

# Victoria Rivera Laugalis

## Curriculum Vitae

Loyola University New Orleans  
Department of Criminology and Justice  
6363 St. Charles Ave, Campus Box 55  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
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### EDUCATION

- 2024 Sam Houston State University (SHSU), Huntsville, TX  
Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology  
**Ph.D. in Criminal Justice**  
Dissertation: *Assessing Public Punitiveness Toward Emerging Adult Sentencing*  
Committee: Dr. Stuti S. Kokkalera, Dr. Eric. J. Connolly, & Dr. Michael S. Vaughn
- 2019 Saint Leo University (SLU), Saint Leo, FL  
**Master of Science in Criminal Justice**  
Specialization: Behavioral Studies
- 2014 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU), Prescott, AZ  
**Bachelor of Science in Global Security & Intelligence**, Magna Cum Laude  
Minor: Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies
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### RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Sentencing and corrections law/policy
  - Youth justice and delinquency
  - Biosocial and developmental criminology
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### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

**Laugalis, V. R.,** Kokkalera, S. S., & Wronski, B. A. (2024). Examining Parole Decision-Making Pre- and Post-COVID-19: Does Elderly Status Matter? *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.

**Laugalis, V. &** Connolly, E. J. (2023). Head Injury and Antisocial Personality Features in a Sample of Juvenile Detainees. *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*.

**Laugalis, V. R.,** Koza, M., Kokkalera, S.S., & Vaughn, M.S. (2023) Technically Not Life: How De Facto Life Sentences Condemn Juveniles to Die in Prison. *Criminal Justice Review*.

## Revise and Resubmit

**Laugalis, V. R.**, McCullough, K., Koza, M., Kokkalera, S.S., & Vaughn, M.S. A State-By-State Analysis of Sentencing Statues for Juvenile Homicide Offenders in the United States.

## Manuscripts in Progress

**Laugalis, V. R.**, & Kokkalera, S.S. Assessing Parole Decision-Making for Juveniles and Emerging Adults Sentenced to Life.

**Laugalis, V. R.** Perceptions of Age and Rehabilitation in Sentencing Emerging Adults to Life.

Ramos, J., Kokkalera, S.S., Amalfi Wronski, B., & **Laugalis, V. R.** Negotiating Parole: Do Repeat Players Fare Better?

**Laugalis, V. R.**, & Vaughn, M.S. Review of the Legal Aspects of Alcohol and Opioid Withdrawal Injury and Death Cases in Custody.

## Book Chapter in Progress

**Laugalis, V. R.**, & Kokkalera, S.S. Are Children Permanently Incurrigible? Examining Neuroscience in Juvenile Sentencing. (Forthcoming 2024)

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Academic Appointments

- 2024-Present **Assistant Professor**, Department of Criminology and Justice, College of Arts and Sciences, Loyola University New Orleans
- 2023-2024 **Instructor of Record**, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University
- 2021-2024 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University
- 2021-2023 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University

## Teaching Experience

### *Undergraduate Courses*

- 2024-Present Loyola University New Orleans, Department of Criminology and Justice  
**Juvenile Delinquency**, Undergraduate (in-person and online)  
**Research Methods**, Undergraduate (in-person)
- 2023-2024 Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology  
**Introduction to Methods of Research**, Undergraduate (in-person)

### *Teaching Assistant*

Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

- 2023 **Fundamentals of Criminal Law** – Undergraduate, Dr. Miltonette Craig  
2023 **Criminal Justice and Social Diversity** – Undergraduate, Dr. Javier Ramos  
2022-2023 **Juvenile Delinquency and Justice** – Undergraduate, Dr. Stuti Kokkalera  
2022 **Social Deviance** – Undergraduate, Dr. Mitchel Roth  
**Violent Offenders** – Undergraduate, Dr. Mitchel Roth  
2021-2022 **Seminar in Deviant Behavior** - Graduate, Dr. Mitchel Roth  
2021 **Criminology** – Undergraduate, Dr. Elisa Toman

### *Guest Lectures*

- 2023 **“Emerging Adults.”** Juvenile Justice, Dr. Stuti. S. Kokkalera, Sam Houston State University, TX.
- 2023 **“Three Modes of Survey Collection.”** Research Methods, Professor Davis Shelfer, Sam Houston State University, TX.
- 2022 **“Developmental Model of Juvenile Justice.”** Juvenile Justice, Dr. Stuti S. Kokkalera, Sam Houston State University, TX.

### *Teaching*

- 2020-2021 **Online English Language Teacher**, VIPKid, Remote
- 2014-2015 **Paraprofessional**, Acorn Montessori Charter School, Prescott Valley, AZ
- 2013 **English Teaching Volunteer**, Amal Salé Association, Rabat and Salé, Morocco

## Relevant Experience

- 2017-2020     **Pinellas County Consumer Protection**, Clearwater, FL  
**Criminal Investigator**, 40 hours/week
- Conducted about 200 criminal investigations, including complex multi-victim/multi-subject cases, involving over \$500,000 in restitution
  - Researched and analyzed specific laws, drafted subpoena requests, participated in depositions, and prepared for court testimony
  - Interviewed witnesses, victims, and suspects and recorded statements
  - Analyzed evidence and presented in reports and oral briefings
  - Participated in community outreach programs, conducted human trafficking awareness compliance inspections, and contributed articles to the employee newsletter
  - Collaborated with other government agencies, law enforcement, and prosecutors
- 2016-2017     **Florida Department of Juvenile Justice**, Clearwater, FL  
**Juvenile Justice Detention Officer Supervisor**, 40 - 60 hours/week
- Supervised officers, conducted shift briefings, assigned duty posts, monitored progress, and ensured adherence to policies, while maintaining a safe and secure facility
  - Completed daily shift reports and reviewed incident, medical, and mental health reports
- 2015-2016     **Juvenile Justice Detention Officer II**, 40 – 60 hours/week
- Maintained control and ensured the safe custody of detained youth through appropriate levels of verbal and physical responses in accordance with policies and procedures
  - Wrote incident, medical, and mental health reports
  - Trained a new class of juvenile detention officers

## Training

- 2023           **Faculty Certification for Online Instruction**  
Online Course Redesign and Faculty Certification Program, SHSU
- 2020           **National White-Collar Crime Center (NW3C) Training**  
Cognitive Interviewing, Communication, & Influence, 16 hours
- 2019           **Association of Certified Fraud Examiners**  
60 Hour Prep Course and Exam
- 2018           **Advanced Homeland Security Training in Israel**  
Security Solutions International, 60 Hour Course of Study in Israel
- 2018           **National White-Collar Crime Center (NW3C) Training**  
Online Social Networking for Investigations & Intelligence, 16 hours

## Professional Development

- 2024        **ACJS Doctoral Summit**, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
- 2023        **Dissertation Boot Camp**, Sam Houston State University
- 2023        **Teaching and Learning Conference**, Sam Houston State University
- 2023        **Diversity Leadership Conference**, Sam Houston State University
- 2023        **Teaching Workshop**, Sam Houston State University
- 2021-2023    **Graduate Student Organization Workshops**, Sam Houston State University

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## PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

### Conference Presentations

- 2024    **Laugalis, V. R.** (Forthcoming). Perceptions of Age and Rehabilitation in Sentencing Emerging Adults to Life. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.
- 2024    **Laugalis, V. & Kokkalera, S.S.** (June 2024). Assessing Parole Decision-Making for Juveniles and Emerging Adults Sentenced to Life. Law and Society Association, Denver, CO.
- 2024    **Laugalis, V.** (March 2024). Assessing Public Punitiveness Toward Emerging Adult Sentencing. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Chicago, IL.
- 2023    **Laugalis, V., Amalfi Wronski, B., & Kokkalera, S.S.** (November 2023). Examining the role of age on parole decision-making pre and post Covid-19. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023    **Laugalis, V. & Kokkalera, S.S.** (June 2023). Are children permanently incorrigible? Examining the role of developmental neuroscience in youth sentencing in U.S. states and territories. Law and Society Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2022    **Laugalis, V. & Connolly, E. J.** (November 2022). Examination of the link between head injuries and antisocial personality disorder. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
- 2022    **Laugalis, V., Koza, M., Kokkalera, S.S., & Vaughn, M.S.** (November 2022). Technically not life: How virtual life sentences condemn juveniles to die in prison. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.

2022 **Laugalis, V., McCullough, K., & Vaughn, M.S.** (March 2022). Sentencing statutes for juvenile homicide offenders in the United States: A state-by-state analysis. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, NV.

### **Conferences Attended**

2021 Criminology Consortium Annual Meeting (CrimCon), Virtual  
2021 Texas Association of Criminal Justice Educators (TACJE), Virtual  
2016 Florida Juvenile Justice Association (FJAA) Adolescent Conference co-hosted with Florida Council for Community Health, Orlando, FL

### **Professional Memberships**

2022-24 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), Student Member  
2023 Juvenile Justice Section, Student Member  
2023 Restorative and Community Justice Section, Student Member  
2023 Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship Section, Student Member  
  
2022-24 American Society of Criminology (ASC), Student Member  
2023 Biopsychosocial Criminology Division, Student Member  
2023 Corrections and Sentencing Division, Student Member  
2023 Developmental/Life-Course Criminology Division, Student Member  
  
2022-24 Law and Society Association (LSA), Student Member  
  
2021-23 Texas Association of Criminal Justice Educators (TACJE), Student Member

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### **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

2023-Present Manuscript Reviewer for *Crime and Delinquency*  
  
2022-2023 Treasurer, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology Graduate Student Organization (GSO), Sam Houston State University  
  
2022-2023 Chair, Fundraising Committee, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology Graduate Student Organization (GSO), Sam Houston State University. Organized fundraisers that raised over \$1200 for local organizations: SHSU Food Pantry and SAAFE House.  
  
2021-present Member, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology Graduate Student Organization (GSO), Sam Houston State University. Participated in fundraising and service activities.  
  
2021-present Member, Service Committee, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology Graduate Student Organization (GSO), Sam Houston State University

- 2014 Volunteer Coach, Girls on the Run Northern Arizona, Prescott Valley, AZ
- 2013-2014 Member, Order of Omega, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- 2013 Chapter President, Alpha Sigma Tau, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- 2011-2014 Committee Member, Alpha Sigma Tau, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- 2012-2013 Writer and Editor, *The Eagle Eye*, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

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**HONORS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 2023-2024 Rolando, Josefa, and Jocelyn del Carmen Criminal Justice Scholarship, SHSU
- Summer 2023 The Graduate School General Scholarship, Sam Houston State University
- Spring 2023 The Graduate School General Scholarship, Sam Houston State University
- 2022-2023 Rolando, Josefa, and Jocelyn del Carmen Criminal Justice Scholarship, SHSU
- Summer 2022 The Graduate School General Scholarship, Sam Houston State University
- 2022 Criminal Justice Graduate Student Larry Hoover Summer Research Fellowship
- Spring 2022 The Graduate School General Scholarship, Sam Houston State University
- 2011-2014 Undergraduate Dean's List, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- 2011-2014 Scholarship Recognition Award, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University