



Curriculum Vitae

Melanie Clark Mogavero
Associate Professor
Georgian Court University

 900 Lakewood Ave Jeffries Hall 127A
Lakewood, NJ 08701

 mmogavero@georgian.edu

 732-987-2389

Education

Doctor of Philosophy – Criminal Justice

Master of Arts – Forensic Psychology

Bachelor of Arts – Psychology

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey: Newark, NJ

Russell Sage College: Albany, NJ

State University of New York at Albany: Albany, NY

Academic Positions

Georgian Court University

- Department of Crime and Justice Studies

- Associate Professor, Jan 2022–Present
- Assistant Professor, Aug 2015–Jan 2022
- Department Chair: Crime and Justice Studies, May 2022–May 2025
- Graduate Program Director: MA Criminal Justice & Human Rights, June 2019–May 2022

University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, CT

- Department of Criminal Justice and Human Security

- Visiting Assistant Professor

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark, NJ

- School of Criminal Justice

- Part-time Lecturer

Ramapo State College of New Jersey, Ramapo, NJ

- Department of Law and Society

- Adjunct Professor

Scholarship

Focus

Individuals with mental illness, autism, and disabilities involved in the criminal justice system, autism and sexual behavior, sexual offending, specific policies targeted toward those convicted of sexual offenses.

Most Recent Work

Mogavero, M. C. (2025). *Mental Health, Neurodiversity, and Criminal Justice: A Guide for Students and Practitioners*. Palgrave Macmillan. [978-3-031-88815-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-88815-1)

- Mogavero, M. C., Finrich, A., Patel, R., & Etzi, S. (2025). Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Sexual Offending. In R. J. Tully, G. Bohall, D. S. Prescott (Eds.), *Best Practices in Sexual Offender Assessment and Management* (pp. 541–584). Springer Publishers. [978-3-031-83134-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-83134-8)
- Hsu, K-H., Choi, J., & **Mogavero, M.C.** (2025). The role of social media in undergraduate students' perceptions of police and career interest in law enforcement. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 1–29. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511253.2025.2485977>

Peer-reviewed Academic Journals

- Cooper, D., Frisbie, S., Wang, S., Jonas, V., Gibbs, V. Love, Abigail M. A., **Mogavero, M.**, Benevides, T. W., Hyatt, J. M., Hooven, K., Basketbill, I., & Shea, L. (2024). What do we know about autism and policing globally? Preliminary findings from an international effort to examine autism and the criminal justice system. *Autism Research*, 17 (10), 1957–2187. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.3203>
- Shea, L. L., Cooper, D., Wilson, A. B., Hyatt, J., Msipa, D., Hofvander, B., Overland, S., Da Silva, W. C., **Mogavero, M.**, Green, D., Wall, N., Lerner, M., Stahmer, A., Hooven, K., Bornman, J., Robinson, K., & Burke, J. (2024). A response to and caution of “Language is a critical mediator of autistic experiences within the criminal justice system.” *Autism Research*, 17 (3), 450–451. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.3111>
- Love, A. M. A., Gibbs, V., Cooper, D., Benevides, T. W., **Mogavero, M. C.**, Basketbill, I. L., Shea, L. L. (2024). Creating the global criminal justice survey: A questionnaire designed to gather perspectives from the autism community and criminal justice professionals. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 54, 1455–1437. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05835-1>
- Mogavero, M. C., Hsu, K. H., & Bolger, P. C. (2022). A conjunctive analysis of false accusations, official misconduct, and race in violent and sexual exonerations cases. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 40(6), 756–786. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2587>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2020). An exploratory examination of intellectual disability and mental illness associated with alleged false confessions. *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 38(4), 299–316. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2463>
- Mogavero, M. C. & Hsu, K. H. (2020). Dating and courtship behaviors among those with autism spectrum disorder. *Sexuality and Disability*, 38(2), 355–364. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11195-019-09565-8>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2019). What do criminal justice students know about autism? An exploratory study among future professionals. *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*, 34(4), 428–438. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11896-018-9302-0>
- Mogavero, M. C. & Hsu, K. H. (2018). Sex offender mobility: An application of crime pattern theory among child sex offenders. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 30(8), 908–931. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1079063217712219>
- Mogavero, M. C. & Hsu, K. H. (2018). Autism spectrum disorder and harassment: An application of attribution theory. *International Journal of Criminology and Sociology*, 7, 260–274. <https://doi.org/10.6000/1929-4409.2018.07.19>
- Mogavero, M. C. & Kennedy, L. W. (2017). The social and geographic patterns of sexual offending: Is sex offender residence restriction legislation practical? *Victims & Offenders*, 12(3): 401–433. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2015.1084962>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2016). Autism, sexual offending, and the criminal justice system. *Journal of Intellectual Disabilities and Offending Behavior*, 7(3), 116–126. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JIDOB-02-2016-0004>

Book Chapters & Encyclopedia Entries

- Mogavero, M. C. (2017). *Teddy Roosevelt's fight against police corruption*, In G. Robertello (Ed.), *The use and abuse of police power in America: Historical milestones and current controversies*. Bloomsbury Publishing. [9798765116050](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781614408311.005)
- Mogavero, M. C. (2021). “*Passing the Trash*,” In G. Robertello (Ed.) *Sexual Harassment and Misconduct: An Encyclopedia*. Bloomsbury Publishing. [9798216144083](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781614408311.005).

- Mogavero, M. C. (2021). "Affirmative Consent Laws," In G. Robertello (Ed.) Sexual Harassment and Misconduct: An Encyclopedia. Bloomsbury Publishing. [9798216144083](#).
- Mogavero, M. C. (2019). "Female Sexual Predators," In G. Robertello (Ed.) The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Women and Crime. Wiley-Blackwell. [9781118929803](#)

Accepted Professional Conferences

- Mogavero, M. C., Shea, L., Cooper, D., Love, A., Gibbs, V., Benevides, T., Basketbill, I., Hooven, K. (2023). *Criminal Justice Professionals' Autism Knowledge and Perceptions of Confidence when Interacting with Autistic Individuals*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 2023 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 17. <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc23>
- Mogavero, M. C. & Hsu, K. H. (2023). "Tik Tok you don't stop": Social Media Consumption and Criminal Justice Students' Perceptions of Police. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 2023 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 15. <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc23>
- Mogavero, M. C., Hsu, K. H., & Bolger, P. C. (2022). A conjunctive analysis of official misconduct, false accusations, and race in violent and sexual exoneration cases. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 2022 Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 16. <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc22/>
- Gibbs, V., Love, A. M., Benevides, T. W., **Mogavero M. C.**, Hooven, K. and Basketbill, I. (2022). *Global Criminal Justice Survey: Initial Scale Development and Validation*. Identifying Interdisciplinary and International Approaches to Address Inequities in Criminal Justice System Contact Among Autistic Individuals May 12, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM. INSAR 2022, Austin, TX. May 11-14, <https://www.autism-insar.org/page/2022AnnMtg>.
- Mogavero, M. C. (2021). *Autism, sexual offending, and the criminal justice system*. Sexuality in Neurodivergent Individuals. Sept. 1, 2021. The University at Salford, Manchester, UK. <https://www.salford.ac.uk/news/event-sexuality-neurodivergent-individuals>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2020). *Taking stock of wrongful convictions: A Conjunctive Analysis of The National Registry of Exonerations*. Paper Accepted at the American Society of Criminology 76th Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. (meeting canceled due to COVID-19). <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc20/>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2019). *An exploratory examination of cognitive ability and other legal and extra-legal risk factors associated with false confessions*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 75th Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Nov. 15, 2019. <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc19/>
- Mogavero, M.C. & Hsu, K. H. (2018). *Autism and persistent courtship: A test of attribution theory*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 74th Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 16, 2018. <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc18/>
- Mogavero, M.C. & Hsu, K. H. (2017). *Attribution model of stalking and autism spectrum disorder*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 73rd Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 16, 2017. <https://asc41.com/events/2017-asc-annual-meeting/>
- Hsu, K. H. & **Mogavero, M. C.** (2017). *Persistent dating and courtship behaviors among those on the autism spectrum*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 73rd Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 16, 2017. <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asc/asc17/>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2016). *A comparison of the Sexually Violent Predator Acts: New Jersey and Florida*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 72nd Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Nov 16, 2016. <https://asc41.com/events/2016-asc-annual-meeting/>
- Mogavero, M. C. (2015). *The social and geographic patterns of sexual offending: Questioning the practicality of residence restriction legislation*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology 71st Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., Nov 19, 2015. <https://asc41.com/events/2015-asc-annual-meeting/>

Book Reviews

- Mogavero, M. C. (2022, June). [Review of the book *Law and Neurodiversity: Youth with Autism and the Juvenile Justice Systems in Canada and the United States* by D. L. Baker, L. A. Drapela, & W. Littlefield] [Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books](#).
- Mogavero, M. C. (2020, March). [Review of the book *The Psychology of False Confessions: Forty Years of Science and Practice*, by G.H. Gudjonsson]. [Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books](#).
- Mogavero, M. C. (2018, January). Review of the book *Contemporary Issues in Victimology: Identifying Patterns and Trends*, edited by C. M. Hilinsji-Rosick and D. R. Lee]. [Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books](#)
- Mogavero, M. C. (2017, January). [Review of the book *Implied Consent and Sexual Assault: Intimate Relationships, Autonomy, and Voice*, by M. Plaxton]. Criminal [Law and Criminal Justice Books](#).
- Mogavero, M. C. (2016, September). [Review of the book *Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: Beyond Victims and Villains*, by A. Lutnick]. [Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books](#).
- Mogavero, M. C. (2016, January). [Review of the book *In Cold Storage: Murder and Sex on the Plains*, by J. W. Hewitt]. [Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books](#).
- Mogavero, M. C. (2016, January). [Review of the book *The Common Language of Homicide and Suicide: Evidence of the value of Durkheim's Typologies*, by J. M. Bozeman]. [Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books](#).

Student Scholarship Mentorship

- Taragin, Z. PsyD. 2024. Doctoral Dissertation. School Psychology. Georgian Court University. Dissertation Title: *Home Sweet Home: The Moderating Role of Home Involvement on Gender and Parental Self-Stigma*
- Russo, C. MA. 2020. Master's Thesis Title: *Bail Reform: County by County in New Jersey*

Awards

- 2017 Emerald Literati Network Award for Excellence: for *Autism, Sexual Offending, and the Criminal Justice System*
- 2018 Georgian Court University Teaching with Technology Award

Georgian Court University

Teaching

CJ510 Criminal Justice Research Methods
CJ511 Research Design
CJ520: Victimology
CJ565: Special Topics: Sex Crimes
CJ565: Special Topics: Independent Research
CJ590: Capstone
CJ410: Independent Research in Criminal Justice
CJ401: Sex Crimes
CJ353: Victimology
CJ331: Research Methods in Criminal Justice
CJ320: Special Populations in the Criminal Justice System
CJ231: Juvenile Delinquency
CJ200: Theories of Crime
SO201: Social Statistics
CJ111: The Criminal Justice System

University of Bridgeport	CJ110: Writing in Criminal Justice
	WS311 Shaping Lives: Women and Gender
	GEN101: Pathway to the Bridge
	CJHS398: Criminal Justice Internship
	CJHS271: Law Enforcement and Society
	CJHS265: Intro to Corrections
	PSCI101: American Government
	SO311: Juvenile Delinquency
	SO270: Sociology of Deviance
	CJHS118: Intro to Criminal Justice
Rutgers University	CJ301 Criminal Justice Research Methods
	CJ204 Corrections (co-lectured)
	CJ102 Criminology
	CJ223 Delinquency and Juvenile Justice
	CJ103 Introduction to Criminal Justice
Ramapo, State College of New Jersey	
	LAWS390: Selected Topics: Forensic Psychology and Law

Select Professional Development

- Workshop for Department and Division Chairs, June 7-9, 2022, Phoenix, AZ. Hosted by The Council of Independent Colleges
- ArcGIS 10.1.7: Introduction, hosted by Rutgers University
- Blackboard Learn Fundamentals of Digital Teaching and Learning, hosted by GCU
- Qualtrics: hosted by GCU,
- Quality Matters: Design That Welcomes Your Learners: hosted by GCU,
- Quality Matters: Improving Your Online Course: hosted by GCU
- Quality Matters: Designing Your Online Course: hosted by GCU
- ArcGIS 10.0 Mapping for Public Safety, hosted by Rutgers University Center on Public Security

Service

Select Positions

- Department Chair: Crime and Justice Studies, May 2022–May 2025
- Graduate Program Director: MA Criminal Justice & Human Rights, June 2019–May 2022
- Committee Chair: Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee- (AY 2016–2017, 2017–2018, 2018–2019, 2019–2020; 2020–2021) and Secretary (AY 2015–2016)
- Panel Participant. “Navigating the Search for Work/Family Balance.” American Society of Criminology 74th Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. November 14, 2018
- Panel Moderator: “Human Rights and Democracy in Egypt.” Symposium hosted by the University of Bridgeport. November 21, 2014.

Peer Reviewer (select journals)

- Criminal Justice and Behavior
- Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders
- Justice Quarterly
- Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling

- Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice
- Autism Research

GCU Media Contributions

- GCU University News (2022, Feb). [*Love on the Spectrum—Beyond Reality TV to Real Talk*](#)
- Faculty Focus (2021, Aug), [*“Exploring Nuance in the Criminal Justice System”*](#) (pp. 6-7).
- GCU Magazine (2018, Spring), [*“The New Department of Criminal Justice, Anthropology, Sociology & Human Rights”*](#)

Volunteer/Community Service

- Arc of Ocean County- Recreation (2018–2020), Arc Walk (November 2018–present)
- Board Member—Homeowners Association (January 2025–present)
- Puppies Behind Bars—Puppy socialization (November 2016–March 2023)

Professional Memberships

- Member, American Society of Criminology
- Associate Member, American Psychological Association
- Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society
- Professional Member: Autism Self-Advocacy Network
- Professional Member: POAC Autism Services

Non-academic Professional Positions

Medicaid Service Coordinator—
Alternative Living Group: Schenectady, NY

- Assessed the needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities and developed their Individualized Service Plans (ISP).
- Referred to necessary services and supports according to their ISP and monitored their implementation.
- These responsibilities, along with written documentation, were conducted to the standards of the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD; formally OMRDD), and the United States Government Medicaid program.

Intensive Case Manager—
St. Catherine’s Center for Children: Albany, NY

- Assessed the needs of parents and their children with mental health conditions or disabilities receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and developed their Individualized Service Plans (ISP), with a focus on self-sufficiency.
- Referred to necessary services and supports according to their ISP and monitored their implementation.
- Collaborated with the New York State Department of Social Services and New York State Child Protective Services

Teacher Assistant–

St. Colman's School: Watervliet, NY

- Under the supervision of a licensed New York State educator, taught academics to children with autism spectrum disorder in accordance with their Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Taught various self-help skills to improve independence and quality of life, according to their Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Implemented behavior management plans using the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Model