

# Michele Cadigan, Ph.D.

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## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT**

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- 2025- Assistant Professor of Sociology, T. Denny Sanford School of Social & Family Dynamics, Arizona State University
- 2025 - Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Demography and Ecology, University of Washington
- 2023-25 Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow, T. Denny Sanford School of Social & Family Dynamics, Arizona State University

## **EDUCATION**

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- 2023 Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Washington  
Certificates: Qualitative Methods; Statistics for Social Science
- 2018 Master of Arts in Sociology, University of Washington
- 2012 Bachelor of Arts, California State University, Long Beach (CSULB)  
Sociology (*Honors*) & Chicano/a and Latino/a Studies

## **RESEARCH AREAS**

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Sociology of law, criminal legal system, race & ethnicity, economic sociology, drugs & society, mixed-methods, qualitative methods

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

\*equal authorship

- 2025 Cadigan, Michele, Brittany Martin, Veronica Horowitz, Makaela Brass, and Timothy G. Edgemon. *Forthcoming*. "Compounding and complicating feelings of justice: LFOs and legal legitimacy in Georgia, Minnesota, and Washington State" *The Journal of Crime and Justice*
- 2022 Amairini Sanchez, Michele Cadigan, Dayo Abels-Sullivan, and Bryan L. Sykes. 2022. "Punishing Immigrants: Monetary Sanctions in the Crimmigration System." *Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(2):76-97.

Smith, Tyler, Kristina J. Thompson, and Michele Cadigan. 2022. "Contexts of Diffusion in the Legal System: Examining Changes in Monetary Sanction Laws." *Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(1):63-81.

2021 Cadigan, Michele\*, and Tyler Smith\*. 2021. "'Are You Able-Bodied?' Embodying Accountability in the Modern Criminal Justice System." *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice* 37(1):25-44.

2020 Cadigan, Michele\*, and Gabriela Kirk\*. 2020. "On Thin Ice: Bureaucratic Processes of Monetary Sanctions and Job Insecurity." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 6(1):113-31.

2019 Fernandez, April, Michele Cadigan, Frank Edwards, and Alexes Harris. 2019. "Monetary Sanctions: A Review of Revenue Generation, Legal Challenges, and Reform." *Annual Review of Law and Social Sciences* 15(1):397-413

### ***Under Review***

2025 Cadigan, Michele. "(De)Stigmatizing Markets and Racialized Morality: The Case of Seattle's Emerging Recreational Cannabis Market" (Revise & Resubmit to *Social Problems*)

### **Book Chapter**

2023 Cadigan, Michele, Alexes Harris, and Tyler Smith. 2023. "Monetary Sanctions in the Age of Mass Incarceration: Addressing the Harms of Mass Criminal Legal Debt." Pp. 11-22 in *Beyond Bars: A Path Forward from 50 Years of Mass Incarceration in the United States*, edited by K. M. Budd, D. C. Lane, G. W. Muschert, and J. A. Smith. Bristol, UK: Policy Press.

### **In Preparation**

Cadigan, Michele. "Ganja Girls & Bimbo Budtenders: Gender and the Emotive Returns of Cultivating New Expertise." In preparation.

### **MEDIA APPEARANCES**

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Recovery Advocacy Documentary Action Research. 2022. *Weeding through the Myths: Cannabis 101* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CH\\_POYUk4aQ&rco=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CH_POYUk4aQ&rco=1)

Roberts, Chris. 2020. "Cop Budgets Benefit from Cannabis Legalization, Sparking Backlash in 'Defund the Police' Era." <https://www.vice.com/en/article/cop-budgets-benefit-from-new-jersey-cannabis-legalization-sparking-backlash-in-defund-the-police-era/>.

Anderson, Haley Elizabeth, and Kyle Thrash, dirs. 2022. *The Sentence of Michael Thompson*.

## **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS**

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### **External Awards, Grants, & Fellowships**

- 2024 Seattle Office of Economic Development Cannabis Needs Assessment  
(\$134,000; cancelled)
- 2023 American Bar Foundation/NSF Postdoc Fellowship in Law and Inequality (declined)
- 2020 Washington Center for Equitable Growth Doctoral Research Grant (\$15,000)
- 2020 Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Research Grant (\$7,500)
- 2017 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (\$138,000)
- 2012 American Sociological Association (ASA) Undergraduate Honors Fellow

### **Internal Awards, Grants, & Fellowships**

- 2025 ASU Online Undergrad Research Scholars (OURS) Seed Grant (\$8,000)
- 2023 University of Washington Graduate School Medal (Finalist)
- 2021 Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies Graduate Student Research Grant (\$2,250)
- 2020 James McCann Graduate Student Research Award (\$1,980)
- 2018 Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute (ADAI) Small Grant for Cannabis Research (\$6,825)
- 2017 Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies WA State Labor Research Grant (\$4,800)
- 2016 West Coast Poverty Center Graduate Student Fellow
- 2016 Clarence and Elissa M. Schrag Graduate Fellowship (\$3,500)
- 2012 Ronald E. McNair Scholar, Federal Trio Program

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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- 2022-2023 Research Assistant, University of Washington  
Policing “Undesirables”: Police Bias in a Parisian Neighborhood  
PI: Magda Butros (UW)
  
- 2021-2023 Principal Investigator, University of Washington  
Racializing Institutional Boundaries: The Case of the CHAZ/CHOP  
Funding: Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies Grad Student Grant  
Co-PIs: Aliyah Turner (UW), Maxine Wright (UW)  
Faculty Sponsor: Sarah Quinn (UW)
  
- 2018- 2020 Principal Investigator, University of Washington  
Defining ‘Safe’ Cannabis Use in a Legal Context: A Market Perspective  
Funding: ADAI Small Grant for Cannabis Research  
Faculty Sponsor: Alexes Harris (UW)
  
- 2016- 2020 Research Assistant & Qual Analysis Lead, University of Washington  
Multi-State Study of Monetary Sanctions  
PI: Alexes Harris (UW); Co-PIs: Beth Huebner (U Missouri-SL), Karin  
Martin (UW Evans School), Mary Pattillo (Northwestern), Becky Pettit

(UT-Austin), Bryan Sykes (UC Irvine), Sarah Shannon (U Georgia), and Chris Uggen (U Minnesota)

- 2015- 2017      Research Assistant, University of Washington  
Access, Stigma, and Networks: A Study of Seattle’s Cannabis Markets Post-Legalization, PI: Alexes Harris
- 2012-2015      Research Associate, American Institutes for Research, San Mateo CA

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC LECTURES, & WORKSHOPS**

### **Selected Conference Presentations**

- 2026              Cadigan, Michele, Lewis Yang\*, Yimeng Zhou\*, and Tyler Kyser\*. 2026. “The Use of Economic Sanctions in Criminal Legal Reform and its Consequences for Racial Disparities: The Case of Cannabis Legalization.” *Pacific Sociology Association Conference*. Paper Session, Long Beach, California, April 2.
- \*ASU Online Undergraduate Research Scholars
- 2025              Cadigan, Michele. “The Use of Economic Sanctions in Criminal Legal Reform and its Consequences for Racial Disparities: The Case of Cannabis Legalization.” *Law & Society Association Annual Meeting*. Paper Session, Chicago Illinois. June 2025
- 2024              Cadigan, Michele. “Racialization in a (De)Stigmatizing Market: The Case of Seattle’s Emerging Recreational Cannabis Market.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Paper Session, Montreal, Canada. Aug 2024
- Cadigan, Michele. “Hierarchies of Harm: Making a Racial Equity Program in a Colorblind Legal Landscape.” *Law & Society Association Annual Meeting*. Paper Session, Denver, CO. June 2024
- 2022              Cadigan, Michele. “‘Except Restitution:’ Consequences of Boundary-Making Between Categories of Criminal Debt.” *New Directions in Law & Society*. Amherst, MA. Oct 2022
- Cadigan, Michele. “10 Years Post Legalization: Examining Gender and Racial Conviction Outcomes Post Cannabis Legalization.” *Critical Dialogue. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA Aug 2022
- Cadigan, Michele. “An Intersectional Theory of Moral Entrepreneurship: The Role of Race and Gender in Constructing Moral Legitimacy in Contested

Markets.” *Society of the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting: Thematic Panel on Racial Capitalism*. Amsterdam, Netherlands. July 2022

2020 Cadigan, Michele. “‘Except Restitution:’ Consequences of Boundary-Making Between Categories of Criminal Debt.” *Law & Society Association Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO. May 2020

2019 Cadigan, Michele and Gabriela Kirk. “Financial Literacy without Finances: Social Distance between Courtroom Bureaucrats and those Under Surveillance.” Roundtable. *American Sociology Association Annual Meeting*. New York, NY Aug 2019

Cadigan, Michele. “Deserving Entrepreneurs: Racial Boundary Making in Seattle’s Cannabis Market” Paper Session. *American Sociology Association Annual Meeting*. New York, NY Aug 2019

Cadigan, Michele. “Defining Safe Cannabis Consumption within the Retail Space,” *North American Cannabis Summit*, Los Angeles, CA. January 2019

2018 Cadigan, Michele. “Becoming a Cannabis Connoisseur: Morals, Markets, and the Self,” *Contested Markets: Lessons from Cannabis Legalization*, HEC Paris. June 2018

- Cadigan, Michele and Alexes Harris. “Deserving Cannabis Entrepreneurs: How the State and Workers Define Who Gets to Be Legal”

2016 Cadigan, Michele, Alexes Harris, and Anne Tseng. “High Tensions: Preliminary Findings from a Study of Seattle’s Cannabis Markets,” *American Sociology Association Annual Meeting*. Spotlight Session. Seattle, WA. Aug 2016

### **Invited Presentations & Public Lectures**

2021 Cadigan, Michele. 2021. “Cannabis-Infused Dreams: A Market at the Crossroads between Criminal and Conventional.” *Town Hall Seattle: Science Series* (Public Lecture)

2019 “Cannabis-Infused Dreams: Understanding Work in a Contested Market,” invited panelist for the *Pacific Northwest Labor History Association Conference*. Spring 2019, Portland, Oregon

2018 “Equity in the Cannabis Industry in Washington State” invited panelist for the Cannabis Equity at the *Washington State Annual Marijuana Symposium 2018* (Public Lecture)

## **Guest Lectures**

- 2019-22 “Accessing Legal Opportunities in Emerging Cannabis Markets,” invited guest for LAW E 541: Cannabis Law at UW School of Law. Spring ‘19, ‘20, ‘21, & ‘22
- 2020-22 “Accessing Legal Opportunities in Emerging Cannabis Markets,” invited guest for ENVIR 420: People, Planet, and Profit in Sustainable Cannabis Production at UW College of the Environment. Summer ‘20, ‘21, ‘22

## **Workshops**

- 2022 McNair Scholars 3-Part Workshop Series on Mentoring  
“What is a Mentoring Team & Why is it Important to my Success?”  
“How to Build & Maintain Successful Mentoring Relationships”  
“Navigating Mentorship at Predominately White Institutions” (co-facilitated with Ashley Townes)
- 2022 Gabriel E. Gallardo Symposium National Conference for McNair Scholars  
“Planning for Graduate School: Becoming a Competitive Applicant”  
“Elevating Your Impact via Social Media” (co-led with Ashley Townes)

## **TEACHING & ADVISING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Courses Taught as Instructor of Record**

- 100/200-lvl Introduction to Sociology at ASU, UW – Seattle, and UW – Bothell  
Social Problems at UW – Seattle  
Sociology of Sport at Washington Correction Center for Women
- 300-lvl Sociology of Deviance at ASU  
Labor Markets & the Carceral State at UW – Seattle

## **OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

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- 2021-22 Consultant, Washington State Cannabis Liquor and Control Board & Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force

## **SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP TO THE DISCIPLINE**

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### **Committees**

- 2026-29 Member, Publications Committee, Pacific Sociology Association
- 2025-26 Member, Participatory Budgeting Committee, ASA Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility

2025-26 Member, Membership Committee, ASA Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity

### **Panel Organizer**

2021 “Markets, Money, and the Carceral State: The Criminal Justice System as an Economic Market,” *American Sociology Association Annual Meeting*. Special Session. Virtual, Aug 2021

2020 “Learning from Legalization: Examining Racial Equity and Social Justice in Emerging Cannabis Markets,” *American Sociology Association Annual Meeting*. Regional Spotlight Session. San Francisco/Virtual 2020

### **Reviewer**

American Sociological Review, Social Problems, Law & Social Inquiry, Journal of Mathematical Sociology, Justice Quarterly, Theoretical Criminology, Theory & Society, Journal of Crime and Justice

### **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

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Trainer/Consultant: NVivo Qual Analysis Software (link to [NVivo Basics Training Video](#))  
Proficient: Stata 14.0, R (R Studio; R Markdown), Atlas.ti

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Sociological Association (ASA)  
American Society for Criminology (ASC)  
Law and Society Association (LSA)  
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE)  
Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)  
Pacific Sociology Association (PSA)