

## Curriculum Vitae

---

### KENNETH ALEXANDER CRUZ

Box 358425 | 1900 Commerce Street | Tacoma WA 98402  
kcruz@uw.edu

#### EDUCATION

---

- PhD. 2016                      University of California, Irvine  
Criminology, Law and Society  
Dissertation: *Slumcare and the Fail-State*
- M.S. 2009                      Northern Arizona University  
Applied Criminology (with distinction)  
Thesis: *Surface Versus Substance: How Medicalizing the Behavioral Problems of Abused and Neglected Youth Individualizes Maltreatment*
- J.D. 2002                      University of Connecticut  
Law
- B.A. 1997                      Southern Connecticut State University  
Psychology (magna cum laude)

#### PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

---

- Cruz, K. A. and Myers, R. (2024). From 'Wait 'Em Out' to Push Them Out: Teachers' Reflections on Passive and Active Modes of Racialized School Exclusion. *Punishment & Society* (accepted for publication on 2/19/24)
- Costelloe, M., Arazan, C. L. and Cruz, K. A. (2024). The Culture of Sport: Examining the Effect of Athletic Participation on the Acceptance of Rape Myths. *Journal of Criminological Research, Policy and Practice*, DOI: 10.1108/JCRPP-06-2023-0028
- Cruz, K. A. (2023). Micro-Erasures: How an "Evidence-Based" Violence Intervention with Indigenous Youth Advances Cultural Genocide. *American Indian Quarterly*, 47(1): 1-25
- Cruz, K. A. (2022). Keeping Kids for Profit: A Cautionary Tale of Public Service Corruption and "Slumcare" Within the Expanding Juvenile Crime Control Industry. *Social Justice*, 48(1): 81-103
- Cruz, K. A. (2019). Systemic Endangerment: A Tale of Neoliberal 'Slumcare.' *Critical Criminology*, 27(4): 627-642

## **TECHNICAL REPORTS/COMMUNITY ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP**

---

Cruz, K. (2024). Research on Crisis Response Models: An Annotated Bibliography. Technical report submitted to Pierce County Transit HART Implementation Team.

Cruz, K., Cohen, J.W., Hawes, J. Madfis, E. and Myers, R. (2022). Evidence-based Principles and Practices for Youth Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention: Recommendations for the City of Tacoma. Technical report submitted to the City of Tacoma.

## **LOCAL MEDIA APPEARANCES/PUBLIC CRIMINOLOGY**

---

*Crosscut* (2023). Interviewed for: “Washington’s trend of treatment courts continues in Tacoma For 30 years, the state has increasingly adopted alternative forms of justice. But are these systems working?” By Nimra Ahmad.

*The News Tribune* (2022). Interviewed for: “Is chief Moore’s crime plan right for Tacoma? Local experts, police union are concerned.” By Jared Brown and Liz Moomy.

*The News Tribune* (2022). Interviewed for: “From broken windows to homicide: How to understand what ails Tacoma, and then fix it.” By Matt Driscoll

*The News Tribune* (2021). Featured in: “What is Critical Race Theory? A UWT professor explains.” By Joshua Bessex.

Cruz, K. (2020). Small police budget cut is token gesture at best. *The News Tribune*

Cruz, K. (2020). Absence, silence not good look for Tacoma leaders. *The News Tribune*

## **NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

---

Cruz, K. A. (2014). Book Review: Structural Violence: Hidden Brutality in the Lives of Women. By Joshua M. Price (State University of New York Press, 2012, 179pp.), *British Journal of Criminology*, 54 (2): 366-368. doi: 10.1093/bjc/azt076

## **ACTIVE RESEARCH AGENDA**

---

Cruz K., Madfis, E., Hawes, J. and Cohen J. (2024). Evidence-Based Principles for Centering Social Justice in Youth Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention. Under review at *Social Justice*. Submitted in July of 2024.

Hawes, J., Cruz, K., & Chavez, J. Masculinity theory, school strain measurement, subjective meaning, and offending trajectories. Manuscript being prepared for submission to the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* in the Autumn of 2024.

Cruz, K. A. and Myers, R. (2024). The Teacher-to-Prison Pipeline: From Regressive Schools to Progressive Juvenile Justice Systems. Manuscript being prepared for submission to *Contemporary Justice Review* in the Autumn of 2024.

Cruz, K. A. and Myers, R. (2024). Imprisoned Utopia: The Tragic Surplus of Carceral Educational Resources for Youth. Manuscript being prepared for a peer-reviewed journal in the Spring of 2025.

Cruz, K. A. and Myers, R. (2025). *Bordertown Justice: The Care and Control of Kids in the Southwest*. Book proposal being prepared for either *Rutgers University Press* or *University of California Press* in the Winter of 2025.

Cruz, K. and Falco, D. (2025). Helping Emerge: Assisting a Social Enterprise for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals with its Trauma-informed Mission. Longitudinal data gathering stage.

Cruz, K. et al. (2026). The Tacoma Municipal Therapeutic Courts Team Project. Planning stage.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

2019-Present Assistant Professor, University of Washington Tacoma

American Criminal Courts  
Helping Skills in Criminal Justice  
Criminological Theory  
White Collar Crime  
Introduction to The Sociology of Deviance and Social Control

2014-2019 Lecturer, Northern Arizona University

Criminology  
Violent Crime  
Investigating Difference  
Criminal Procedure  
Criminal Law

2003-2004 Department Chair and Lead Instructor, Remington College

Introduction to Criminal Justice  
Criminal Law  
Criminal Procedure  
Ethics

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

---

2021-2024 Member, Faculty Affairs Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2023-2024 Organizer, Tacoma Municipal Therapeutic Courts Team Project, University of Washington Tacoma

2022-2023 Co-Chair, CJ Faculty Search Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2022-2023 Co-Chair, Equity and Inclusion Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2022-2023 Member, SSSP Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship Committee

2022-2023 Reviewer, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*

2021-2022 Member, Equity and Inclusion Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2021-2022 Co-PI, Anti-Racist Curriculum Project, University of Washington Tacoma

2020-2023 Member, Decriminalize UWT Workgroup, University of Washington Tacoma

2019-2021 Member, Campus Technology Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2020-2021 Member, Faculty Council, University of Washington Tacoma

2020-2021 Member, Part-time Lecturer Search Committee

2020-2021 Member, Dean Search Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2019 Member, Internal Grant Review Committee, University of Washington Tacoma

2015-2019 Pre-Law Advisor, Northern Arizona University

2017-2019 Advisor, Amnesty International, Northern Arizona University

2018-2019 Chair, Scholarships and Special Events Committee, Northern Arizona University

2018 Chair, Thematic Panel at the American Society of Criminology. *Native Americans and Violence Prevention: Issues of Sovereignty and Social Justice*

2017-2018 Member, Scholarships and Special events Committee, Northern Arizona University

2015-2016 Member, Communications Committee, Northern Arizona University

2014-2015 Chair, Assessment Committee, Northern Arizona University

2014-2015 Member, New Faculty Mentor Committee, Northern Arizona University

2014-2015 Member, Lecturer Search Committee, Northern Arizona University

- 2012-2013 Graduate Student Representative, University of California, Irvine
- 2012-2013 Member, DECADE, University of California, Irvine
- 2011-2013 Member, Diversity Committee, University of California, Irvine

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

---

- 2023-2024 Consultant, Pierce County Transit HART Implementation Team
- 2021-2022 Member, Opinion Advisory Board for The News Tribune
- 2021 Member, Crisis Response Coalition
- 2021 Member, Tacoma Progressive Coalition
- 2020-2021 Member, Tacoma United

**PRESENTATIONS**

---

- 2024 *Coding Initial Interviews: Program Strengths*. Report presented to the Pierce County Transit HART Implementation Team
- 2024 *Research on Crisis Response Models: Key Findings*. Report presented to the Pierce County Transit HART Implementation Team
- 2022 *Micro-Erasures: How and Evidence-based Violence Intervention with Indigenous Youth Advances Cultural Genocide*, Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) annual meeting
- 2022 *Town Hall for Crisis Response*. Panel participant at Evergreen State College.
- 2022 *Evidence-based principles and practices for youth gun violence prevention and intervention: Recommendations for the City of Tacoma*. Co-presenter of report presented to the Tacoma City Council
- 2022 *Advocating for Youth Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention: Evidence-based Principles and Practices*. Co-presenter and Session Organizer for the Charting Our Future Conference in Tacoma
- 2019 *Filling Beds: A Tale of Social Service Corruption and Neoliberal Slumcare*. Roundtable presentation at the American Society of Criminology (invited)
- 2018 *What is Just in Excluded Communities?* Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology
- 2016 *Slumcare and the Fail-State*. Dissertation presented at the American Society of Criminology

- 2015 *A Theory of Service Corruption*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology
- 2014 *URM Climate Discussion*. Research presented to the department of Criminology, Law and Society
- 2013 *Filling Beds: A Tale of Slumcare*. Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems
- 2012 *The Therapeutic Bubble: How Ineffective Interventions Persist*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology
- 2009 *Surface Versus Substance: How Medicalizing the Behavioral Problems of Abused and Neglected Youth Individualizes Maltreatment*. Thesis presented at the American Society of Criminology
- 1997 *Perfected Colonialism*. Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society.

#### **GRANTS & STIPENDS**

---

- 2022-2023 SEED (Strengthening Educational Excellence Through Diversity) Stipend
- 2022 SJRS (Social Justice Research and Scholarship) Gathering Stipend
- 2021-2022 Indigenizing Pedagogy Institute Stipend
- 2018-2019 SBS Research Support Award  
Northern Arizona University
- 2013-2014 DECADE Mentor Graduate Diversity Award  
University of California, Irvine
- 2011 COR Small Grant  
University of California, Irvine
- 2010 CLS Summer Research Grant  
University of California, Irvine
- 2004-2005 GO-MAP Fellowship,  
University of Washington
- 2001 PILG Grant Recipient,  
University of Connecticut School of Law

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

---

- 2024 Faculty Assembly *Certificate of Appreciation* for 3 years of service to shard governance representing and serving UWT and Faculty Assembly
- 2023 Faculty Assembly *Certificate of Appreciation* for Outstanding Service to the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Decriminalize UWT Working Group
- 2021 Letter of Gratitude from Co-Chairs of the Inaugural Dean Search Committee
- 2012-2013 Graduate Student Representative  
University of California, Irvine
- 2011-2013 Diversity Representative,  
University of California, Irvine
- 2009-2010 Social Ecology Fellowship  
University of California, Irvine
- 2004 Hubert M. Blalock Minority Student Award,  
University of Washington
- 2000 Edward Trauring Scholarship,  
University of Connecticut School of Law
- 1997 Academic Excellence Award in Psychology,  
Southern Connecticut State University
- 1997 Distinguished Alumnus Scholarship,  
Southern Connecticut State University

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

---

- 2007-2009 Residential Program Director and Behavioral Health Support Technician III  
Daybreak Behavioral Health Resources, Flagstaff, AZ
- Managed a behavioral health group home for boys. Responsibilities included implementation of the program and supervision/training of direct care staff. Direct care duties included leading residents through the program, supervising them and maintaining their safety.*
- 2002-2003 Clinical Case Manager  
Mental Health Corporation of Denver, Denver, CO

*Managed a large caseload of individuals suffering from chronic mental illness. Responsibilities included assistance with independent living, management of crisis situations, monitoring and assessing clients' progress.*

1997-2002 Intensive Case Manager and Mental Health Worker  
Midstate Behavioral Health Systems, Meriden, CT

*Managed a small caseload of individuals suffering from severe and chronic mental illness. Mental health worker duties included crisis hotline work and monitoring and supporting residents on a respite unit.*