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Curriculum Vitae

DIXIN LI

The Pennsylvania State University
Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2026 - Present	Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing Postdoctoral Scholar *Criminal Justice Research Center, The Pennsylvania State University*

EDUCATION

2026	Ph.D., Criminology and Criminal Justice University of Maryland *Dissertation: "Rippling Discretion in Criminal Justice System: A Case Study of Prosecutorial Reform in Cook County"* Committee: Dr. Brian D. Johnson (*Chair*), Dr. Bianca Bersani, Dr. Robert Stewart, Dr. Patrick C. Wohlfarth
2023	M.A., Criminology and Criminal Justice University of Maryland *Thesis: "Can Violent Protests Change Local Sentencing Patterns? Evidence From 2015 Baltimore Uprising"* Chair: Dr. Brian D. Johnson
2020	LL.M., Law School, Renmin University of China
2018	LL.B., Law School, Renmin University of China

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Law and society; courts and sentencing; inequalities; formal punishment; social control

PEER-REVIEWED WRITING

Stewart, Robert, **Dixin Li**, and Christopher Uggen. (2025). Felon Status, Political Identity, and Civic Engagement. *Justice Quarterly*, 1–33.https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2025.2580595

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

Li, Dixin, Brian Johnson, and Greg Midgette. (2025). Protests and Punishment: Examining Sentencing Shifts in the Wake of High-Profile Police Violence. Under Review.

Li, Dixin, and Guyu Sun. Controlled Visibility: State Narratives of People of Criminal Records in China, 1978–2024. Under Review.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Li, Dixin, and Yuxuan Gu. Relational Justice: Victim-Offender Relationships, Social Hierarchy, and Criminal Punishment in China. In preparation of submission.

Stewart, Robert, and **Dixin Li**. The [Judicial] Ship of Theseus: Tracking Shifts in the Judge-Level Sentencing Patterns. In preparation of submission.

Li, Dixin, and Yuxuan Gu. Sentencing in China: The Craft of Punishment. Manuscript in progress.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

2025 "Controlled Invisibility: State Narratives of Ex-Offenders in China, 1978–2024" ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, Washington DC.
"The [Judicial] Ship of Theseus: Tracking Shifts in the Judge-Level Sentencing Patterns" ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, Washington DC.
"Relational Justice: Victim-Offender Relationships, Social Hierarchy, and Criminal Punishment in China" ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, Washington DC.
"Rippling Discretion in Criminal Justice System: A Case Study of Prosecutorial Reform in Cook County" ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, Washington DC.
"Controlled Invisibility: Public Narratives of Ex-Offenders in China, 1978–2024" ***American Sociology Association Annual Meeting***, Chicago, IL.
"Controlled Invisibility: Public Narratives of Ex-Offenders in China, 1978–2024" ***American Sociology Association Annual Meeting***, Chicago, IL.

2024 "Living in Turbulence: An Investigation of War Exposure and Crime in the Home for 15 African Countries Over 15 Years." ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, San Francisco, CA. (Chair of panel)
"Felony Status and Political Identity." ***CSI Conference 2024***, "Justice and Injustice," Yale University. (Co-author)

2023 "Can Violent Protests Change Local Sentencing Patterns? Evidence From 2015 Baltimore Uprising." ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, Philadelphia, PA.

2022 "Violent Protests and Local Sentencing Patterns." ***American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting***, Atlanta, GA.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2025	University of Maryland Kimchi Memorial Graduate Award
2024	University of Maryland Kimchi Memorial Graduate Award
2022	University of Maryland Kimchi Memorial Graduate Award

COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT

Lecturer, University of Maryland *Undergraduate Level*

CCJS100	Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
CCJS454	Contemporary Criminological Theory

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2025-2026	Research Assistant at Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center (MCRIC), with Dr. Bianca Bersani
2022-2025	Research Assistant with Dr. Robert Stewart
2021-2022	Research Assistant with Dr. Rod Brunson

SERVICE

2023–2024	Graduate Student Representative, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland
2021–2023	Member, Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Committee, College of Behavioral Sciences, University of Maryland

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Programming	STATA, R
Languages	Mandarin (native), English (fluent), German (advanced)