020
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY	
Facilitated a discussion on feminist theorizing in a graduate-level Contemporary Sociological Theory course of 5 students.	
Guest Lecturer	2019
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY	
Presented a guest lecture on <i>The Communist Manifesto</i> in an upper-level Classical Sociological Theory course of 30 students.	
Guest Lecturer	2019
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY	
Presented a guest lecture on gender, sex, and sexualities in an Introduction to Sociology course of 120 students.	

### Master's Theses

Vaun Baltimore, Chair	2025 – present
Ali Ibacik, Chair	2025 – present
Cassie Sistros, Chair	2025 – present
Kara Myers, Chair	2024 – present
Matine Hazlip, Chair	2024 – 2025
Mack Hall, Committee Member	2025 – present
Chloe Davenport, Committee Member	2024 – present
Jennifer Messer, Committee Member	2024 – present
Casey Fowler, Committee Member	2023 – 2024

### Undergraduate Research

Em Turner, Honors Thesis Director	2025 – present
Paige Wheeler, Research Mentor	2025 – present
Lexi Carpenter, Research Mentor	2024 – present
Melissa Guinn, MTSU URECA Research Mentor	2024 – present
Wyeth Shawl, Honors Thesis Second Reader	2024 – 2025

### Editing

Social Media Editor	2018 – 2023
SAGE Publications. Lexington, KY	
Managed the interdisciplinary journal on <i>Violence Against Women's</i> Twitter and Facebook accounts @VAWJournal.	

Assistant Editor 2014  
 University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Chattanooga, TN  
 Assistant edited the book *Pregnancy Discrimination and the American Worker* by Michelle D. Deardorff and James G. Dahl, published in 2015 by Palgrave Macmillan.

Copy Editor 2013 – 2014  
 University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Chattanooga, TN  
 Copy edited the journals *Midwestern Miscellany* and *MidAmerica*.

### Professional Development

ELEVATE (Empowering Leadership, Vision, Excellence, & Quality Management) 2025 – 2026  
 MTSU Online  
 Initiative designed for faculty seeking to elevate their expertise in online development and design, learning, and fostering student success using Quality Matters principles.

Grant-Writing Enhancement Program 2023 – 2026  
 Middle Tennessee State University Office Research and Sponsored Programs  
 Three-year faculty support program focused on grant writing.

Academy of Teaching Excellence Faculty Fellow Program 2024 – 2025  
 Middle Tennessee State University Learning, Teaching, and Innovative Technologies Center  
 One-year teaching and professional development program.

Trauma-Informed Pedagogy Faculty Learning Community 2024 – 2025  
 Middle Tennessee State University Learning, Teaching, and Innovative Technologies Center  
 Monthly group study to consider how trauma functions in a university setting with a particular eye towards teaching traumatic content and engaging with traumatized students.

Sociology of Sex and Gender Mentorship Program 2024 – 2025  
 American Sociology Association Sex and Gender Section  
 One-year program matching early career scholars with more senior scholar mentors for professional advice and community building.

Dr. Christine Rasche Mentoring Program 2024  
 American Society of Criminology Division on Feminist Criminology  
 Program intended to facilitate long-term mentoring relationships between DFC members.

Pedagogicon 2024  
 Eastern Kentucky University and the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
 One-day pedagogical conference.

MT Engage Summer Institute 2024  
 MT Engage  
 Two-day workshop on facilitating reflection and integrative learning in the classroom.



Faculty Reading Group	2023 – 2024
Middle Tennessee State University Learning, Teaching, and Innovative Technologies Center	
Participated in two semester-long faculty reading groups, discussing <i>Grading for Growth: A Guide to Alternative Grading Practices that Promote Authentic Learning and Student Engagement in Higher Education</i> in the fall and <i>The Norton Guide to Equity-Minded Teaching</i> in the spring.	
Online Faculty Mentoring Community	2023 – 2024
MTSU Online	
Year-long mentorship program focused on D2L.	

## CERTIFICATIONS

Your Syllabus as a Tool to Promote Student Equity, Belonging, and Growth	2025
Student Experiences Project	
Social and Behavioral Research	2024 – 2028
CITI Program	
MT LGBT+ Safe Zone	2024 – 2027
Middle Tennessee State University Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs	
Intranasal Naloxone Administration	2024 – 2026
Tennessee Department of Health	
Adult Mental Health First Aid	2023 – 2026
National Council for Mental Wellbeing	

## SERVICE

### Disciplinary

Peer Reviewer	
<i>The Journal of Sex Research</i>	2025 – present
<i>Feminist Criminology</i>	2024 – present
<i>Asian Women</i>	2024 – present
<i>Feminist Media Studies</i>	2023 – present
<i>Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i>	2023 – present
<i>Violence Against Women</i>	2023 – present
Mentor	2025
ASC DFC Dr. Christine Rasche Mentoring Program	
Session Presider: Crime, Law, and Deviance & Sex/Gender	2025
Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting	

Mentor 2024 – 2025  
Alpha Kappa Delta Mentorship Program

Session Organizer and Chair: Socio-Political Contexts: Race, Class, Gender and Deviance 2024  
Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Meeting

Session Organizer: Digital Sociology 2024  
Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Meeting

Session Chair: Navigating the Dynamic Landscape of Social Interaction in the Digital Age 2024  
Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Meeting

Session Presider 2024  
Undergraduate Social Science Symposium

### University

Committee on Disability Committee Member 2025 – 2026  
Middle Tennessee State University

Faculty Sponsor 2024 – 2025  
Student Worker Advocacy (SWAY)

Strategic Plan Review Committee Member 2024 – 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University College of Liberal Arts

Panelist 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University College of Liberal Arts Open Classroom Day Panel

Poster Session Judge 2024  
Middle Tennessee State University Scholars Week Research and Creative Activity Exposition

### Departmental

Department Social Media Manager 2025 – present  
Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Alpha Kappa Delta Chapter Representative 2024 – present  
Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Faculty Sponsor 2024 – present  
Middle Tennessee Student Sociologists

Sociology Graduate Program Review Committee 2024 – 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Sociology Undergraduate Program Review Committee 2024 – 2025  
Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Graduate Admissions Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology	2023 – present
Women's and Gender Studies Council Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Women's and Gender Studies	2023 – present
Biennial WGST Conference Planning Committee Middle Tennessee State University Department of Women's and Gender Studies	2023 – present
Sociology Graduate Program Curriculum Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology	2023 – present
Sociology Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology	2023 – present
Gender and Women's Studies Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Gender and Women's Studies	2023 – present
Chair Search Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology	2023 – 2024
Undergraduate Social Science Symposium Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology	2023 – 2024
Lecturer Search Committee Member Middle Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology	2023

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## MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Criminology Division on Feminist Criminology Division on Critical Criminology & Social Justice	2021 – present
American Sociological Association Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance Section on Race, Gender, and Class Section on Sociology of Sex and Gender	2019 – present
Southern Sociological Society	2015 – present
LEX Research Network	2025 – present