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# Tianyi Zhang

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## Education

### University of Missouri–St. Louis

- Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice, 2023–Present

### Duke University

- M.P.P., Sanford School of Public Policy, 2023
- Certificate in Social Policy

### Case Western Reserve University

- B.A. in Sociology, 2020
- Cum Laude
- Concentration in Crime, Law and Justice

## Research Interests

Crime, Education and Work, Spatial Patterns, Policy

## Working Project

- Tianyi Zhang, “Education and Violence: How Does Public K-12 Education Affect County-Level Homicide Rates?”
- Tianyi Zhang, “Education Protects, But Not Equally: Education’s Role in Ethno-racial Homicides”
- Tianyi Zhang, “Collective Efficacy and Crime: The Role of Social Infrastructure”
- Adam Boessen, John Hipp, Tianyi Zhang, “Communities, Place, and Crime: What’s Zero Population Got To Do With It?”

## Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

### Grants and Fellowships

- Individual Conference Travel Grant, 2025, Graduate School, UMSL: \$1,200
- Summer Fellowship, 2025, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, UMSL: \$1,800
- Individual Conference Travel Grant, 2024, Graduate School, UMSL: \$1,200
- Recruitment Fellowship, 2023–Present, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, UMSL: \$1,000

### Awards and Honors

- Merit-Based Scholarship, 2021–2023, Duke University
- Dean’s List, 2017–2020, Case Western Reserve University

## Experiences

### Research Experience

- 2023–Present: Graduate Research Assistant, Adam Boessen, University of Missouri–St. Louis

- 2022–2023: Graduate Researcher, Philip Cook, Wilson Center for Science and Justice, Duke University School of Law
  - Contributed to *The Legal Consequences of Gun Violence: Investigation and Court Processing of Fatal and Nonfatal Shootings, Durham, NC, 2017–2021*
- 2021: Research Assistant, Jianlong Yao, Institute of Law, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
  - Organized seminar on Critical Issues in Prosecuting Sexual Assault of Minors focusing on improving evidence accuracy
- 2021: Research Assistant, Suyun Hu, Institute of Urban and Demographic Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
  - Contributed to the *Annual Report of World Cities, 2022*

## Teaching Experience

### Instructor of Record

- CRIMIN 2210: Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Online, Summer 2026, University of Missouri–St. Louis

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

- CRIMIN 6405: Research Methods, Spring 2025, Spring 2026, University of Missouri–St. Louis
- PUBPOL 811: Economics of the Public Sector, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Duke University

### Guest Lectures

- *Social Infrastructures and Crime*, CRIMIN 4300 Communities and Crime, February 11, 2026

## Professional Experience

- 2020: Assistant, Dalian District People’s Court, China
  - Supported four criminal judges; organized and prepared case exhibits and evidence for trials; drafted verdicts and oversaw defendants

## Conference Presentations

- Adam Boessen, John Hipp, Tianyi Zhang, “Communities, Place, and Crime: What’s zero population got to do with it?” Oral Session, Population Association America, St. Louis, MO, May 6, 2026
- Tianyi Zhang, “Education and Violence: How Does Public K-12 Education Affect County-Level Homicide Rates?” Regular Session, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November 14, 2025
- Tianyi Zhang, “Education and Violence: How Does Public K-12 Education Affect County-Level Homicide Rates?” Roundtable Discussion, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 11, 2025
- Tianyi Zhang, “Education Expenditure as a Violence Reduction Strategy: Implications of Prioritizing Public Education on County-Level Homicide Rates.” Regular Session, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 14, 2024

## Services and Professional Membership

### Discipline Service

- 2025: Award Committee, Ruth D. Peterson and Lauren J. Krivo Graduate Student Scholar Award, Division of Communities and Place, American Society of Criminology
- Ad hoc Reviewer: *Landscape and Urban Planning*

### Department and School Service

- 2025–present: Peer Mentor, Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri–St. Louis
- 2025–2026: Member, Criminology and Criminal Justice Healthcare Working Group, University of Missouri–St. Louis

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- 2025–2026: President, Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association, University of Missouri–St. Louis
  - 2024–2025: Graduate Student Assembly Representative, Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association, University of Missouri–St. Louis
  - 2023–2024: Member, Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association, University of Missouri–St. Louis
  - 2023–Present: Member, Equity Committee, University of Missouri–St. Louis
  - 2018–2019: Director, Chinese Students and Scholars Association, Case Western Reserve University
  - 2017–2018: Member, Chinese Students and Scholars Association, Case Western Reserve University

### **Professional Memberships**

- 2024–Present: American Society of Criminology, Division of Communities and Place
- 2024–Present: Population Association of America
- 2025–Present: American Sociological Association, Crime, Law, and Deviance

### **Miscellanea**

- Programming Languages and Softwares: STATA, R, ArcGIS
- Language Skills: Mandarin, English, German