

DAWN K. CECIL

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND Ph.D. Criminology & Criminal Justice	College Park, MD 2002
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY M.A., Criminal Justice Sciences	Normal, IL 1995
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY B.S., Criminal Justice Sciences	Normal, IL 1993

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA Professor, Criminology Associate Professor, Criminology Assistant Professor, Criminology	St. Petersburg, FL 2020-2022; 2023-present 2008-2020 2002-2008
TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY Instructor, Criminal Justice	Kirksville, MO 1995-1997

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA St. Petersburg Associate Chair, Criminology Program Coordinator, Criminology	St. Petersburg, FL 2020-present 2008-2020
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AWARDS AND HONORS

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, University of South Florida St. Petersburg, 2018.

College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Teaching Award, University of South Florida St. Petersburg, 2018.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Prison imagery
Media representations of Crime & Justice
Impact of true crime media

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Banwell, S., Lynsey, B., Cecil, D.K., Djamba, Y.K., Kimuna, S.R., Milne, E., Seal, L., & Tenkorang, E.Y. (EDS.) (2023). *The Emerald International Handbook of Feminist Perspectives on Women's Acts of Violence*. UK: Emerald Publishing Limited.

Cecil, D.K. (2020). *Fear, Justice, & Modern True Crime*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Cecil, D.K. (2015). *Prison Life in Popular Culture: From The Big House to Orange is the New Black*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

Cecil, D.K. (forthcoming). Transcending prison walls: Prison podcasts, the listening experience, and narrative change. *Crime, Media, Culture*.

Sotelo, M., Santos, M.R., Groscholz, G. & Cecil, D.K. (forthcoming). Public perceptions as a potential barrier for prison reform in Panama: An analysis of user comments on YouTube. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice* (published online first). <https://doi.org/10.1080/01924036.2023.2173263>

Cecil, D.K. (2022, January 5). Saying Her Name: Gendered Narratives in News Coverage of Breonna Taylor's Death. *Race and Justice* (published online first). <https://doi.org/10.1177/21533687211070552>

Cecil, D.K. (2019). Newsworthiness of Reform: Prison News Stories in an Era of Change. *Journal of Crime and Justice*, 42(2), 221-235. doi: [10.1080/0735648x.2018.1507834](https://doi.org/10.1080/0735648x.2018.1507834)

Cecil, D. (2017). Prison Life and Popular Culture. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia for Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

McHale, J.P., Salaman, S., Strozier, A. & Cecil, D.K. (2013). Triadic Interactions in Mother-Grandmother Coparenting Systems Following Maternal Release from Jail. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*, 78(3), 57-74.

Strozier, A., Armstrong, M., Skuza, D., Cecil, D., & McHale, J. (2011). Coparenting in Kinship Families with an Incarcerated Mother: A Qualitative Study. *Families in Society*, 92(1), 165-184. doi: [10.1606/1044-3894.4064](https://doi.org/10.1606/1044-3894.4064)

Baker, J., McHale, J., Strozier, A., & Cecil, D. (2010). The Nature of Mother-Grandmother Coparenting Alliances in Families with Incarcerated Mothers. *Family Process*, 49(2), 165-184. doi: [10.1111/j.1545-5300.2010.01316.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1545-5300.2010.01316.x)

Cecil, D.K. & Leitner, J.L. (2009). Unlocking the Gates: An Examination of MSNBC Investigates Lockup. *The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice*, 48(2), 184-199. doi: [10.1111/j.1468-2311.2008.00557.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-2311.2008.00557.x)

Cecil, D.K. (2008). From *Heathers* to *Mean Girls*: Film Images of Teenage Girls, Aggression, and Victimization. *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*, 36(6), 513-521.

Cecil, D.K. (2008). Female Inmates, Family Caregivers, and Young Children's Adjustment: A Research Agenda and Implications for Correctional Programming. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 36(6), 513-521. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2008.09.002>

Cecil, D.K. (2007). Dramatic Portrayals of Violent Women: Female Offenders on Prime Time Crime Dramas. *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*, 14(3), 243-258.

Cecil, D.K. (2007). Looking Beyond *Caged Heat*: Media Images of Women in Prison. *Feminist Criminology*, 2(4), 304-326. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1557085107306142>

Cecil, D.K. (2007). Doing Time in "Camp Cupcake": Lessons Learned from Newspaper Accounts of Martha Stewart's Incarceration. *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*, 14(2), 142-160.

Cecil, D.K. (2006). Violence, Privilege, and Power: Images of Female Delinquents in Film. *Women and Criminal Justice*, 17(4), 63-84.

Kirkwood, M.K. & Cecil, D.K. (2001). Marital Rape: A Student Assessment of Rape Laws and the Marital Exemption. *Violence against Women: An International and Interdisciplinary Journal*, 7(11), 1234-1253. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801201007011003>

Cecil, D., Drapkin, D., MacKenzie, D., & Hickman, L. (2000). The Effectiveness of Adult Basic Education and Life Skills Programs in Reducing Recidivism: A Review and Assessment of the Research. *Journal of Correctional Education*, 51(2), 207-226.

Book Chapters

Cecil, D.K. (forthcoming 2023). *Ear Hustle*: Connecting to Prison Life Through a Narrative Podcast. In D. Swick & R. Keeble (Eds.), *Literary Journalism Goes Inside Prison: Just Sentences*. Routledge.

Cecil, D.K. (2020). Ear Hustling: Lessons Learned from a Prison Podcast. In M. Harmes, M. Harmes, & B. Harmes (eds.) *The Palgrave Handbook on Incarceration in Popular Media*. Palgrave MacMillan.

Cecil D. (2013). Un Examen de la Teoría del Autocontrol con una Mirada Feminista. In A. Serrano-Maíllo & C.H. Burkbeck (eds.), *La Generalidad de La Teoría del Autocontrol* (pp. 481-492). Madrid: Dykinson.

Cecil, D.K. (2010). Televised Images of Jail: Lessons in Controlling the Unruly. In M. Deflem (ed.) *Popular Culture, Crime, and Social Control* (pp. 67-88). Bingley: Emerald Group Publishing.

Cecil, D. (2006). Ceguera de Género. La Falta de Consideración de las Delincuentes Femeninas por Parte de la Criminología. In J.L. Guzmán & A. Serrano-Maíllo (eds.), *Derecho Penal y Criminología como Fundamento de la Política Criminal* (pp. 177-183). Madrid: Dykinson.

Other Publications

Cecil, D. (2017). Book Review: *Carceral Fantasies and Prison in Early Twentieth-Century America*. Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Book Reviews. Rutgers University.

<http://clcjbooks.rutgers.edu/books/carceral-fantasies-cinema-and-prison-in-early-twentieth-century-america/>

Cecil, D. & Wellford, C. (2000). *A Comparison of Six Positions within the Department of Juvenile Justice*. Report to Maryland Department of Juvenile Justice.

Cecil, D. & Wellford, C. (2000). *Issues Surrounding the Implementation and Maintenance of a Sex Offender Registry on the Internet*. Report to the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Cecil, D. (1995). *Pretrial Release and Case Processing in McLean County: Failure to Appear and Rearrest in a Sample of Felony and Misdemeanor Defendants*. Report to the McLean County Justice Committee, Bloomington, Illinois.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Cecil, D.K. & Pietsch, J. (co-principal investigators) (2008-2009), University of South Florida's Collaborative for Children, Families and Communities Grant. *Promoting Mothers' Successful Readjustment to Family Upon Reentry to Community After Incarceration: A Needs Assessment*. Amount awarded: \$12,500.

McHale, J., Strozier, A. & Cecil, D.K. (co-principal investigator) (2006-2008), National Institute of Child Health and Development R21HD50730, *Incarceration, Co-Caregiving and Child Adjustment*. Amount awarded: \$348,000.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations (2009-present)

Cecil, D.K., Jackson, K.G., and Calvin, L. (February 1, 2020). *Unlocking Higher Education: Promoting Justice Diversity on College Campuses*. RISE: Diversity and Inclusion Conference, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.

Cecil, D.K. (2019, November). *Missing White Girls and Murderous Women: Gender in Modern True Crime*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Cecil, D.K. (2019, November). *Using Popular Culture in Online Classes to Engage Students with Critical Issues*. Roundtable: Making Online Meaningful. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Moore, L., Ambush, H., Madden, M., Cecil, D., Diaz, J., Vernon-Jackson, S., Miller, B., & Nembhard, K. (2019, February 8). *Social Justice, Dispositions and Mindfulness: A Collaborative Research Approach on Social Class, Gender, Ethnicity, Mental Health, and Incarceration* (poster session). Bay-to-Bay Learning Symposium, University of South Florida St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, FL.

Cecil, D.K. (2017, November). *Wrongful Convictions, Killers, and Cold Cases: An Analysis of Crime Podcasts* (poster session). Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.

Cecil, D.K. (2016, November). *Representations of Correctional Reform: An Analysis of Prisons in the News*. Annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA.

Cecil, D.K. (2015, November). *Popular Culture, Public Discussions: Orange is the New Black and Conversations about Women in Prison*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC.

Cecil, D.K. (2012, November). *The Evolution of Televised Prison Documentaries: From Critical Exposé to Infotainment*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

Cecil, D.K. (2011, November). *Breaking Down the Televised Images of Women in Prison*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC.

Cecil, D.K. (2010, November). *Kids Behind Bars: Images of Juvenile Corrections*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Cecil, D.K. (2009, November). *Bad Boys Behind Bars: An Analysis of Jail and Inside Jail*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.

Baker, J., Strozier, A., Skuza, S., Armstrong M., Cecil, D., & McHale, J. (2009, April). *The Nature of Mother-Grandmother Coparenting Alliances in Families with Incarcerated Mothers*. Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.

Boline, M.A., Fenning, R., Baker, J., Strozier, A., Cecil, D. & McHale, J. (2009, February). *Standardized Self-Concept Assessment of Preschool-Aged Children with Incarcerated Mothers* (poster presentation). Annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.

Depalma, K., Barney, A., McHale, J., Strozier, A., Cecil, D., & Baker, J. (2009, February). *Do Co-Givers Risk Histories Matter for Children of Incarcerated Mothers?* (poster presentation). Annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.

Pigott, S., Fenning, R., Baker, J., Strozier, J., McHale, J., & Cecil, D. (2009, February). *Profiles of High-Risk Preschooler Adaptation During Home-Based Evaluations*. Annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.

Invited Talks

Modern True Crime and Justice, September 26, 2023, OLLI Lecture, USF, Tampa, FL.

[Unprecedented: Serial, True Crime, and Podcasting's Golden Age](#). Panelist, January 20, 2023. Penn State College of Liberal Arts.

Coming Together: A Discussion on Race, Equity, and The Future of Policing in Pinellas County. Panelist, July 8, 2020. Suncoast Tiger Bay Club, St. Petersburg, FL.

Gender, Media, and Incarceration. Virtual lecture, September 2018. Gender and Popular Culture, Gonzaga, University.

Prisons in Popular Culture. February 2017. OLLI Lecture, USF, Tampa, FL.

Gender and the Correctional System. July 2009. Tampa Bay Chapter of Business and Professional Women, St. Petersburg, FL.

Gender and Crime: The Main Issues Explored by Feminist Criminologists. March 13, 2003. Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia. Madrid, Spain.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate

- CCJ 3117 Theories of Criminal Behavior
- CCJ 4933 Special Topics: True Crime; OITNB (Orange is the New Black) & Women in Prison; Life in the Big House; Critical Issues in Corrections
- CCJ 4934 Senior Seminars: Media & Crime; Inequalities & Crime; Gender & Crime
- CJC 4010 American Correctional Systems

Graduate

- CCJ 6669: Seminar on Social Inequality & Crime—Race, Crime, & Media (Fall 2021)

Dissertation Committees

- Anna Rogers, outside reader, Department of Sociology, University of South Carolina, 2018-2019
- Raleigh Blasdell, committee member, Criminology, University of South Florida, 2015

Master's Thesis Committees

- Katelyn Smith, committee member, Criminology, University of South Florida, 2022-2023
- Mahaletth Sotelo, co-chair, Criminology, University of South Florida, 2021
- Albert Moreno, MLA Master's Project committee member, 2018-2019
- Elizabeth Jackson-Cruz, co-chair, Criminology, University of South Florida, 2018-2019

Undergraduate Honor's Thesis Committees

- Vaishnavi Ravikanti, thesis director, 2023
- Sophia Zimonopoulos, thesis director, 2023
- Grace Blackard, thesis director, 2022
- Julianne Shumake, thesis director, 2020
- Taylor Clarke, thesis director, 2016-2017
- Evelyn Madera, thesis director, 2015-2016

Course Development Grants and Courses

- Teaching and Learning in Diverse Classrooms (Fall 2019). Edx Course. Cornell University.
- Online Teaching Certification (Fall 2019), University of South Florida, St. Petersburg
- Textbook Affordability Initiative Six Week Workshop (Spring 2018), University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.
- Textbook Affordability Workshop (February 2018), University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.
- OLTIS Courses (August 2017): Flipping a Classroom; Creating Great Assignments; and Active Learning, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.
- Distance Learning Course Development Grant, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg (summer 2012). Developed on-line version of CCJ 3117 Theories of Criminal Behavior.
- Course Development Grant, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg (spring 2012). Applied funds to the development of CCJ 4934 Life in the Big House.

SERVICE

University and College (2009-present)

- PRESS Committee, St. Petersburg Campus, 2022-2023
- Faculty Council, St. Petersburg campus, Fall 2022
- Search Committee for Regional Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Committee Member, 2018-2019)
- Tenure and Promotion Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Vice Chair, 2018-2019.
- Faculty Council, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Member At-Large, 2017-2019; . Committee member, 2011-2013
- Grievance Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Committee Member, 2016
- Tenure and Promotion Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Chair, 2011-2012
- Sabbatical Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Committee Member, 2010-2011
- General Education Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Vice Chair, 2008-2010
- Scholarship Committee. USFSP, 2008-2009.

Departmental

- Undergraduate Committee, Member, 2023-present

- Search Committee for Visiting Instructor, Member, 2023
- Executive Committee, Member, Fall 2022
- Tenure and Promotion Committee, Member, 2021-present
- Graduate Committee, Member, 2020-2023
- Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee, Member 2021
- Development Committee, Member, 2020-2022
- Ad Hoc Social Justice Committee, Member, 2021
- Search Committee for Instructor of Criminology, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, Chair, 2020
- Search Committee for Instructor of Forensic Studies and Justice, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, Chair, 2020
- Search Committee for Instructor of Forensic Studies and Justice Program, Department of Society, Culture and Language, Committee Member, 2018
- Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Criminology, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, Chair, 2017-2018
- Forensic, Studies and Justice Program Proposal Committee. Department of Society, Culture, and Language, 2016-2017
- Tenure and Promotion Committee, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, Chair, 2016; 2017; 2019; 2020.
- Annual Review Committee, Department of Society, Culture, Language, member, 2009-2020
- Social Media and Newsletter Coordinator, Criminology Program, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, 2015-2020
- Travel and Research Committee, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, Committee Member, 2010-2020
- Assessment Coordinator, Criminology Program, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, 2002-2020
- Faculty Advisor, Criminology Student Association USFSP, 2002-2006; 2007-2019
- Co-Faculty Advisor, Alpha Phi Sigma, The National Criminal Justice Honor Society, (2002-2017)
- Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Criminology (2013-2014), Member, Department of Society, Culture, and Language.
- External program review, Criminology Program, Department of Society, Culture, and Language, 2013
- Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Criminology. Department of Society, Culture, and Language, 2009

Profession

- Editorial board member, *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*, 2021-present

- Project proposal reviewer, Foundation for Baltic and East European Studies (Östersjöstiftelsen), 2019.
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion Application, 2017
- Manuscript Reviewer: Crime, Media Culture; Feminist Criminology; Feminist Media Studies; Journal of Crime and Justice; Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture; Oxford Research Encyclopedia for Criminology and Criminal Justice; Women and CJ
- Book Reviewer: Lynn Rienner Publishers; Lexington Books
- Book Proposal Reviews: Routledge; Ashgate publishing; Lexington Books
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Annual Meeting Program Committee, Media and Crime Sessions, 2012

SELECT MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Li, S. (November 4, 2022). [The Good Nurse is a Chilling Murder Mystery and Completely Bloodless](#). The Atlantic.

Franklin, B. (August 2022). [Do True Crime Stories & Citizen Sleuths Produce Crowdsourced Justice?](#) Forensic Colleges.

Sullivan, D. (December 6, 2019). [“He Spent 11 years in a Florida Prison. Now he reminisces on YouTube.”](#) Tampa Bay Times

Holley, P. (June 2019), [“The Latest YouTube craze? Videos that show you what it’s like to live in prison”](#) *The Washington Post*.

Bachrach, J. (July 2014). “Babes Behind Bars.” *Allure Magazine*.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Dale Carnegie Course. Tampa, FL, graduated April 2023.

Leadership Enrichment for Mid-Level Leaders. University of South Florida, completed May 2023.

OTHER TRAINING

Implicit Bias Training (2021). University of South Florida

Mental Health First Aid 8-hour certificate training (2019). University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Current Membership

American Society of Criminology

Past Membership

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

Popular Culture Association

Society for the Study of Southern Literature