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Elisa L. Toman

Contact

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Positions

2024 -	Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice & Criminology, Texas State University
2023 - 2024	Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston State University
2017 - 2023	Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston State University
2013 - 2017	Graduate Assistant, Department of Criminology, University of South Florida
2012 - 2013	Graduate Assistant, Department of Criminal Justice, University of Central Florida

Education

2017	Ph.D. University of South Florida, Department of Criminology
2013	M.S. University of Central Florida, Department of Criminal Justice
2012	B.A. University of Miami

Areas of Interest

Theories of formal social control; incarceration; criminal sentencing; gender; green criminology

Peer-Reviewed Publications

*denotes graduate student

Toman, Elisa, L., Bryce Kushmerick-McCune*, Wyatt Brown, Danielle S. Rudes, & Aaron Flaherty. (Forthcoming). "'They take it out on all of us': Collective Punishment in Carceral Spaces." Criminal Justice and Behavior.

Smith, Lindsay, R.*, Sydney Ingel*, Danielle S. Rudes, & **Elisa L. Toman**. (Forthcoming) "Between a Rock and Solitary Confinement: Gendered Perceptions of Women Working in Restricted Housing Units." Women & Criminal Justice.

Rudes, Danielle, S., Bryce Kushmerick-McCune*, Chelsey Narvey, **Elisa L. Toman**, Sydney Ingel*, & Jaylyn Magana*. 2025. "Scapegoating halt: Contested legitimacy through formal conforming and informal rebuking. Journal of Criminal Justice. 99: 102463.

Kushmerick-McCune, Bryce*, Sydney Ingel*, Danielle S. Rudes, Wyatt Brown, & **Elisa L. Toman**. 2025. "Why, How, and So What? Unpacking Coworker Relationships in Carceral Settings." Criminal Justice and Behavior. 52(10): 1447-1466.

Miller, Holly, A., **Elisa L. Toman**, & Kaitlyn Pederson*. 2025. "The Synergistic Effects of Risk-Principle Adherence in the Supervision and Treatment of Individuals Who Have Sexually Offended." International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology. 69(10-11): 1467-486.

Miller, Holly, A., **Elisa L. Toman**, & Kaitlyn Pederson*. 2024 "Examining the Utility of the Texas Risk Assessment System to Predict Community Supervision Compliance and Recidivism." Criminal Justice and Behavior 51(8): 1257-1274.

Toman, Elisa L. 2023 "Something in the Air: Toxic Pollution in and Around U.S. Prisons." Punishment and Society 25(4): 867-887.

Pederson, Kaitlyn*, **Elisa L. Toman**, & Holly Miller. 2022 "The Relationship Between Mental Health, Risk, and Community Supervision Outcomes." Journal of Criminal Justice 82: 1-10.

Anderson, Claudia*, Joshua C. Cochran, **Elisa L. Toman**. 2022 "Social Capital and Its Impacts on Prison Life: Is Visitation a Conduit?" Crime and Delinquency 68(4): 644-683.

Toman, Elisa L. 2021 "Disciplinary Confinement and Misconduct Patterns: An Examination of Gendered Effects." Crime and Delinquency 68(6-7): 945-974.

Rubenstein, Batya Y.*, **Elisa L. Toman**, & Joshua C. Cochran. 2021 "Socioeconomic Barriers to Child Contact with Incarcerated Parents." Justice Quarterly 38(4): 725-751.

Cochran, J.C., **Elisa L. Toman**, Daniel P. Mears, & Ryan T. Shields. 2021 "A Uniquely Punitive Turn? Sex Offenders and the Persistence of Punitive Sanctioning." Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency 58(1): 74-118.

Severson, Rachel E.*, **Elisa L. Toman**, & Micaela Alvarado*. 2020 "Mental Health Service Utilization: General and Gendered Consequences for Prison Strains." Crime and Delinquency 66(12): 1754-1786.

Toman, Elisa L. 2019 "The Victim-Offender Overlap Behind Bars: Linking Prison Misconduct and Victimization." Justice Quarterly 36(2): 350-382.

^Winner of the ASC/Division of Corrections and Sentencing Student Paper Award, 2016

Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, & John K. Cochran. 2018. "Jailhouse Blues? The Adverse Effects of Pretrial Detention for Prison Social Order." Criminal Justice and Behavior 45(3): 316-339.

Cochran, Joshua, C., **Elisa L. Toman**, Daniel P. Mears, & William D. Bales. 2018. "Solitary Confinement as Punishment: Examining In-Prison Sanctioning Disparities." Justice Quarterly 35(3): 381-411.

^Winner of the ACJS Simon/Routledge Outstanding Paper Award, 2017

Cochran, Joshua C., Michael J. Lynch, **Elisa L. Toman**, & Ryan Shields. 2018. "Court Sentencing Patterns for Environmental Crimes: Is There a Green Gap in Sentencing?" Journal of Quantitative Criminology 34(1): 37-66.

Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, John K. Cochran, & William D. Bales. 2015. "The Implications of Sentence Length on Inmate Adjustment to Prison Life." Journal of Criminal Justice 43(6): 510-521.

Peck, Jennifer H., Michael J. Leiber, Maude Beaudry-Cyr, & **Elisa L. Toman**. 2015. "The Conditioning Effect of Race and Gender on the Juvenile Court Outcomes of Delinquent and Neglected Types of Offenders." Justice Quarterly 33(7): 1210-1236.

Other Publications

Toman, Elisa L., Averi Fegadel, & Rachel Severson. (Forthcoming). "An Environmental Justice Perspective for Exploring Health in Carceral Spaces." In Nathan Link, Meghan Novisky, & Chantal Fahmy (Eds.), Handbook on Contemporary Issus in Health and Punishment, The ASC Division on Corrections & Sentencing Handbook Series, Volume 9.

Toman, Elisa L. (2022). "Environmental Victimization: The Expansion of Prisons and the Land of Choice." Crime Victims' Institute, Research Brief, Report No. 2022-11, p. 1-8.

Toman, Elisa L. (2021). "Polluted Confinement: A Nationwide Analysis of Toxic Releases Near Prisons." Crime Victims' Institute, Research Brief, Report No. 2021-09, p. 1-6.

Cochran, Joshua C. & **Elisa L. Toman**. (2018) "Mass Jail Incarceration and Its Consequences." In Beth M. Huebner & Natasha Frost (Eds.), Handbook of Consequences of Sentencing Decisions, The ASC Division on Corrections & Sentencing Handbook Series, Volume 3, p. 245-270.

Toman, Elisa L. (2015) "Drug Crime." In Wesley G. Jennings, George Higgins, David Khey, & Mildred Maldonado-Molina (Eds.), The Encyclopedia of Crime and Punishment, p. 521-529.

Technical Reports

Rudes, Danielle S., Bryce Kushmerick-McCune, Chelsey Narvey, Sydney Ingel, & **Elisa L. Toman**. "Enhancing Corrections Spaces & Cultures." Washington DC: Bureau of Justice Assistance. Report No. 5PBJA-22-AG-00031-MUMU

Rudes, Danielle S., Bryce Kushmerick-McCune, & **Elisa L. Toman**. "State Report: Texas Prisons." Prepared for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Rudes, Danielle S., & **Elisa L. Toman**. "State Report: Kansas Jail." Prepared for Kansas [County] Sheriff's Department.

Rudes, Danielle S., & **Elisa L. Toman**. "State Report: Michigan Jail." Prepared for Michigan [County] Sheriff's Department.

Funded Research

Funded research and consulting

2023 "Enhancing Corrections Spaces and Cultures," Bureau of Justice Assistance. Role: data consultant (Principal investigator: Danielle Rudes).

2019 "Correctional Officer Retention: Examining Avenues for Improvement," Pilot Study for Future Funding Program, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Sam Houston State

University ($15,000). Role: Principal investigator (Co-principal investigators: Erin Orrick, H. Daniel Butler).

Proposals submitted

2026 "The Keeper's Dilemma: Negotiating the Institutional Stressors and Recruitment Realities of the Modern Correctional Workforce." National Institute of Justice ($1,443,634). Role: Principal Investigator (Co-principal investigators: Wyatt Brown, Chelsey Narvey, Danielle Rudes)

Proposals submitted (not funded)

2023 "Everyone is on their Own: Examining Workforce Shortages in Jails and Areas for Improvement." National Institute of Justice ($499,564). Role: Principal Investigator (Co-principal investigator: Wyatt Brown)

Presentations

*denotes graduate student

2025 Toman, Elisa L., & Danielle S. Rudes. "Facilities in this Country are Built on the Worst Spots: Examining Environmental Hazards in Prison." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of American Society of Criminology, Washington, D.C.*

2024 Toman, Elisa L., Danielle S. Rudes, Wyatt Brown, & Caitlin Bauer*. "All the Guys Pay: Perceptions of Collective Punishment in Carceral Spaces." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA*.

Kushmerick-McCune, Bryce*, Chelsey Narvey, Elisa L. Toman, Wyatt Brown, & Danielle S. Rudes. "Narrative Resilience Among People Sentenced to die in U.S. Prisons." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the European Society of Criminology, Bucharest, Romania*

2023 Wingert, Anne*, Andia Azimi, & Elisa L. Toman. "Examining the Intergenerational Transmission of Criminal Justice System Involvement: Does Child Maltreatment Matter?" *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA*.

2022 Rude, Amanda*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Pollution in and Around U.S. Prisons." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA*.

Ee, Marilyn*, Taylor Robinson*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Environmental Injustice: Proximity to Oil Refineries." *Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA*.

Rude, Amanda*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Individual Perceptions of Job Training Programs and Institutional Behavior." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, NV.*

Robinson, Taylor*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Domestic Violence and Sentencing: Do Racial Disparities Exist?" *Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, NV*.

2021 Rude, Amanda*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Gendered Strain Theory and Institutional Behavior." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL*.

2020 Rude, Amanda*, Elisa L. Toman, & Rachel E. Severson. "Exploring the Effects of Pre-Trial Detention on Prison Strain for Individuals with Mental Health Problems." *Paper to have been presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, San Antonio, TX. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)*

Kramer, Kelsey*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Examining Community Control: Gender and Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Sentencing Decisions." *Paper to have been presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, San Antonio, TX. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)*

2019 Toman, Elisa L., Claudia Anderson*, & Joshua C. Cochran. "Social Resources and Inmate Health." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.*

Griffin, Amber*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Substance Use and Prison Misconduct: The Gendered Effect of Treatment Availability." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA*.

Butler, H. Daniel, & Elisa L. Toman. "An Examination of Inmate Misconduct: Versatility or Specialization?" *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Baltimore, MD*.

Griffin, Amber*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Using Race, Class, and Gender to Predict Probation Revocation for Drug Users." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Baltimore, MD*.

Alvarado, Micaela*, Elisa L. Toman, & H. Daniel Butler. "Exploring the Time-Varying Effects of Common Predictors of Misconduct." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Baltimore, MD*.

2018 Alvarado, Micaela*, Rachel Severson*, & Elisa L. Toman. "Exploring Mental Health Service Utilization: Insights from a Nationally Representative State Prison Sample." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA*.

Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, Ryan T. Shields, & Daniel P. Mears. "Longitudinal Trends in Sex Offender Sentencing." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA*.

Anderson, Claudia*, Joshua C. Cochran, & Elisa L. Toman. "Disparities in Social Support and the Implications for Prison Life." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA*.

2017 Toman, Elisa L. "Gender and Race Differences in the Impact of In-Prison Punishments on Future Misconduct." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA*.

Toman, Elisa L. "Gender Differences in Prisons' Responses to Inmate Misconduct." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Kansas City, MO*.

2016 Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, & John K. Cochran. "Pre-trail Detention and the Adverse Impacts for At-Risk Inmates." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA*.

Cochran, Joshua C., Elisa L. Toman, Daniel P. Mears, & William D. Bales. "Prison Punishment and Solitary Confinement." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Denver, CO*.

Toman, Elisa L. "Extending Research on the Victim-Offender Overlap: Linking Prison Misconduct and Victimization." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Denver, CO*.

2015 Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, John K. Cochran, & Daniel P. Mears. "Assessing the Link Between Prior Record and In-Prison Offending." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC*.

Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, & John K. Cochran. "Time Spent in Jail and the Implications for Misconduct." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Orlando, FL*.

2014 Toman, Elisa L., Joshua C. Cochran, & John K. Cochran. "Prison Sentence Length and the Implications for Inmate Adjustment to the Prison Environment." *Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA*.

Peck, Jennifer H., Michael J. Leiber, Maude Beaudry-Cyr, & Elisa L. Toman. "Comparisons of Offender Types and Juvenile Court Outcomes Differentiated by Race and Gender." *Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA*.

Camacho, Joy, Wyatt D. Brown, and Elisa L. Toman. "Mainstream Prisonization: Implications of the Dominant Perspectives." *Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA*.

Teaching & advising

Courses Designed and Taught

Undergraduate
Correctional Systems and Practices
Criminology
Incarceration in America

Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

Masters
Community Based Corrections (online)

Doctoral
Pro Seminar in C.J. Issues
Seminar in American Corrections
Seminar in Green Criminology

Doctoral Student Committees

Amanda Faggard	Dissertation, Texas State University (in progress, member)
Romy Zingraff	Dissertation, Texas State University (in progress, member)
Alexa Mata	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Summer 2026, member)
Frank Benton	Comp Exam, Texas State University (completed, Spring 2026, member)
Romy Zingraff	Comp Exam, Texas State University (completed, Fall 2025, member)
Meagan Robbins	Dissertation, Texas State University (completed, Summer 2025, member)
Matthew Caines	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Summer 2025, member)
Amanda Rude	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Summer 2024 chair)
Katherine Meeker	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2024, chair)
Beatriz Wronski	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2024 member)
Matthew Caines	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2024, member)
Kaitlyn Pederson	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Fall 2022, chair)
Shamika Kelley	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2022, chair)
Amanda Rude	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2022, chair)
Taylor Robinson	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2022, member)
Kelsey Kramer	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2022, member)
Amber Griffin	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Summer 2021, chair)
Tri Keah Henry	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2020, member)
Amber Griffin	Portfolio, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2020, member)
Kallee McCullough	Dissertation, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2018, member)

Masters Student Committees

Andrew Martone	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Fall 2023, member)
Nhi Le	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2022, member)
Matthew Caines	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Summer 2021, member)
Addison Kobie	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Fall 2020, member)
Shelby Dietrich	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Spring 2020, member)
Micaela Alvarado	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Fall 2019, chair)
Channing Carpenter	Thesis, Sam Houston State University (completed, Summer 2018, member)

University and Professional Service

Texas State University, School of Criminal Justice & Criminology
Speaker Series Committee, Member (Current)
Doctoral Steering Committee, Member (2024-2026)

Sam Houston State University
Faculty Teaching Award Committee, Member (2022-2023)
Distinguished Lecturer Series Committee, Member (2019-2021)

Sam Houston State University, Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology
Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee, Member (2020-2024)
Faculty Recruitment Committee, Member (2018-2019; 2021-2022)
Graduate Student Development and Assessment Committee, Member (2017-2018)

University of South Florida, Department of Criminology
Criminology Graduate Student Organization (CGSO), Search Committee (2016)
Peer Mentor (2014)
CGSO Vice President (2014)

Awards

2022	Summer Research Fellowship ($3,000) Crime Victims Institute Sam Houston State University
2021	Summer Research Fellowship ($3,000) Crime Victims Institute Sam Houston State University
2019	Teaching Award ($1,000) College of Criminal Justice Sam Houston State University
2018	Certificate in Effective College Instruction ($1,000) Association of College and University Educators Sam Houston State University
2017	Dissertation Completion Fellowship ($5,000) Office of Graduate Studies University of South Florida
	ACJS Simon/Routledge Outstanding Paper Award Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
	Doctoral Student Summit Scholarship Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
2016	Student Paper Award ($500) American Society of Criminology — Division on Corrections and Sentencing
	Student Scholarship Award ($600) Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
2015	Summer Research Fellowship ($5,850) *Assessing the Use of Formal Social Control in Prison*

(with Joshua C. Cochran, P.I.)

Annual Research Symposium, 1st Place
Department of Criminology
University of South Florida

Professional Memberships

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
American Society of Criminology (Section: Division on Corrections and Sentencing)