

Jesse Wozniak
Associate Professor
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
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Research interests

My work lies at the intersection of criminology, political sociology, and critical theory, focusing primarily on (1) the origins and development of policing practices, (2) the role of police training in transforming institutional culture, (3) abolition and alternatives to state security forces, and (4) situating state formation in a broader context of neoliberal globalization and neoimperialism.

Qualifications

PhD, University of Minnesota Twin Cities
13 Nov 2012 → 31 Dec 2099
Award Date: 13 Nov 2012

Sociology, BA (Hons), University of Northern Iowa
Award Date: 8 May 2004

Employment

Associate Professor
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Northumbria University
1 Jul 2025 → present

Prior Employment

Associate Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
West Virginia University
May 2019→30 June 2025

Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
West Virginia University
1 Jan 2013→May 2019

Research outputs

Because of the Color of my Skin: Addressing Structural Racism with Police Recruits and Returning Citizens
Wozniak, J. & Conti, N., 1 Apr 2026, In: *Race and Justice*. 16, 2, p. 363-386 24 p.

A Community Vision on Police Abolition: Lessons on Theorizing from Below
Wozniak, J., 2024, In: *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict & World Order*. 49, 4

Police Recruit Narratives and Publicly Oriented Vocabularies of Motive
Wozniak, J. S. G., Conti, N. & Doreian, P., 1 Dec 2023, In: *International Journal of Police Science and Management*. 25, 4, p. 448-458 11 p.

The evolving self-presentation of the Islamic State, from *Dabiq* to *Rumiyah*
Wozniak, J., Woods, J. & Lee, Y. S., 1 Jan 2022, In: *The Social Science Journal*. 59, 4, p. 588-600 13 p.

Policing Iraq: Legitimacy, Democracy, and Empire in a Developing State: Legitimacy, democracy, and empire in a developing state
Wozniak, J., 9 Mar 2021, Oakland, United States: University of California Press. 254 p.

The blackness that incriminated me': Stigma and Normalization among Brothers and Keepers

Burston, A., Wozniak, J., Sakho, J. R. & Conti, N., 2020, In: Kalfou: A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies.

Criminal justice policy inside-out: An Initial Case Study in Education Among Police and Incarcerated Men

Burston, A., Conti, N., Wozniak, J. & Frantz, E., 2019, In: The Police Journal.

From the Point of a Gun to the Point of Starvation: Economic Conscription in Post Conflict Policing

Wozniak, J., 2019, In: International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice.

Iraq's Neoliberal Reconstruction and the Continued Relevance of the State

Wozniak, J., 2019, In: Sociological Focus.

From Chi-Raq to Iraq: The Retreat of the State and the Rise of Violent Organizations

Wozniak, J., 2018, In: International Sociology.

Post Conflict Police Reconstruction: Major Trends and Developments

Wozniak, J., 2018, In: Sociology Compass.

Rural Officer Habitus and Attitudes of Rural Law Enforcement Toward Proposed Changes in Policing

Contessa, J. & Wozniak, J., 2018, In: The International Journal of Rural Criminology.

We are going to prove we are a civil and developed country: The cultural performance of police legitimacy and empire in the Iraqi state

Wozniak, J., 1 Jul 2017, In: British Journal of Criminology. 57, 4, p. 906-923 18 p.

Iraq and the Material Basis of Post-Conflict Police Reconstruction

Wozniak, J., 2017, In: Journal of Peace Research.

Missing the moral: Excited delirium as a negative case study of a moral panic

Wozniak, J. S. G., 1 Apr 2016, In: Punishment and Society. 18, 2, p. 198-219 22 p.

When the Going Gets Weird: An Invitation to Gonzo Sociology

Wozniak, J. S. G., 5 Dec 2014, In: American Sociologist. 45, 4, p. 453-473 21 p.

Real men use nonlethals: Appeals to masculinity in marketing police weaponry

Wozniak, J. & Uggen, C., 1 Jul 2009, In: Feminist Criminology. 4, 3, p. 275-293 19 p.

Real Men Use Non-Lethals: Appeals to Masculinity in the Marketing of Police Weaponry

Wozniak, J. & Uggen, C., 2009, In: Feminist Criminology.

Winning the Battle of Seattle: State Response to Perceived Crisis

Wozniak, J., 2005, In: Illness Crisis and Loss.

Student Mentoring

Current

Marina Mohd Hamdan

Ph.D. Committee Chair, Defense Anticipated 2026

Danielle Stoneberg

Ph.D. Committee Chair, Defense Anticipated 2026

Jill Sturges

Ph.D. Thesis Chair, Defense Anticipated 2026

Azeez Kareem-Ojo
MA Thesis Chair, Defense Anticipated 2026

Former
Rachael Green
Ph.D. Committee Member, Successful Defense 2025

Gulzar Jalal
Ph.D. Committee Member, Successful Defense 2025

Whitney Tyree
MA Thesis Chair, Successful Defense 2024

Hemin Aziz
(University of Cincinnati)
Ph.D. Committee Member, Successful Defense 2023
Currently: RSI Family Liaison Coordinator, RefugeeConnect, Cincinnati, OH

Vivian Guettler
Ph.D. Committee Chair, Successful Defense 2022
Currently: Assistant Professor at University of Northern Colorado

Mikaela Zimmerman
Ph.D. Committee Chair, Successful Defense 2022
Currently: Racial Equity Impact Policy Analyst for Maryland General Assembly

Alecsandra Vac
MA Thesis Committee Member, Successful Defense 2022

Yan Song Lee
MA Committee Member, Successful Defense Spring 2018

Jacqueline Fowler
McNair Advisor, 2014-2015
MA Thesis Chair, Successful Defense Spring 2017

Jason Contessa
MA Thesis Chair, Successful Defense Spring 2016

Ahnieyah Porter
MA Thesis Chair, Successful Defense Spring 2016

Theodore Malone
MA Thesis Committee Member, Successful Defense Spring 2015

Erin Bixler
MA Thesis Committee Member, Successful Defense Spring 2015

Kent Hastings
MA Thesis Committee Member, Successful Defense Spring 2015

Delia Trickett
MA Thesis Committee Member, Successful Defense Spring 2015