

Cyndy Caravelis

Professor at Western Carolina University

Cullowhee, NC, US

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Biography

Cyndy Caravelis is a professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Her current research interests include the relationship between social threat and social control, the effect of inequality on criminal justice policy, social justice, and minorities and crime. Her research on sentencing inequality has been published in journals such as Justice Quarterly and the Journal of Quantitative Criminology. Recent work has included an examination of race and crime and the Black Lives Matter movement. She co-authored Social Justice, Criminal Justice (Routledge), which examined how the law has historically been used as both a tool for oppression and a vehicle for social change. Additionally, she was awarded a grant to engage in fieldwork researching the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Greece. Caravelis is a strong proponent of engaged teaching and experiential learning. She was awarded the Service Learning Outstanding Achievement in Teaching Award and was a 2019 cohort member of the Faculty Institute on Community Engagement. She has led study abroad trips to South Africa, New Zealand, France, Germany and England. Her service to the community includes being a board member for the Center for Domestic Peace. In addition to her academic endeavors, she has extensive field experience in the criminal justice system, including work as a legislative analyst for the Florida Legislature's Commission on Capital Cases, as a crime intelligence analyst for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, as an expert witness on criminal sentencing and as an academic instructor in both male and female correctional institutions. Last but not least, Caravelis enjoys moonlit paddles and a nice Chianti.

Industry Expertise

Writing and Editing, Education/Learning, Research

Areas of Expertise

Minorities and Crime, Social Justice, Criminology, Criminal Justice, Criminal Justice Policy

Affiliations

Center for Domestic Peace : Board Member, Society for the Study of Social Problems, American Society of Criminology, Southern Criminal Justice Association, North Carolina Criminal Justice Society

Event Appearances

Risk and Protective Factors in Self-Reported Alcohol Use among College Students

Annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology

Comparison of Self-Reported Crime and Official Crime Statistics at Western Carolina University

Annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology

Capital Punishment Opinions from the Legal Profession

Western Criminology Society Meeting

They Said What? Examining Law Enforcement Attitudes on Capital Punishment

American Society of Criminology Meeting

Bridging the Gap Between Researchers and Practitioners in North Carolina

Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Association

Education

Florida State University

Ph.D. Criminology and Criminal Justice

Florida State University

M.S. Criminology and Criminal Justice

Florida State University

B.A. Criminology and Criminal Justice

Accomplishments

Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award

2021

Outstanding Community Service Award

2021

Service Learning Outstanding Achievement in Teaching Award

2014

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