

Stephen Cassidy Jones, PhD

I am a writer, researcher, educator, and artist, and a postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Michigan Carceral State Project.

Drawing from archival, ethnographic, and other qualitative methods, I investigate a wide range of topics concerning policing and imprisonment, warfare and counterinsurgency, labor and social movements, and uneven development across rural and urban geographies.

EDUCATION

PhD (2024) | Earth & Environmental Sciences (Geography) – The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Dissertation: “Race, Rebellion, and Counterinsurgency: California’s Supermax Prisons, 1973-2013.”

MA (2017) | American Studies – The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Thesis: “The Bunker Hill Story: Welfare, Redevelopment, and Housing Crisis in Postwar Los Angeles”

BA (2015) | Sociology – Hunter College, City University of New York

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow – University of Michigan Carceral State Project | 2024 – present

Associate Researcher – Vera Institute of Justice | 2022 – 2023

Applied Justice Research Fellow – Vera Institute of Justice | 2020 – 2021

Graduate Assistant – The Graduate Center, City University of New York | 2017 – 2023

Research Assistant – Under New York City | 2017

Crew Member – Trader Joe’s | 2017

Research Assistant – Dr. Randy Gross, PhD | 2014 – 2016

College Assistant – PhD in Nursing Program, The Graduate Center, CUNY | 2014 – 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan – Project Co-Director (2025)

History 491/796: “Investigating the Criminal-Legal System in Michigan” (undergraduate HistoryLab seminar)

Vassar College – Adjunct Instructor (2024)

Geography 342: “Social Movements” (undergraduate seminar)

Hunter College, City University of New York – Adjunct Instructor (2022)

Geography 101: “People and Their Environment” (undergraduate seminar)

LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York – Writing Fellow (2022)

Center for Teaching and Learning: “Writing in the Disciplines” (professional development seminar)

Queens College, City University of New York – Graduate Teaching Fellow (2018-2020)

Urban Studies 101: “Poverty and Affluence” (undergraduate lecture)

Urban Studies 745: “Community Organizations” (graduate seminar)

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1316 Packard Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
stephej@umich.edu | 626.482.5004

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Publications

J'Mauri Jackson with Stephen Jones, ed. "Disability at Women's Huron Valley." University of Michigan Carceral State Project, Forthcoming.

Julia Frykman with Stephen Jones, ed. "John Engler's Punk Prison." University of Michigan Carceral State Project, Forthcoming.

Lawson Schultz with Stephen Jones, ed. "Postcards, Prison Camps, and Politics." University of Michigan Carceral State Project, January 2025.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2678bb9930704f21b5f3bb0532a8d474>.

Stephen Cassidy Jones, Review of Orisanmi Burton's *Tip of the Spear: Black Radicalism, Prison Repression, and the Long Attica Revolt*, *Social Justice*, May 2025 TK.

Bea Halbach-Singh, Jessica Zhang, Jacob Kang-Brown, and Stephen Jones, "A False Choice: How One Texas County Is Using Women's Incarceration to Justify a New Jail." *Vera Institute of Justice*, October 2023, <https://www.vera.org/in-our-backyards-stories/a-false-choice>.

Stephen Cassidy Jones and Liza Yeager "Alien Jerky Sold Here." *The Dig*, Jacobin Radio, September 2023, <https://thedigradio.com/podcast/the-dig-presents-alien-jerky-sold-here/>.

Bea Halbach-Singh, Jack Norton, Stephen Jones, and Jessica Zhang, *The Criminalization of Poverty in Kentucky: How Economic Crises and Flawed Reform Fueled an Incarceration Boom*. New York: Vera Institute of Justice, August 2023, <https://perma.cc/MW2N-LFMT>.

Jacob Kang-Brown, Stephen Jones, Joyce Tagal, and Jessica Zhang, *People in Jail and Prison in 2022*. New York: Vera Institute of Justice, 2023, <https://perma.cc/9GLB-9SLW>.

Jack Norton, Stephen Jones, Bea Halbach-Singh, Jasmine Heiss, and Free Hearts Leadership. *The Criminalization of Poverty in Tennessee*. New York: Vera Institute of Justice. April 2022, <https://perma.cc/33FY-RYVD>.

Jessie Speer and Stephen Cassidy Jones. "Dangerous Papers: Building an Archive of Antiprison Resistance." *Professional Geographer* 74 no. 3 (September 2021): 573-579, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2021.1936578>.

Presentations

Stephen Cassidy Jones (chair), "Ending Perpetual Punishment." Panel presentation at the 2025 Annual Symposium of the University of Michigan Carceral State Project, Trotter Multicultural Center, Ann Arbor, MI, March 29, 2025.

Stephen Cassidy Jones (chair), "Grounding the Global Order in the Local: Challenging Colonial Policing from Home." Paper Session at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, November 15, 2024.

Stephen Cassidy Jones, "Post-Incarceration Continuity of Care." Panel presentation at the University of Michigan Medical School's Department of Family Medicine, Ann Arbor, MI, October 22, 2024.

Stephen Cassidy Jones, "Criminalization, Immobility, and Political-Economic Restructuring in Rural Tennessee: A Case Study of Weakley County." Panel presentation at the State University of New York, Binghamton, April 19, 2024.

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Stephen Cassidy Jones, "Jail Expansion and the Criminalization of Poverty in Wilson County, Tennessee." Panel presentation at the 78th American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 15, 2023.

Stephen Jones, Carli Snyder, Kristen Racaniello, and Woo Ree Heor, "WAC-y Ways to Keep Your Students Awake." Workshop presented at the Writing Across the Curriculum Professional Development meeting, New York, NY, April 8, 2022.

Stephen Jones, "The Criminalization of Poverty in Tennessee." Lecture presented at the Vera Institute of Justice, New York, NY, May 2021.

Stephen Jones, "Police and Prison Abolition Webinar." Online lecture hosted by The Movements Podcast, July 4, 2020.

Stephen Cassidy Jones, "Rehabilitation and Repression: Prisoner Classification in California, 1945 – 1980." Panel presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Washington D.C., April 2019.

Stephen Cassidy Jones, Maegan Miller, Marlene Ramos, and Benjamin Rubin. "The Political Geography of Incarceration in Texas." Lecture presented at The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY, May 2016.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESEARCH FUNDINGThe Graduate Center, City University of New York

2023 | Doctoral Student Research Grant – \$780

2022 - '23 | Center for Place, Culture, and Politics Dissertation Fellowship – \$10,000

2022 | Knickerbocker Award for Archival Research in American Studies – \$4,000

2021 | Provost's Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship – \$2,000

2019 | Niel Smith Travel and Research Award – \$350

2017 - '22 | Graduate Center Fellowship – ~\$27,000/year

The Vera Institute of Justice

2020 - '21 | Applied Justice Research Fellowship - ~\$13,000

The Antipode Foundation

2019 - '20 | Antipode Scholar-Activist Grant – ~\$12,000

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Organization of American Historians

American Society of Criminology

American Association of Geographers

American Studies Association