

## Jesse S.G. Wozniak

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Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology and  
Anthropology  
West Virginia University  
Website: drjessewozniak.com

Office: 311 Knapp Hall  
29 Beechurst Avenue  
Morgantown, WV 26506  
Phone: (612) 508-8925  
Email: jesse.wozniak@mail.wvu.edu

## Education

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*University of Minnesota* 2012  
Ph.D. Sociology (Advisor: Christopher Uggen)

*University of Northern Iowa* 2004  
B.A., Summa Cum Laude, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Honors Program

## Employment

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Associate Professor 2019-Present  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
West Virginia University

Assistant Professor 2013-2019  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
West Virginia University

## Research Interests

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Policing, State Power, Political Sociology, Criminology, Transnational Sociology, Social Theory, Qualitative Methods

## Books

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Wozniak, Jesse. 2021. *Policing Iraq: Legitimacy, Democracy, and Empire in a Developing State* Berkley, CA: University of California Press  
\*Reviewed in the *American Journal of Sociology* 127(6): 1946-1948.

## Refereed Publications

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Wozniak, Jesse, Norm Conti, and Patrick Doreian. 2023. "Police Recruit Narratives and Publicly Oriented Vocabularies of Motive" Forthcoming at *International Journal of Police Science and Management* <https://doi.org/10.1177/14613557231182055>

Wozniak, Jesse, Joshua Woods, and Yan Song Lee. 2022. "The Evolving Self-Presentation of the Islamic State, From *Dabiq* to *Rumiyah*" *The Social Science Journal* 59(4): 588-600.

Burston, Adam, Jesse Wozniak, Jacqueline Roebuck Sakho, and Norman Conti. 2020. "The blackness that incriminated me': Stigma and Normalization among Brothers and Keepers" *Kalfou* 7(2): 330-351.

- Wozniak, Jesse. 2019. "Iraq's Neoliberal Reconstruction and the Continued Relevance of the State" *Sociological Focus* 52(4): 359-376.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2019. "From the Point of a Gun to the Point of Starvation: Economic Constriction in Post Conflict Policing" *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice* 43(4): 341-355.
- Burston, Adam, Norman Conti, Jesse Wozniak, and Elaine Frantz. 2019. "An Initial Case Study in Education Among Police and Incarcerated Men" *The Police Journal: Theory, Practice and Principles* 93(3): 248-264.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2018. "From Chi-Raq to Iraq: The Retreat of the State and the Rise of Violent Organizations" *International Sociology* 33(4): 473-485.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2018. "Post Conflict Police Reconstruction: Major Trends and Developments" *Sociological Compass* 12(6): doi.org/10.1111/soc4.12588
- Contessa, Jason and Jesse Wozniak. 2018. "Attitudes of Rural Law Enforcement Toward Proposed Changes in Policing" *The International Journal of Rural Criminology* 4(1): 108-132.
- Wozniak, Jesse, Josh Woods, and Quenton King. 2018. "Unpredictable Chaos and Institutional Management: The Self Presentation of the Islamic State in *Dabiq* Magazine" Forthcoming at *Social Science Quarterly*.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2017. "'We are Going to Prove That We Are a Civil and Developed Country': The Cultural Performance of Police Legitimacy and Empire in the Iraqi State" *The British Journal of Criminology* 57(4):906-923.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2017. "Iraq and the Material Basis of Post-Conflict Police Reconstruction" *The Journal of Peace Research* 54(6): 806-818.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2016. "Missing the Moral: Excited Delirium as a Negative Case of a Moral Panic" *Punishment and Society* 18(2): 198-219.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2014. "When the Going Gets Weird: A Call to Gonzo Sociology" *The American Sociologist* 45(4): 453-473.
- Wozniak, Jesse and Christopher Uggen. 2009. "Real Men Use Non-Lethals: Appeals to Masculinity in the Marketing of Police Weaponry" *Feminist Criminology* 4(3): 275-293.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2005. "Winning the Battle of Seattle: State Response to Perceived Crisis" *Illness, Crisis, & Loss* 13(2): 129-145.

## Other Publications

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- Wozniak, Jesse. 2023. "Book Review: *Policing for Peace* by Matthew Nanes, London: Cambridge University Press, 2021." Forthcoming at *Mediterranean Politics*
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2022. "Book Review: *Chemical Heroes: Pharmacological Supersoldiers in the US Military* by Andrew Bickford Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2021." *Contemporary Sociology* 51(3): 189-190.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2022. "Book Review: *A City Divided*" *Kalfou: A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies* 9(1): 220-224.
- Wozniak, Jesse, Justin Laing, Brandi Fisher, Jasiri X, Allyce Pinchback-Johnson, Leon Ford, Michelle Kenney, Miracle Jones, and Ashley Comans. 2021. *Reimagining Public Safety in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County: A Community Vision for Lasting Health and Safety* Available at: [https://apa-pgh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Digital\\_CRPS\\_Report\\_2021\\_APA.pdf](https://apa-pgh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Digital_CRPS_Report_2021_APA.pdf)
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2016. "Book Review: *Police, Race, and Culture in the 'New Ireland'* by Sam O'Brien-Olinger New York, NY: Palgrave, 2016". *The American Journal of Sociology* 122(3): 980-982.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2012. "Interview with Award Recipients: Gregory Hooks and Brian McQueen" *States, Power, and Societies* 17(1): 8-11.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2011. "A National Ceremony" *Contexts* 10(1): 12-18.
- Wozniak, Jesse. 2007-2009. "Contexts Discoveries" *Contexts* 8(1) – 9(4).

## Manuscripts Under Review

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- Wozniak, Jesse. "A Community Vision on Police Abolition: Lessons on Theorizing from Below" Revise and Resubmit at *Social Justice*
- Guetler, Vivian, and Jesse Wozniak. "Hirschi's Social Bond Theory: Radicalization, Violent Extremism, and Social Bonds" Revise and Resubmit at *Terrorism and Political Violence*

## Manuscripts in Progress

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- Wozniak, Jesse, Gabrielle Ferrales, and Wenjie Liao. "Legal Decision-Making in Iraqi Kurdistan" (draft, expected submission Fall 2023)
- Wozniak, Jesse. "Shaping the State and its People: What Early US and Contemporary Iraqi Police Reveal About the Centrality of Policing to the Modern Capitalist State" (draft, expected submission Spring 2024)

Wozniak, Jesse. "A Century of Policing Recommendations: Change and Continuity in Official Response to Civil Disorders and the Role Police Played" (data collection and analysis)

Wozniak, Jesse. "Qualitative Analysis of PTI-O Reflections and Coursework" Chapter in *Police Training Inside-Out* Routledge. Forthcoming, 2024.

Conti, Norm and Jesse Wozniak. "Sixty Years of Police Socialization: A review of the literature on police socialization from the 1960's to today." Chapter in *Police Training Inside-Out* Routledge. Forthcoming, 2024.

Wozniak, Jesse and Gabrielle Ferrales. "Interview and Ethnographic Data Analysis" (data analysis)

## **External Funding**

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Conti, Norm (co-PI) and Jesse Wozniak (co-PI). 2022. "Police Training Inside-Out for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police" Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, October 2022. (\$150,000). *Funded*.

Fisher, Brandi, Jasiri X, Jesse Wozniak, Leon Ford, Michelle Kenney, Miracle Jones, and Ashley Comans. 2021. "Reimagining Public Safety" *Pittsburgh Foundation*. (\$50,000) *Funded*.

Wozniak, Jesse. 2017. Humanities Grant, *West Virginia Humanities Council*. (\$2500) *Funded*.

Wozniak, Jesse (co-PI) and Gabrielle Ferrales (co-PI) with John Hagan and Guillermina Jasso "Collaborative Research: Legal Decision-Making in Iraqi Kurdistan" National Science Foundation (\$292,846) *Not Funded*.

## **Invited Talks**

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"Qualitative Research of Social Security Institutions" November 28, 2022  
*Institute of Political Studies*  
*Polish Academy of Sciences*

"The Power of Community and Creating Long Lasting Change" January 22, 2022  
*Presentation with Kyna James, Brandi Fisher, and Alexis Mighty*  
*Pittsburgh Racial Justice Summit*

"Qualitative Methodologies" October 30, 2019  
*Guest Lecture, Heather McLaughlin's Criminology course*  
*Oklahoma State University*

"Birthing Democracy: Iraq and Criminal Justice" October 9, 2018  
*Mary F. Shipper Library*  
*Potomac State University*

“American Gangs and the Islamic State” October 31, 2018  
*Guest Lecture, Wenjie Liao’s Criminology course*  
*North Carolina State University*

“Police Legitimacy and Marginalized Populations” December 6, 2017  
*Pittsburgh Police Department Training Session*  
*Pittsburgh Holocaust Center*

“Gramsci and State Reconstruction” July 6, 2017  
*Sulaimaniyah (Iraq) Philosophers Club*

“Doing Discourse Analysis” March 17, 2017  
*Guest Lecture, Martina Caretta’s Qualitative Methods Course*  
*West Virginia University*

### **Professional Associations**

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American Sociological Association 2008-Present  
 Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance  
 Section on Marxism

American Society of Criminology 2012-Present

North Central Sociological Association 2013-Present

### **Courses Taught**

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*West Virginia University*

Qualitative Methods (Graduate), Advanced General Sociology (Graduate), Race Crime and Community (Graduate), Police Culture and Socialization, Policing American Society, Punishment and Social Control, Capstone: Law Politics and Inequality, Introduction to the American Criminal Justice System, How to be Antiracist, Introduction to Sociology, Race and Ethnicity, Introduction to Deviant Behavior

### **Awards and Internal Grants**

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Faculty Travel Grant (\$700) 2022  
*West Virginia University, Senate Research Committee*

Faculty Travel Grant (\$700) 2018  
*West Virginia University, Senate Research Committee*

Faculty Travel Grant (\$900) 2017  
*West Virginia University, Senate Research Committee*

Faculty Development Award (\$1200) 2017  
*West Virginia University, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences*

Research Travel Award (\$1200) <i>West Virginia University, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences</i>	2017
Summer Research Funding (\$3800) <i>West Virginia University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology</i>	2016
Faculty Travel Grant (\$800) <i>West Virginia University, Senate Research Committee</i>	2015
Faculty Travel Grant (\$800) <i>West Virginia University, Senate Research Committee</i>	2014
Outstanding Graduate Instructor <i>University of Minnesota, Sociology Department</i>	2011
Engaged Scholar Public Sociology Award <i>University of Minnesota, Sociology Research Institute</i>	2011
Travel Award (\$500) <i>University of Minnesota, Council of Graduate Students</i>	2011
Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (\$4,000) <i>University of Minnesota, Department of Global Studies</i>	2010
Humane Studies Fellowship (Finalist) <i>Institute for Humane Studies</i>	2010
“Stewey Award” Chair’s Recognition for Service to the Department <i>University of Minnesota, Sociology Department</i>	2007
Summer Research Grant (\$6,000) <i>University of Minnesota, Sociology Department</i>	2007
Graduate Research Partnership Project Award (\$5,948) <i>University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts</i>	2006
Recruitment Fellowship (\$20,000) <i>University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts</i>	2005-2006
Human Rights Leadership Award <i>University of Northern Iowa, Amnesty International Chapter</i>	2004
Program Scholarship <i>University of Northern Iowa, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Honors Program</i>	2000-2004

## **Professional Meetings**

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“A Community Vision on Police Abolition: Lessons on Theorizing from Below,” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* August 21, 2023. Philadelphia, PA.

“A Community Vision on Police Abolition: Lessons on Theorizing from Below,” *Law and Society Association Annual Meeting* June 2, 2023. San Juan, PR.

“Shaping the State and its People: What Early US and Contemporary Iraqi Police Reveal About the Centrality of Policing to the Modern Capitalist State,” “*Policing the World: Entanglements and Convergences across the North-South Divide*” workshop at the *University of Chicago*, 24-25 March 2023. Chicago, Illinois.

“Ethnicity and Punishment: Legal Decision-making in Iraqi Kurdistan,” *Law and Society Association Annual Meeting* July 15, 2022. Lisbon, Portugal.

“Ethnicity and Punishment: Legal Decision-making in Iraqi Kurdistan,” *Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting* August 9, 2019. New York, NY.

“Positionality, Power, and Fear: Legal Decision-Making in Iraqi Kurdistan” *Law and Society Association* May 30, 2019. Washington, D.C.

“Legal Decision-Making in Iraqi Kurdistan” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* August 12, 2018. Philadelphia, PA.

“Legal Decision-Making in Iraqi Kurdistan” *Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting* August 10, 2018. Philadelphia, PA.

“Criminal Punishment in Iraqi Kurdistan,” *Interdisciplinary Conference on Kurdish Politics and Societies*, Yale University Macmillan Center, April 8, 2018. New Haven, CN.

“Iraqi Police Reconstruction and the Centrality of the State to Capitalist Imperialism,” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, November 18, 2017. Philadelphia, PA.

“Iraq and the Material Basis of Post-Conflict Police Reconstruction,” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, August 15, 2017. Montreal, Quebec.

“Selling D’aesh to the World: Dabiq Magazine and the Framing of a Terrorist Organization,” *Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting*. August 20, 2016.

“From Iraq to Chi-raq: The Construction of Social Problems and State Legitimacy” *North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. March 24, 2016. Chicago, IL.

“Iraqi Police Reconstruction and the Centrality of the State to Capitalist Imperialism”  
*American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*. November 19, 2015. Washington, D.C.

“Toward an Islamic Policing Model: Community Policing in the United Arab Emirates”  
*Law and Society Association Annual Meeting*. May 30, 2015. Seattle, WA.

“It’s The Money Stupid: The Material Basis of Post-Conflict Police Reconstruction”  
North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting. April 10, 2015. Cleveland, OH.

“The Iraqi Police Values Survey, Final Results” *Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting*. August 15, 2014. San Francisco, CA.

“Critical Dialogue: Poverty, Sexuality, and Institutions” *Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting*. August 16, 2014. San Francisco, CA.

“The Iraqi Police Values Survey” *Law and Society Association of America Annual Meeting*. May 31, 2014. Minneapolis, MN.

“The Iraqi Police Values Survey, Preliminary Results” *North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. April 11, 2014. Cincinnati, OH.

“Critical Dialogue: New Media and Sociology” Organizer and discussant. *Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting*. August 9, 2013. New York, NY.

“Policing the Imperial Line” *Law and Society Association of America Annual Meeting* June 1, 2013. Boston, MA.

“(re)Creating the Iraqi National Police: Policing as State Power.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting* November 18, 2011. Washington, D.C.

“Missing The Moral: Excited Delirium as a Negative Case Study of a Moral Panic.”  
Roundtable Discussion, *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* August 22, 2011. Las Vegas, NV.

“Crime and Deviant Behavior.” Discussant. *Sociology Research Institute*. April 17, 2009. Minneapolis, MN.

“Contexts Comes to Minnesota: What Its About and How You Can Contribute.”  
Roundtable Discussion, *Sociologists of Minnesota Annual Conference* October 5, 2007. Minneapolis, MN.

“The Carla B. Howery Session on Undergraduate Education – Pedagogical Impacts and Considerations on Student Learning Outcomes.” *Sociologists of Minnesota Annual Meeting* October 4, 2007. Minneapolis, MN.



“Real Men Use Non-Lethals: Hegemonic Masculinity and the Framing of Police Weaponry.” Roundtable Discussion, *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* August 11, 2007. New York, NY.

“Attitudes About Crime and Deviant Behavior.” Discussant. *Sociology Research Institute*. April 21, 2007. Minneapolis, MN.

“Real Men Use Non-Lethals: Hegemonic Masculinity and the Framing of Police Weaponry.” Paper Presentation, *Sociologists of Minnesota & Wisconsin Sociologists Association Joint Meeting*. October 5, 2006. River Falls, WI.

“They Gotta Make the Bosses’ Money Increase: How the War on Drugs is Used to Increase Policing Forces and Control the Underclass.” Paper Presentation, *Midwest Sociological Society* March 31, 2005. Omaha, NE.

## **Student Mentoring**

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### **Current**

\*Marina Mohd Hamdan

*Ph.D. Committee Chair, Defense Anticipated 2026*

\*Danielle Stoneberg

*Ph.D. Committee Chair, Defense Anticipated 2026*

Carina Perrone

*Ph.D. Committee Member, Defense Anticipated 2026*

Gulzar Jalal

*Ph.D. Committee Member, Defense Anticipated 2025*

Nora Radway

*Ph.D. Committee Member, Defense Anticipated 2024*

Rachael Green

*Ph.D. Committee Member, Defense Anticipated 2025*

\*Whitney Tyree

*MA Thesis Chair, Defense Anticipated 2023*

\*Jill Sturges

*MA Thesis Chair, Defense Anticipated 2023*

### **Former**

Hemin Aziz

(University of Cincinnati)

*Ph.D. Committee Member, Successful Defense 2023*

\*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*

\*Ahniefah 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*

## **Academic and Community Service**

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Reviewed submissions for *Law & Society Review*, *Social Problems*, *Justice Quarterly*, *Sociological Forum*, *Feminist Criminology*, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, *Policing: An International Journal*, *Sociological Focus*, *Journal of Human Security*, *Palgrave Books*, *Routledge*, and *Bristol University Press*

Leadership Team

*Alliance for Police Accountability*  
*Pittsburgh, PA*

2014-Present

Institutional Review Board for the Human Research Protection Program <i>West Virginia University</i>	2021-Present
Scholarly Awards Committee <i>North Central Sociological Association</i>	2017-Present
Reimagining Public Safety <i>Steering Committee</i>	2020-2021
Marxist Sociology Section Membership Committee <i>ASA Section on Marxist Sociology</i>	2019-2021
CLD Section Student Paper Awards Committee <i>ASA Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance</i>	2019-2021
CLD Section Committee on Publications <i>Webmaster</i> <i>ASA Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance</i>	2017-2019
Research Intern <i>International Human Rights Law Institute</i> <i>Sulaimaniyah, Iraq</i>	2011
Host and Producer <i>Contexts and Office Hours Podcasts</i>	2008-2011
Graduate Student Editorial Board <i>Contexts Magazine</i>	2007-2009
Department Service: Anti-Racism Committee 2019-Present Co-chair, 2020-Present Graduate Committee 2015-Present Graduate Awards Committee 2019-Present Promotion and Tenure Review Committee 2015-2016 Chair's Advisory Committee 2014-2015 Search Committee 2013-2015	

## References

Norman Conti, Ph.D.  
Professor  
Department of Sociology  
Duquesne University  
515 College Hall  
600 Forbes Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15282  
412-396-6496  
contin@duq.edu

Rachael Woldoff, Ph.D.  
Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
West Virginia University  
319 Knapp Hall  
29 Beechurst Ave  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-293-5801  
rachael.woldoff@mail.wvu.edu

Gabrielle Ferrales  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of Minnesota  
909 Social Sciences Building  
267 19<sup>th</sup> Ave S  
Minneapolis, MN 55455  
612-624-5021  
ferrales@umn.edu