Melanie F.P. Soderstrom, Ph.D., J.D.

Curriculum Vitae
August 2026

Texas State University
School of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Hines Academic Center
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666

melsoderstrom@txstate.edu

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2026- Undergraduate Program Coordinator. School of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Texas State University.

2022- Assistant Professor. School of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Texas State University.

2021-22 Project Manager. *Florida Pathways to Awareness, Support, and Services.* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SM084700). University of Central Florida.

2019-20 Adjunct Instructor. Department of Criminal Justice, University of Central Florida.

2018-22 Project Coordinator. *Central Florida Pathways to Awareness, Support, and Services.* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SM081374). University of Central Florida.

2016-18 Project Coordinator. *Seminole County System of Care Expansion.* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SM059935). University of Central Florida.

2015-16 Graduate Research Assistant. *Brevard County Public Schools Climate and Safety Study.* National Institute of Justice (2014-CK-BX-0014). University of Central Florida.

Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of Criminal Justice, University of Central Florida.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

2014-15 Assistant Public Defender. Hampton Public Defender's Office. Hampton, VA.

2010-13 Assistant Public Defender. Newport News Public Defender's Office. Newport News, VA.

2010 Third Year Student Practice Extern. Hampton Commonwealth Attorney's Office. Hampton, VA.

2009 Law Clerk Intern. Seminole County Public Defender's Office. Sanford, FL.

EDUCATION

2022 Ph.D. in Criminal Justice, University of Central Florida
Dissertation: *The Expansion of School Resource Officers in a Florida County: A Mixed Methods Study*

2016 M.S. in Criminal Justice, University of Central Florida

2010 J.D., College of William & Mary

2007 B.A. with Honors in Foreign Language Combination, Minor in Political Science, University of Central Florida

RESEARCH INTERESTS

School-to-Prison Pipeline
Youth Mental Health
Policy and Program Evaluation
Juvenile Justice System
Practitioner Training
Mixed Methods

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

(* Denotes graduate student)

2026 Brimbal, L., Hill, S. L., Maguire, E. R., & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Prosecutors' perceptions of the effectiveness of police interviews. *Psychology, Crime and Law.* https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2026.2700431

Soderstrom, M. F. P., Peck, J. H., & Childs, K. K. Where evidence ends: Opportunities for advancing juvenile justice system research. *Evidence Base.* https://doi.org/10.1080/30679125.2026.2643180

Childs, K. K., Peck, J. H., & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Youth risk/needs profiles and initial juvenile court outcomes across arrest location: Does being arrested at school matter? *Journal of Criminal Justice*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2026.102614

2025 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.,** & Shallenberger, A.* "It takes a special cop to be an SRO": School resource officers' perceptions of selection for the position. *Police Practice and Research.* https://doi.org/10.1080/15614263.2025.2558139

Gryglewicz, K., Childs, K. K., **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, Elligson, R. L.*, & Lockwood, A.* Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) training outcomes among public safety professionals serving high-risk youth. *Children and Youth Services Review*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2025.108546

Soderstrom, M. F. P. "Being a pain in the ass is not a criminal offense": A qualitative exploration of school resource officers' arrest behaviors. *Journal of Crime & Justice***.** https://doi.org/10.1080/0735648X.2025.2539438

Soderstrom, M. F. P., & Childs, K. K. School policing and involuntary commitment examinations of students under Florida's Baker Act. *Journal of School Violence*. https://doi.org/10.1080/15388220.2025.2531974

Soderstrom, M. F. P. A qualitative exploration of school resource officer training in a Florida school district. *Policing: An International Journal.* https://doi.org/10.1108/PIJPSM-06-2024-0092

2024 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** & Bumgarner, J. Instructors' challenges facilitating Mental Health First Aid with law enforcement. *Police Practice and Research*. https://doi.org/10.1080/15614263.2024.2406836

Soderstrom, M. F. P., Childs, K. K., & Gryglewicz, K. An evaluation of Youth Mental Health First Aid training with law enforcement officers. *Psychological Services.* https://doi.org/10.1037/ser0000901

Soderstrom, M. F. P. Formalizing and expanding school resource officer presence: Examining influences on student arrests. *Journal of Criminal Justice, 94.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2024.102236

2023 Childs, K. K., Bryson, S. L., **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, & Reed, A.* An assessment of the internal structure of the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) using two samples of high-risk adolescents. *Children and Youth Services Review, 156*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2023.107365

2020 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, Childs, K. K., & Frick, P. J. The role of protective factors in the predictive accuracy of the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY). *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, *18*(1), 78-95. https://doi.org/10.1177/1541204019837329

2018 Gryglewicz, K., Childs, K. K., & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** An evaluation of Youth Mental Health First Aid training in school settings. *School Mental Health, 10*(1), 48-60. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12310-018-9246-7

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY

2020 Basham, S. L., & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Concealed carry laws. In C. Lewandowski, & J. Bumgarner (Eds.), *Criminal justice in America: The encyclopedia of crime, law enforcement, courts, and corrections* (pp. 89-92). Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL REPORTS

2023 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** *Implementing MHFA with Law Enforcement Officers: A Multi-Methodological Study.* Final Report. Prepared for the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

GRANTS

Under Review

2026 *Safety from Above: An Evaluation of School-Based Aerial Drones as a Rapid Response to School Violence.* PI: Curran, F. C. Co-PI: **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** National Institute of Justice. Amount: $1,000,000 (TXST subaward $275,208).

Funded

2021-23 *Implementing YMHFA Training with Law Enforcement Officers: A Mixed Methods Study.* PI: **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** National Council for Mental Wellbeing. Amount: $5,000.

2018-21 *Central Florida Pathways to Awareness, Support and Services.* PI: Gryglewicz, K. Co-PIs: Childs, K. K. & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SM081374). Amount: $375,000.

Unfunded

2025 *Public Perceptions of School Resource Officers: Evidence from a National Survey.* PI: **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Texas State University Research Enhancement Program. Amount: $12,000.

2022 *Collateral Consequences of School Safety Policies: Involuntary Commitment Apprehensions and Juvenile Court Decisions in Florida Counties*. PI: Childs, K. K. Co-PIs: Peck, J. H. & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** National Institute of Justice. Amount: $722,144.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION
(* Denotes graduate student)

2026 Baker, T., Ray, J. V., & **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Exploring age-based variations in the reentry concerns among people in prison. To be presented at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting in Chicago, IL.

2025 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, & Shallenberger, A.* What should be considered when selecting school resource officers? Insights from a qualitative study. American Society of Criminology, Washington, D.C.

Childs, K. K., **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, Peck, J. H. Juvenile justice referrals in the wake of school safety legislation: A time series analysis. American Society of Criminology, Washington, D.C.

2024 Sanborn, B. J., Plunkett, F., **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, Stocker, D. K., & Smith, J. Q. What do we know about school resource officers? Roundtable. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Chicago, IL.

2023 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Assessing the training requirements of school resource officers: A qualitative study. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.

2022 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** A mixed methods exploration of an SRO program's impact on student arrests. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.

Soderstrom, M. F. P. An SRO program's impact on school-based involuntary commitment apprehensions under Florida's Baker Act. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, NV.

2019 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, & Peck, J. H. Examining geographic variations in contemporary juvenile court processing: An update to 'Justice by Geography'. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Soderstrom, M. F. P., Baker, T., & Gordon, J. A. Factors Exacerbating and Ameliorating the Reentry Concerns of Youthful Offenders. Southern Criminal Justice Association, Nashville, TN.

2018 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, Bryson, S. L., & Childs, K. K. Community-based research in juvenile justice: Experience and challenges of working with child-serving agencies. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.

Soderstrom, M. F. P., Childs, K. K., & Frick, P. The role of protective factors in mitigating the risk of juvenile reoffending. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, New Orleans, LA.

2017 Childs, K. K., Gryglewicz, K., & **Soderstrom M. F. P.** An evaluation of Youth Mental Health First Aid training in school settings: Are school personnel prepared to work with vulnerable students? American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.

2016 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, Childs, K. K., & Stewart, C. Risk and protective factors predicting problem behaviors in adolescence. American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA.

University Conference Presentation

2024 Lockwood, A.*, Gryglewicz, K., Childs, K. K., **Soderstrom, M. F. P.**, & Elligson, R.* Youth Mental Health First Aid Training: An evaluation of effectiveness following completion among service providers and police. College of Community Innovation and Education Research and Impact Showcase. University of Central Florida.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND DISCUSSIONS

2023 **Soderstrom, M. F. P.** Facilitating MHFA with law enforcement officers: What should instructors know? Invited conference presentation for NatCon23, Los Angeles, CA.

Soderstrom, M. F. P. "Women Practitioner Experiences in the Justice System." Women, Crime, and Justice Undergraduate Course. Department of Sociology and Criminology. University of Iowa.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Texas State University

Juvenile Justice (Undergraduate, face-to-face)
The Courts and Criminal Procedure (Undergraduate, face-to-face and online)
Current Legal Issues in Criminal Justice (Master's, face-to-face)

University of Central Florida

Research Methods in Criminal Justice (Undergraduate, online)
Legal Aspects of the Criminal Court Process (Undergraduate, face-to-face)

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS

2026- Chair, Faruq Fakory, Texas State University

MASTERS THESIS COMMITTEES

2025-26 Member, Chloe Felices-Perrier, Texas State University
2024-25 Member, Jon'Dasha Price, Texas State University

DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM PAPER COMMITTEES

2026-	Member, John F. Lopez, Texas State University
2025-26	Member, George Garza, Texas State University
2025	Member, Romy Zingraff, Texas State University
2024-	Member, Moe Miller, Texas State University
2024-26	Member, Andrew Carroll, Texas State University
2023-25	Member, Josh Davis, Texas State University
2023-24	Member, Alison Jarzombek-Torralva, Texas State University

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

2023-24 Member, Katlyn Casagrande, Texas State University - *Who's Got It Worse?: Comparing Incarcerated Persons' Experiences of Psychological Distress Symptoms in Jails and Prisons*

ACADEMIC SERVICE

<u>To the Department/School</u>

2025	Member, Administrative Assistant Hiring Committee
	Member, Faculty Hiring Committee
2023-24	Member, Doctoral Program Advising Committee, School of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Texas State University
2023	Member, Alumni Awards Committee, Department of Criminal Justice, University of Central Florida
2022-23	Faculty meetings scribe, School of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Texas State University
2021-22	Vice President, UCF Criminal Justice Graduate Students Association
2009-10	Founding Executive Editor, *William & Mary Business Law Review*
	Notes Editor, *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*
2008-10	Board Member, William & Mary Public Service Fund
2008-09	Editorial Staff, *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*

To the University

2023- Liaison, Texas Municipal Courts Education Center

Pre-Law Advisor, Texas State University

To the Discipline

2025- Program Committee Topic Chair, Policing: Operations, Personnel, and Training. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2027 Annual Meeting.

2023-24 Program Committee Topic Chair, Juveniles and the Police. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2024 Annual Meeting.

Journal Manuscript Peer Reviewer

AERA Open; Health Science Reports; Injury Epidemiology; International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology; Journal of Crime & Justice; Journal of Criminal Justice; Journal of Criminal Justice Education; Journal of Mental Health; Journal of School Violence; Police Practice and Research; Psychological Services; Race and Justice; Youth

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2023 Recipient. Outstanding Dissertation Award. Division of Policing, American Society of Criminology.

Fellow. Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network's 2023 Summer Research Institute. School of Criminal Justice. Rutgers University.

Nominee. Outstanding Dissertation Award. College of Community Innovation and Education. University of Central Florida.

2021 3MT Competition Finalist. College of Graduate Studies. University of Central Florida.

2020 Doctoral Research Support Award. College of Graduate Studies. University of Central Florida. ($1100)

2019 Doctoral Summit Fellow. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD.

2010 The College of William & Mary School of Law Post-Graduate Public Service Fellowship ($3000)

2010 The College of William & Mary School of Law Community Servant Award

2009 The College of William & Mary School of Law Public Service Fund Summer Fellowship ($3000)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2026	2026 Prelaw Advisor Financial Aid Training. Law School Admission Council.
2026	Seizing the Opportunity: How to Find and Understand Grant Solicitations. Workshop. Division of Research, Texas State University.
2026	Faculty Focus: Supervising Dissertations. Texas State University.
2026	Academic Leadership Development Summit. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.
2025	Modern Tools for Academic Integrity: Elevating Online Assessment with McGraw-Hill Connect and Proctorio. Webinar. McGraw-Hill.
2025	The State of the Entry-Level Legal Market. Webinar. Law School Admission Council and National Association of Law Placement.
2025	The Future of Law School Loans: An Update for Pre-Law Advisors. Webinar. AccessLex Institute.
2025	UDOIT Right! Accessibility Tools in Canvas. Webinar. Office of Distance and Extended Learning. Texas State University.
2024-25	Pre-Law Advisor Newcomers Training. Law School Admission Council.
2024	Intentional Course Design in the Age of AI workshop. Top Hat.
2024	Categorical Data Analysis Seminar. Statistical Horizons.
2024	Successfully Supervising Master's Students. Workshop. Graduate College. Texas State University.
2024	Tips on helping students to communicate professionally with law school representatives. Webinar. Law School Admission Council.
2024	Plus, Guided Journey Program webinar. Law School Admission Council.
2023	Mock Admissions Panel. Law School Admission Council.
2023	Grant Awards: What a Texas State PI Should Know. College of Education Research Office. Texas State University.
2023	Top Hat: Getting Started. IT Assistance Center. Texas State University.
2023	Teaching Online @ Texas State. Office of Distance and Extended Learning. Texas State University.
2023	Law School Waitlists webinar. Law School Admission Council.
2023	Grant Writing and Grant Finding: Advice for Faculty at an HSI. Faculty Development. Texas State University.
2023	YuJa Advanced: Features for Canvas. Division of Information Technology. Texas State University.
2023	YuJa Basics. Division of Information Technology. Texas State University.
2022-23	Scholarship & Teaching Excellence Program (STEP). Faculty Development. Texas State University.
2022	Introduction to Thematic Analysis webinar. NVivo.
2022	Making Word Documents Accessible to Individuals with Disabilities workshop. Division of Information Technology. Texas State University.
2022	NVivo Core Skills. NVivo Academy and QSR International.
2021	Research Computing and Data Workshops Series. UCF Libraries, Graduate and Research IT, and Advanced Research Computing Center. University of Central Florida.
2021	Time Series Analysis Seminar. Statistical Horizons.

2020 Zoom Essentials. Center for Distributed Learning. University of Central Florida.
2019 Doctoral Summit. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.
2017 ADL5000. Online course delivery certification. Center for Distributed Learning. University of Central Florida.

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, 2017-
    Section: Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
American Society of Criminology, 2016-
    Division: Policing
    Division: Qualitative Research
Latina/o/x Criminology, 2019-
Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network, 2023-
Southern Criminal Justice Association, 2019-
Southwest Association of Pre-Law Advisors, 2023-
Virginia State Bar, 2010-