

Tucker Reyes

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University at Buffalo, SUNY
Department of Sociology and Criminology
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Sociology, University at Buffalo, SUNY, 2027 (exp.)
Dissertation Title: Auto-Motives: Unbuckling Consumer Decision Points and Precarities in Predatory Car Lending
Dissertation Committee: Mary Nell Trautner (chair), Ashley Barr, Spencer Headworth, and Victoria Piehowski
Qualifying Exam Areas: Law & Society and Criminology
- M.A. Sociology and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2022
- B.A. Law and Society, Purdue University, 2020
- B.S. Financial Counseling and Planning, Purdue University, 2018

RESEARCH AREAS

Criminology, Law & Society, Economic Sociology, Sociology of Education

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2026 Barr, Ashley B., Mary Nell Trautner, and Tucker Reyes. "Race, Gender, and Juvenile Determinism: A Mixed Methods Approach to Understanding Punishment Attitudes Toward Juvenile Offenders." *Race and Justice* 16(3):756-781.
- 2025 Finkeldey, Jessica G., Christopher R. Dennison, Nicholas Tucker Reyes, Abigayle DiRusso, and Mercedes Brown. "Contact with and Perceptions of Campus Police Among College Students at a Small-Town University." *Criminal Justice Review* 50(3):289-310.
- 2024 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker and Spencer Headworth. "Credit Cars: Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Auto Loans." *Law & Social Inquiry* 49(4):2184-2212.

Encyclopedia Entries

2021 Headworth, Spencer and Nicholas Tucker Reyes. 2021. "Welfare Fraud." In *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*, G. Ritzer and C. Rojek (Ed.).

Manuscripts in Submission

Reyes, Tucker. "Court Fees and the Transformation of Private Debts into Public Legal Financial Obligations." *Revise and resubmit*

Adams, Jonas and Tucker Reyes. "Litigating Uncertainty: Negotiating the Meaning of Rational Climate Science and Action in a Contested Case of Urban Redevelopment." *Revise and resubmit*

Reyes, Tucker. "Beyond Rationality: Distrust and Predatory Inclusion in Subprime Auto Lending." *Under review*

Headworth, Spencer, David McElhattan, Tucker Reyes, and Callie Zaborenko. "Where's "Here" for Buy Here, Pay Here? Race, Ethnicity, and the Geography of Predatory Auto Lending." *Under review*

Reyes, Tucker. "'A Double Waste of Talent and Space': News Media, Cold War Anxieties, and the Framing of Human and Social Capital." *Under review*

Reyes, Tucker, Mary Nell Trautner, and Jeffery C. White. "Inclusive Ambiguity and Saving Face in Higher Education." *Under review*

Manuscripts in Preparation (full drafts available)

Reyes, Tucker. "Once in debt, always indebted? Examining the Association Between Adverse Childhood Experiences and Financial Independence in Adulthood."

Dennison, Christopher R. and Tucker Reyes. "Intra-generational Mobility and Changes in Substance Use: Objective Mobility, Subjective Mobility, or Both?"

Reyes, Tucker, Jonas Adams, and Derek Cardamone. "'Stop the Metro!' Legal Mobilization and the 60-year Fight Against Rapid Transit in the 20-Minute City"

Trautner, Mary Nell and Tucker Reyes. "Why the Have-Nots Come Out Behind: Gender, Race, and Embodiment in the 'Litigation Lottery.'"

Public Sociology Publications

2024 Dennison, Christopher R., Jessica Finkeldey, and Nicholas Tucker Reyes. 2024. "[Perception of Campus Police is More Negative Among Students from Minority Groups.](#)" *The Conversation*. June 3, 2024.

- 2022 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker and Julia Raufman. 2022. "[Bringing Equity Into College Placement Reforms](#)." *Center for the Analysis of Postsecondary Readiness Blog, Teachers College, Columbia University*. August 18, 2022.
- 2022 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker. 2022. "[Apprenticeships and Workforce Education](#)." *The Mixed Methods Blog, Community College Research Center*. August 15, 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

- 2026 Reyes, Tucker. August 7-11, 2026. "Beyond Rationality: Relational Trust and Inclusion in Subprime Auto Lending." American Sociological Association annual meeting in New York, New York.
- 2026 Reyes, Tucker. May 28-31, 2026. "Beyond Rationality: Relational Trust, Credit Exclusion, and Subprime Auto Lending." Law & Society Association annual meeting in San Francisco, California.
- 2025 Reyes, Tucker and Mary Nell Trautner. November 12-15, 2025. "Second Chances with Strings Attached: Young Adults' Views on Juvenile Punishment." American Society of Criminology annual meeting in Washington, DC.
- 2025 Headworth, Spencer, David McElhattan, Tucker Reyes, and Callie Zaborenko. August 8-12, 2025. "Where's 'Here' for Buy Here, Pay Here? Race, Ethnicity, and the Geography of Predatory Auto Lending." American Sociological Association annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2025 Adams, Jonas and N. Tucker Reyes. May 22-25, 2025. "'No Toxic Tunnel': Legal Mobilization and Growth Politics in Buffalo, NY's Kensington Highway Project." Law & Society Association annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2025 Trautner, Mary Nell and N. Tucker Reyes. May 22-25, 2025. "Why the Have-Nots Come Out Behind: Status, Stigma, and Inequality in the 'Litigation Lottery.'" Law & Society Association annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2024 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker. August 9-13, 2024. "Once in debt, always indebted? Examining the Impact of Student Loans on the Transition to Adulthood." American Sociological Association annual meeting in Montréal, Quebec, Canada.
- 2024 Barr, Ashley B., Mary Nell Trautner, and Nicholas Tucker Reyes. June 6-9, 2024. "Race and Childhood Determinism: A Mixed Methods Approach to Understanding Punishment Attitudes Towards Juvenile Offenders." Law & Society Association annual meeting in Denver, Colorado.

- 2023 Dennison, Christopher R. and Nicholas Tucker Reyes. November 15-18, 2023. "Intra-generational Mobility and Changes in Substance Use: Objective Mobility, Subjective Mobility, or Both?" American Society of Criminology annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2023 Trautner, Mary Nell, Ashley Barr, Christopher R. Dennison, and Nicholas Tucker Reyes. August 17-21, 2023. "He/She/They: Gender Pronouns and Gender Bias in Student Evaluations of Teaching." American Sociological Association annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2023 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker. June 1-4, 2023. "Credentialism and Debt: Examining the Historical Influence of Law, Policy, and Market Deregulation on Workforce Education in the U.S." Law & Society Association annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2022 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker and Spencer Headworth. August 5-9, 2022. "Automobility on Installments or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Car Loans." American Sociological Association annual meeting in Los Angeles, California
- 2022 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker and Spencer Headworth. July 13-16, 2022. "Collateral Damage: Law and the Advent of Automobile Loans." Law & Society annual meeting in Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2021 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker. April 8, 2021. "Charting the Course for Vehicle Repossession Research." Purdue Undergraduate Research Conference in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Invited Campus Talks

- 2025 Reyes, Tucker. November 18, 2025. "Trusting the Untrustworthy: Contracts, Inequality, and Predatory Auto Loans." Crime and Law (CLaw) work-in-progress Workshop, University at Buffalo, Department of Sociology and Criminology.
- 2025 Reyes, Tucker. October 30, 2025. "Qualitative Research, Interviewing, and Predatory Auto Lending." University at Buffalo, Department of Sociology and Criminology, SOC 293 Research Methods.
- 2024 Reyes, N. Tucker. April 18, 2024. "Conducting Criminology Research in Stata Using Add Health." University at Buffalo, Department of Sociology and Criminology, Multiple Linear Regression (Graduate Course).
- 2024 Reyes, N. Tucker. April 17, 2024. "Future Directions for Predatory Auto Lending Research in Western New York." Crime and Law (CLaw) work-in-progress Workshop, University at Buffalo, Department of Sociology and Criminology.
- 2023 Reyes, N. Tucker. September 25, 2023. "Calculating measures of Variability and Data Cleaning in Stata." University at Buffalo, Department of Sociology and Criminology, Introductory Statistics for the Social Sciences (Graduate Course).

- 2023 Reyes, N. Tucker. August 3, 2023. "Social Movements and Legal Mobilization." University at Buffalo, Arthur O. Eve Educational Opportunity Program.
- 2023 Reyes, N. Tucker. April 28, 2023. "Prosecution of White-Collar Crime." University at Buffalo, Department of Sociology and Criminology.
- 2022 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker. May 23, 2022. "Historically Embedded Ethnography in US Job Training Education." Teachers College, Columbia University Spring Master's Research Symposium in New York, New York.
- 2021 Reyes, Nicholas Tucker. December 15, 2021. "Students' Perspectives on Apprenticeships and Workforce Education." Teachers College, Columbia University Winter Master's Research Symposium in New York, New York.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2025- Mark Diamond Research Fund
- 2025- Baldy Center Graduate Student Research Grant
- 2025 Michelle M. Thompson Award for Dissertation Research, University at Buffalo
- 2024 Nathalie Devine Howe Award for Outstanding Scholarship, University at Buffalo
Project Title: "A Double Waste of Talent and Space": A Historical Analysis of News Media's Role in Reproducing Educational Inequalities."
- 2023-24 Department of Sociology and Criminology Good Citizen Award, University at Buffalo
- 2019-20 Margo Katherine Wilke Undergraduate Research Award, Purdue University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology
 SOC 294: Basic Statistics for the Social Sciences
 SOC 307: Criminology
 SOC 317: Criminal Justice Systems

Teaching Assistant

SOC 293: Social Research Methods
 SOC 307: Criminology
 SOC 337: Sociology of Punishment
 SOC 504: Introductory Statistics for the Social Sciences (Graduate)
 SOC 606: Social Research Methods (Graduate)
 SOC 607: Multiple Linear Regression (Graduate)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2025-2026 Presider, Race, Ethnicity, and Civil Law regular session, 2026 ASA annual meeting
- 2025-2026 Presider, Law and Political Economy regular session, 2026 ASA annual meeting
- 2025 Undergraduate Student Mentor, University at Buffalo Honors College
- 2025 Survey Translation (English to Spanish), Scandinavian Prison Project
- 2024 Awards Committee Member, American Sociological Association, Section on *Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility*
- 2024 Graduate Student Representative for University at Buffalo, John Jay College of Criminal Justice Graduate & Professional School Showcase
- 2023- Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Association, University at Buffalo
- 2023- Website / Social Media Editor, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University at Buffalo
- 2023- Peer Mentor, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University at Buffalo

Reviewing Service

- 2024- Reviewer, *Deviant Behavior, Journal of Crime and Justice*
- 2024- Grant Reviewer, Mark Diamond Research Fund, University at Buffalo

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

- 2020- Member, Law & Society Association
- 2020- Member, American Sociological Association
Section Memberships: *Economic Sociology; Sociology of Law; Crime, Law, and Deviance; Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility*