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ELISA BEGNIS, PH.D.

Personal Information

Research Fellow

Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

Education

10/2021 - 03/04/2025

Ph.D. in Sociology and Social Research

Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Department of Sociology and Business Law.

Advisor: Dr. Raffaella Sette (raffaella.sette@unibo.it)

Dissertation: *Moving towards Problem-Oriented Policing (POP): What Challenges for the Local Police of Ravenna?*

Day of defense: 03/04/2025

Grade: Excellence cum laude

Research Interests: Sociology of Law, Deviance, and Social Change, Policing Models, Police Legitimacy, Crime Prevention, Victimization Processes, Problem-Oriented Policing, Qualitative Methodology.

May 2023

Postgraduate Course in Qualitative Sociological Research – Nvivo
University of Roma Tre.

09/2019 - 10/2021

Masters of Arts in Criminological Sciences for Investigation and Security

University of Bologna, Department of Political Sciences.

Thesis: *Problem-Oriented Policing: potenzialità di applicazione di un modello problem-oriented nel contesto della polizia locale italiana. Il caso della Polizia Locale di Ravenna*

Advisor: Dr. Raffaella Sette

Honors/Results: 110 cum laude/110 (Italy)

09/2015 - 11/2018

Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Rehabilitation Techniques

State University of Milan, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

Thesis: *Kairos: l'autonomia dell'agire nel tempo*

Advisor: Dr. Caterina Viganò (caterina.vigano@unimi.it)
Honor/Results: 110 cum laude/110 (Italy).

Publications

In Press

Begniss, E. & Tuzza, S. (2025). #Essercisempre (alwaysbethere): Police Reloaded – Promotion and (Self)representation in the Digital Era, In *Mirrors of Police: Professional Knowledge, (Self)Representation, and Identity of the State Police in Italy since 1946*, Routledge [Book Chapter]

2023

Begniss, E. (2023). Polizia Locale, politica e governo dell'(in)sicurezza, In Occhipinti M., Basile M., Pantaleo V. & Di Cataldo L. (a cura di), *Le sfide della contemporaneità. Approcci pluridisciplinari per uno sguardo multiprospettico*, IPS Edizioni, Siena [Book Chapter];

2022

Begniss, E. (2022). Creatività ed iniziativa: la Polizia Locale di Ravenna e il Problem-Oriented Policing come strategia di intervento, *Rivista Italiana di Conflittologia*, 44, 123 - 163 [Peer-Reviewed Article]

Manuscripts in Progress

Begniss, E., Tuzza S., Lo Cascio, M., Legal Blind Spots: the Challenges of Recognizing and Addressing IPV in LGBT Communities within the Legal System, *About Gender*

Research Experience

10/2024 – Present:

Research Fellow, Department of Sociology and Business Law, Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

Project Title: PRIN 2022 PNRR *Where are the LGBT victims of intimate partner violence? Agencies, operational practices, and interventions that support victims, prevent, and fight against the phenomenon*

Project leader: Dr. Sandra Sicurella (sandra.sicurella2@unibo.it)

The project, in collaboration with the University of Palermo and the University of Naples, focuses on conducting interviews and focus groups with professionals working on LGBT intimate partner violence and justice system personnel, analyzing findings, developing intervention guidelines, and providing training for social and healthcare professionals and victim support staff.

11/2021 – 10/2024

PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology and Business Law, Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

Project Title: *Moving towards Problem-Oriented Policing: what socio-criminological challenges for the Local Police of Ravenna?*

Advisor: Dr. Raffaella Sette

Qualitative research included 30 semi-structured interviews with police officers, municipal staff, researchers, and association representatives. The study also involved flâneur-style field exploration, data analysis using NVivo, and two Design Thinking workshops with 30 Ravenna Local Police officers to co-create urban crime prevention and victimization projects.

10/2023 – 02/2024

Visiting PhD Candidate, Design Against Crime Solution Center, Salford University, Manchester.

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Caroline Davey (c.davey@salford.ac.uk)

Active participation in the P.O.P.L.A.R. project with Greater Manchester Police and the launch of the E2i - Engage to Innovate project. Conducted qualitative research to assess Neighbourhood Policing Teams using a human-centered approach, redefining the S.A.R.A. model, and fostering collaboration between police, citizens, and stakeholders. Organized a validation workshop with 25 Greater Manchester Police officers to test a prototype evaluation tool developed by the Design Against Crime Solution Center.

01 – 04/2023

Visiting PhD Candidate, DSP Groep, Amsterdam.

Sponsor: Bram van Dijk (bvandijk@dsp-groep.nl)

Evaluation and follow-up of the CCI – Cutting Crime Impact European project. As part of my doctoral research, I conducted an in-depth analysis of problem-oriented policing projects in Gouda, Haarlemmermeer, and The Hague, including 23 semi-structured interviews with police officers, criminology researchers, municipal staff, and youth crime prevention associations, along with CPTED-based neighborhood analysis to assess crime prevention impact.

Work
Experience

01 – 03/2021

Academic Internship, Judicial Police Investigation Department, Local Police, Ravenna.

During my internship, I analyzed drug-related crimes in high-risk urban areas, conducted surveillance video analysis, and created photo segments to assist patrol agents. I also profiled suspects, cross-referenced phone records, researched urban vandalism, and collaborated with investigators to draft judicial reports, gaining hands-on experience in Problem-Oriented Policing (POP), which later became the focus of my dissertation.

01-08/2018

Psychiatric Rehabilitation Technician, Youth Residential Community Antenna Gertrude Beolchi, Milan.

In this role, I designed therapeutic programs for adolescents with psychiatric and social disorders, focusing on psychoeducational interventions to improve self-awareness and support treatment adherence. I collaborated with juvenile courts, social services, and schools to build rehabilitation networks, while also combating stigma and empowering patients through skill development for a more independent future.

06/2017-10/2018

Academic Internship, Mental Health Centre, District 19/1, Fatebenefratelli Sacco Hospital, Milan.

I managed groups focused on territory exploration and organizing vacations for patients with difficulties in planning. I worked under supervision to write rehabilitation therapeutic projects (PTR) and compile Recovery Star for patients with various diagnoses, while participating in home visits and collaborating with the multidisciplinary team, gaining a deeper understanding of rehabilitative practices.

03/2017-06/2018

Academic Internship, Psychiatric Diagnosis and Treatment Service, Fatebenefratelli Sacco Hospital, Milan.

I observed and learned how to manage patients during crises, gaining insight into various patient relationships. I proposed and organized social activities within the department and hospital, developed communication skills through meetings with the therapeutic team, and coordinated other intern students assigned to me during the internship.

03/2016-10/2017

Academic Internship, Day Care Mental Health Centre, SS. Paolo and Carlo Hospital, Milan.

During my first period, I observed rehabilitation activities, learned to use the "Psiche Web" system, and assessed my initial interactions with patients. Later, I focused on assisting in consultations and engaging in therapeutic groups both inside and outside the center, observing interactions with individuals with mental health issues.

10/2016-07/2017

Academic Internship, Adult residential Community Cascina Cantalupa, SS. Paolo and Carlo Hospital, Milan.

I contributed to patients' daily activities by designing and leading manual activity

groups, learning the importance of rehabilitation in everyday life. I also participated in Pet Therapy and territorial activities.

Teaching Activities

- 2025
Adjunct Professor, Conflict Theory
University of Eastern Piedmont, Novara.
Master's Program in Criminal Mediation and Restorative Justice Practices
- 2025
Adjunct Professor, Criminology
University of Parma, Parma.
Bachelor of Arts in Social Work
- 2024 - Present
Adjunct Professor, Sociology of Deviance
L.I.M.E.C. SSML, Milan.
Bachelor of Arts in Intercultural and Linguistic Mediation
- 2025
Subject Expert, Mafia and Victimization Processes
Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.
Master of Arts in Criminological Sciences for Investigation and Security
- 2023 - Present
Assistant Lecturer, Applied Criminology
Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.
Master of Arts in Criminological Sciences for Investigation and Security
- 2021 – Present
Subject Expert, Security Policies
Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.
Master of Arts in Criminological Sciences for Investigation and Security
- 2021 – Present
Subject Expert, Applied Criminology
Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.
Master of Arts in Criminological Sciences for Investigation and Security

Participation in Conferences and Seminars

- December 6, 2024
Conference Ais Genere – Genere Trasversale. La sociologia incontra le altre discipline,
University of Perugia, Narni.

Presentation: *Armi, maschilità e stereotipi di genere: una riflessione critica sulla cultura di polizia a partire da un caso di studio.*

August 26 – 30, 2024

Conference European Sociological Association – 16th ESA Conference 2024, Porto, Portugal.

Presentation: *#alwaysbethere: State Police in the digital era, between promotion and professional (self)representation.*

June 28, 2024

Meeting *Giovani Sociologi di Pontignano 2024*, University of Siena.

Presentation: *Problem-Oriented Policing (POP): analisi della possibilità di applicazione di un progetto Problem-Oriented presso la Polizia Locale di Ravenna.*

May 6, 2024

Seminar *Giustizia Riparativa e Violenza Sessuale*, University of Bologna.

Presentation: *The theory of the (not-so)just world: socio-victimological theoretical assumptions for restorative justice.*

February 8, 2024

Seminar *P.O.P.L.A.R. Validation Workshop*, Salford University.

Presentation: *What is POP?*

September 6 – 9, 2023

Conference *Eurocrim 2023 – 23rd Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology*, Florence.

Presentation: *The perception of the use of force and the vulnerability of the body among Italian police agents* with Simone Tuzza.

May 4, 2023

Seminar *Transizioni: Diritto, economia e società tra persistenze e mutamenti*, University of Bologna.

Presentation: *Transizioni digitali e tecnologiche nella Polizia Locale: quale direzione seguire?*

April 27, 2023

Seminar *Parliamone ora.*

Presentation: *Uso legittimo della forza: problematiche sul ruolo e sulle funzioni di polizia* with Simone Tuzza.

April 21, 2023

Moderator and speaker at the seminar *Violenza di genere e rapporti di potere dentro l'Università. Parliamone insieme*,
University of Bologna.

December 3 – 6, 2022

VII National Conference of PhD Candidates in Social Sciences *Spazi politici in trasformazione: società, istituzioni, diritti, conflitti*,
University of Catania.
Presentation: *Polizia locale, politica e governo dell'(in)sicurezza*.

Training Courses

July 4 – 6, 2024

Summer School *Sociology of Law and Deviance*, AIS – *Sociology of Law*,
University of Genoa.

July 3 – 6, 2023

Summer School *Sociology of Law and Deviance*, AIS – *Sociology of Law*,
University of Catania.

March 2023

Course *Language Empowerment for Academics*,
University of Bologna.

December 2022

Course *Academic English Skills*,
University of Bologna.

September 23, 2022

Continuing professional development *Preventing Violent Radicalisation in Criminal Justice Settings: A Restorative Justice Approach*,
Restorative Justice for All, London.

May 20, 2022

Training course on social research methodology *Scrivere la scienza*,
Centro Studi SPe, Sturzo Institute, Rome.

January 2022

Training Course *Introduction to the use of NVIVO*,
GMSL S.r.l.

Languages

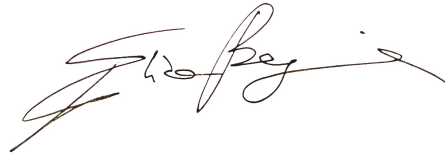
Italian Native speaker

English C1 – Listening, Reading, Spoken interaction, Spoken production, Writing

Spanish A2 – Listening, Reading, Spoken interaction, Spoken production, Writing

Member and Participation in	European Sociological Association (ESA) Associazione Italiana di Sociologia (AIS) Interdisciplinary Research Center on Victimology and Safety (CIRVIS) Prison University Pole (PUP Project) ParliamoneOra Referee for <i>Rivista di Criminologia, Vittimologia e Sicurezza</i>, ISSN: 1971-033X.
Awards and Grants	2023 Marco Polo Grant 2022 Ser.In.Ar scholarship
Technical Skills	Solid experience in the operation of Windows and Macintosh operating systems; Proficient in the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook); Excellent knowledge of Nvivo for qualitative data analysis; Basic knowledge of analysis programs such as Excel; advanced proficiency in Open Office and Social Media platforms; Experienced in using data storage and management platforms, including Dropbox, Google Drive, and WeTransfer.
Other Competencies	Strong communication, organizational, and teamwork skills developed through my role as a representative of PhD candidates at the Department of Sociology and Business Law, University of Bologna, and as coordinator of interning students in the S.P.D.C. department at Fatebenefratelli-Sacco Hospital, Milan. Excellent ability to work in diverse and multidisciplinary teams, fostered through academic and professional collaborations, as well as field experience in emergency response. Advanced skills in crisis management, problem-solving, and decision-making under pressure, gained from volunteer work as a rescuer with Croce Bianca, Binasco section, and active participation in Civil Protection operations.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. B. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "F" and a long, sweeping underline.