

Angela Vergara, PhD

University of Central Florida, Department of Sociology

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dr. Angela Vergara is a lecturer at the University of Central Florida in the Department of Sociology, where she serves as the Undergraduate Director of Sociology and Social Sciences. With a robust academic background and a passion for fostering educational growth, Dr. Vergara is dedicated to enhancing the undergraduate experience and guiding students on their academic and professional journeys. Dr. Vergara's research expertise lies in community participatory research, Latin American sociology, global and social inequalities, and medical and reproductive health. Her research focuses on crucial issues such as gender differences, immigration status, culture, language, the educational achievement gap, social class, health inequalities, and mental health accessibility within the Hispanic/Latine population. As an educator, Dr. Vergara is committed to aligning college experiences with NACE Career Competencies for Career Readiness, ensuring that students are well-prepared for their future careers. Her teaching interests include qualitative research methods, medical sociology, and social inequalities, which she incorporates into her curriculum to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the field.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology

Summer 2020

University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Dissertation: *Puerto Rico After Hurricane Maria: Responses to Trauma and Constructing a New Life in Central Florida*

M.A. Experimental Clinical Psychology

May 2015

St. John's University, New York, NY

Master's Thesis: *Assessment of Dialectical Behavioral Therapy-PTSD for the Treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Non-Suicidal Self-Injury Behaviors in Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse: An Examination of Treatment Efficacy.*

B.S. Psychology

August 2012

University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *What Do You Think of Others that Pursue Cosmetic Surgery? Influences Associated with Perceptions of Cosmetic Surgery.*

Minor: Sociology

A.A. General Studies

Valencia College, Orlando, FL
Psychology and Sociology

December 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Cox, J. M., Stone, A., **Vergara, A.**, Carter, S. K., & Carter, J. S. (2023). *To See or Not to See: Latinx (In)Visibility at a Newly Designated Hispanic-Serving Institution*. *Humanity & Society*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/01605976231201657>

Vergara, A., & Carter, S. K. (2021). #Amamantar: Representations of breastfeeding targeting Hispanic/Latinx populations on social media. *Women's Studies International Forum* (Vol. 87, p. 102498). Pergamon. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wsif.2021.102498>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lecturer

May 2022 – Present

Undergraduate Director of Sociology and Social Sciences
University of Central Florida
Department of Sociology

Undergraduate

- Research Methods (face-to-face and online)
- Data Analysis (face-to-face and online)
- Introduction to Sociology (face-to-face, online, and synchronous)
- Sociological Social Psychology (face-to-face and online)
- Race and Ethnicity (online only)
- Family Trends (online only)
- Global Inequalities and Society (online only)
- Sex and Gender (online only)
- Qualitative Methods (online only)
- Honors Medical Sociology
- Careers in Sociology (online)
- Qualitative Methods (Study Abroad – Belize)
- GIS Applications (online)
- Marriage and Family in Society

Graduate

- Topics in Social Inequality - Global Inequalities and Society
- Health Inequalities
- Qualitative Methods
- Topics in Social Inequalities: The Hispanic/Latine Health Experience

High Impact Practices Designation Courses

- Research Methods (Research Intensive HIP Designation)
- Data Analysis (Capstone and Research Intensive HIP Designation)
- Introduction to Sociology (Global Learning HIP Designation and High Quality Online Course)

Research Consultant

Summer 2023

Multilingual Translator in Spanish English

National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities Hrant Project

Department of Sociology

Department of Public Health

University of Central Florida

Project: *Facilitators of and Barriers to Healthcare Utilization among Racially and Ethnically Diverse Transgender and Gender Nonbinary Young Adults*

Investigators: PI: Lindsay Taliaferro; Co-PIs: J. Scott Carter, Elena Cyrus, Eric Schrimshaw

- Translated research surveys, questionnaires, and interview scripts from English to Spanish, ensuring accuracy and cultural relevance.
- Adapted marketing materials, including brochures, flyers, and social media content, from English to Spanish to effectively reach Spanish-speaking audiences.
- Maintained consistency in terminology and style while translating a variety of documents, including reports, presentations, and promotional materials.
- Collaborated with researchers and marketing teams to understand project requirements and deliver high-quality translations on time.
- Conducted thorough reviews of translated materials to ensure grammatical correctness and adherence to project specifications.
- Provided cultural insights and suggestions to enhance the impact of translated materials on Spanish-speaking audiences.

Visiting Lecturer

August 2019 – May 2022

University of Central Florida

Department of Sociology

Undergraduate

- Research Methods (face-to-face and online)
- Data Analysis (face-to-face and online)
- Introduction to Sociology (face-to-face, online, and synchronous)
- Sociological Social Psychology (face-to-face and online)
- Race and Ethnicity (online only)
- Family Trends (online only)
- Global Inequalities and Society (online only)
- Sex and Gender (online only)
- Qualitative Methods (online only)

Graduate

- Topics in Social Inequality - Global Inequalities and Society (synchronous)

Adjunct Professor**June 2022 – May 2023**

Valencia College – East Campus
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department of Psychology and Sociology

- Introduction to Psychology (face-to-face and online)
- Developmental Psychology (face-to-face)
- Introduction to Sociology (face-to-face and online)

Adjunct Professor**Fall 2018 – May 2020**

Valencia College/UCF Downtown
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department of Psychology and Sociology

- Introduction to Psychology (face-to-face and online)
- Developmental Psychology (face-to-face)
- Introduction to Sociology (face-to-face and online)

Adjunct Professor**January 2017 – August 2022**

Valencia College – West Campus
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department of Psychology and Sociology

- Introduction to Psychology (face-to-face and online)
- Developmental Psychology (face-to-face)
- Introduction to Sociology (face-to-face and online)

Substance Abuse Counselor**April 2019 – December 2020**

Premium Counseling Group, LLC

- Clinical diagnostics associated with a substance abuse disorder
- Provide counseling and assessment services at the individual and group level
- Create and manage group therapy sessions utilizing Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, and other therapeutic techniques
- Provide mental health services in both English and Spanish

Research Consultant**Fall 2019****Multilingual Translator in Spanish English**

Vega Nguyen Research
Bellingham, WA

Project: *2020 King County Housing Survey*
Investigator: Jenny Nguyen

- Performed various translation and interpretation duties from Spanish into English, including research texts, IRB proposals, survey metrics, and written text.

- Translated text projects, including legal documents, research packet content, articles, and data reports.
- Upheld strict confidentiality policy when translating personal and research material.
- Provided interpretation and transcription services as needed by the research team.

Newsletter Editor and Social Media Content Manager

August 2017 – August 2019

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Society of Mental Health Division

Division Officer: Fernando Rivera, Ph.D.

- Newsletter Editor
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) content manager

Research Assistant

Summer 2019

Qualitative Data Analyst and Multilingual Translator in Spanish and English

Department of Social Work

University of Central Florida

Orlando, FL

Project: *Strong Foundations Courts*

Investigator: Julie Stein, PhD

- Assessment of the court processes for governing the reunification of foster children with their families.
- Focus groups and phone interviews with employees and volunteers who work on child welfare cases that are passing through the courts.
- Discussions with participants will focus on their perceptions of the Conditions for Return model and the ways the practice of the model can be improved/strengthened.
- Performed various translation and interpretation duties from Spanish into English, including research texts, IRB proposals, survey metrics, and written text.
- Translated text projects, including legal documents, research packet content, articles, and data reports.
- Upheld strict confidentiality policy when translating personal and research material.
- Arranged concurrent translation during research interviews and focus groups to allow data collection.
- Transcription of data in Spanish and English.
- Qualitative analysis of focus groups and interview data.

Graduate Teaching Associate

June 2017 – May 2019

University of Central Florida

College of Sciences

Department of Sociology

- Introduction to Sociology
- Sociological Social Psychology (face-to-face and online)
- Race and Ethnicity (online)

Graduate Teaching Assistant**August 2016 – May 2017**

University of Central Florida

College of Sciences

Department of Sociology

- Contribute to the development of appropriate teaching materials to ensure content and methods of delivery meet learning objectives
- Participate in the assessment process using a variety of methods and techniques and provide effective timely and appropriate feedback to students to support their learning
- Supervise practical work advising on skills methods and techniques to assist the transfer of knowledge
- Health and Illness in Society

Research Analyst**August 2016****Multilingual Translator in Spanish-English**

Department of Sociology

University of Central Florida

Orlando, FL

Title: *Can Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Act as a Point of Entry into the Healthcare System? Evaluating the Motivating Factors behind the Use of CAM services by the Hispanic/Latinx Population.*

- Constructed Qualtrics Survey to seek to understand the processes associated with the decision to utilize Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) by the Hispanic community.
- Develop semi-structured interviews and conducted face-to-face interviews with participants in both English and Spanish.
- Interpreted and analyzed quantitative and qualitative results.
- Upheld strict confidentiality policy when translating personal and research material.
- Arranged concurrent translation during research interviews and focus groups to allow data collection.
- Transcription of data in Spanish and English.

Clinical Assessment and Evaluation**September 2014 – May 2015****Multilingual Clinical Translator in Spanish-English*****Child HELP Partnership******St. John's University Center for Psychological Service*****New York, NY**Executive Director and Founder: Elissa Brown, Ph.D.

Project CONNECT (Community Networks Negotiating Evaluations and Counseling for Trauma) is an approach developed by **Child HELP Partnership** to bridge science and practice in the field of children's mental health. The goal is to alleviate barriers to accessing mental health services for traumatized families. Building on established relationships with local multicultural communities, we bring the evidence-based treatment we provide at our clinic into community settings.

- Conducted suicide risk assessment interviews in both English and Spanish
- Conducted trauma interview and assessment in both English and Spanish
- Performed various translation and interpretation duties from Spanish into English, including clinical assessments and diagnosis, research texts, IRB proposals, survey metrics, and written text.
- Translated text projects, including legal documents, research packet content, articles, and data reports.
- Upheld strict confidentiality policy when translating personal and research material.
- Arranged concurrent translation during research interviews and focus groups to allow data collection.

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy

– Group Therapy Clinical Co-facilitator

June 2013 – June 2014

Center for Motivation and Change

- Utilized DBT skills to co-facilitate group psychotherapy
- Preparation of clinical notes and diagnostic tools for facilitating clinician
- Maintain patients' clinical records and follow-ups associated with weekly therapy meetings

Research Assistant

January 2014 – July 2015

Multilingual Clinical Translator in Spanish-English

Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY

Department of Psychiatry

Principal Investigator: Adriana Feder, MD

Trajectories of Psychological Risk and Resilience in World Trade Center Responders – the study aims to characterized longitudinal trajectories of World Trade Center (WTC) related Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and depressive symptoms in WTC first responders through administering a web-based survey.

- Pre-screening for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
- Reaching out to WTC responders for their participation in our online survey and following up with participants who agreed to participate but have not completed the survey yet.
- Collect and record study data. Inputs information in the database.
- Conduct patient-oriented research and work with human subjects in research.
- Performed various translation and interpretation duties from Spanish into English, including clinical assessments and diagnosis, research texts, IRB proposals, survey metrics, and written text.
- Translated text projects, including legal documents, research packet content, articles, and data reports.
- Upheld strict confidentiality policy when translating personal and research material.
- Arranged concurrent translation during research interviews and focus groups to allow data collection.

Clinical Research Assistant**June 2013 – June 2014**

Center for Motivation and Change, New York, NY

- Research and training reviewing assessments, entering data (MS Office, Excel, SPSS, etc.), conducting empirical literature searches and compiling reviews of relevant findings.
- Work with members of the clinical staff assisting with research on clinical issues.
- Management of case files and assisting with daily operations.
- Participation on behavioral therapy groups and preparing notes for the facilitating clinician.
- Attend weekly meetings including group discussions of case issues, review and discussion of cutting-edge research, and training in clinical techniques.
- Training and research in evidence supported treatments such as motivational interviewing, community reinforcement approach, and cognitive behavioral therapy/dialectical behavioral therapy.
- Screening for depression, generalized anxiety disorder, and suicide.

HONORS UNDERGRADUATE THESIS (*Chair)

***Victor Aguiar:** *Gen Z's Mindset Towards and Differences in Mental Health Service Interaction: Applying the Theory of Planned Behavior.* **(Thesis Chair)**

***Akhila Damarla:** *Barriers to Healthcare Utilization Among Undergraduate Students: A Gender Identity Perspective.* **(Thesis Chair)**

***Mai Ly Nguyen-Luu:** *Attitudes And Perceptions Of Mental Health In The Vietnamese Community: A Comprehensive Analysis.* **(Thesis Chair)**

***Abigail Yazdiya:** *Effects Of Language Differences On Healthcare Barriers Experienced By Arab Americans.* **(Thesis Chair)**

***Elizabeth S, Ommi:** *Determining the Differences of Racial Microaggressions Faced by Multiracial Versus Monoracial Minority Patients within Healthcare Settings.* **(Thesis Chair)**

Katherine Olmos: *The Prevalence and Determinants of Substance Use Disorders Among Sexual Minority Adults in the United States.* **(Committee Member)**

Daniel A. Serpas-Medina: *Investigating The Relationship Between Loneliness and Stress in College Students.* **(Committee Member)**

Daniel Gabriel: *Invermectin on Twitter: Investigating Early Advocacy for COVID-19 Vaccine Alternatives.* **(Committee Member)**

Eliana Jacobs: *Diabetes Mellitus Among Black/African Americans: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Epigenetic Research.* (Committee Member)

Camila Cal Mello: *La Carroza Dorada (The Golden Carriage).* (Committee Member)

***Juliet J. Cahow:** *The Girlhood Double-Standard.* (Thesis Co-Chair)

MASTER'S THESES, APPLIED PROJECTS, AND DISSERTATIONS (*Chair)

Annie Jones, *Fear, Uncertainty, and The Chilling Effect: A Case Study of Organizational Racialized Omission* (Dissertation Committee Member)

Courtney Gardner, *A New Dawn of Joy: How Joy is Cultivated Among Black Transgender and Nonbinary Young Adults in Florida.* (Dissertation Committee Member)

Connor Grish, *Community Building and Engagement in LGBTQ+ Communities on Twitch.TV.* (Master's Applied Project Committee Member)

Salema Mohamed, *American Muslim Women's Experiences with Pregnancy and Childbirth in the United States Healthcare System.* (Dissertation Committee Member)

Elise Lorenzo: *Examining Educational Inequalities and Driving Science's Next Generation Forward: GeoBus Program Theory Evaluation.* (Dissertation Committee Member)

Caroline Austin: *Opportunities and Insecurities: Discursive Power and the Neoliberal Transformation of Work in the Great Resignation.* (Dissertation Committee Member)

Lisa Rodriguez: *Measuring the Professional Trajectory of Climate Migrants in Central Florida Post-Hurricane Maria.* (Master's Applied Project Committee Member)

***Carolina Alonso Domech:** *History of the Cuban Diaspora and Responses to July 2021 Protests in Cuba: An In-depth Examination of Emerging Social Movement in Florida.* (Master's Thesis Chair)

Saphronia Carson: *Gendered and Racialized Bodies in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization.* (Master's Thesis Committee Member)

Adrienne Mathews: *Originalist Framing in Two Civil Rights Cases.* (Dissertation Committee Member)

Saphronia Carson: *Constructions of Pregnant and Fetal Bodies in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization.* (Master's Thesis Committee Member)

Emely Matos: *A Critical Intersectional Analysis of Black Doula's Experiences in Maternal Healthcare.* (Master's Thesis Committee Member)

SUMMER MENTORING FELLOWSHIP

2024 – Lauren Lubuhn \$4000

Exploring the Social Construction of Mental Illness Using Google Search Engine Results from 2012-2022.

2024 – Brittany Teeple \$4000

#IndigenousPlacemaking: Creating a Sense of Place for Indigenous Communities Through Social Media.

2023 – Estefany Londoño \$3500

“We’re Girls and Girls Have a Lot of Feelings” Critical Analysis of PMDD Diagnostic and Treatment Journey.

SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

2024 – Akhila Damarla \$2000

Understanding Follow-up Care Dynamics Among College Students and the Possible Role of Patient Navigators.

2024 – Elizabeth Omimi \$2000

Determining the Differences of Racial Microaggressions Faced by Multiracial Versus Monoracial Minority Patients within Healthcare Settings.

2024 – Abigail Yazdiya \$2000

Effects of Language Differences on Healthcare Barriers Experienced by Arab Americans.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (*Student presentation)

Vergara, A. (2026) *PRESIDENTIAL PLENARY: Tales from Florida: Lessons Learned to Shape Sociological Influence.* Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Jacksonville FL

*Corral M. A., Martínez de Pinillos, P., **Vergara, A.** (2026) *Beyond the Monolith: Intersectional Mental Health Among South American Immigrants in Florida.* Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Jacksonville FL.

Vergara, A. (2025). *Empowering Latina Undergraduates: Addressing Income Inequality and the Experiences of Latina Students at Hispanic-Serving Institutions.* Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL

Vergara, A. (2025). *Empowering Latina Undergraduates: Examining the Experiences and*

Needs of Latina Students at Hispanic-Serving Institutions. Southern Sociological Society. Charlotte, NC

*Jones, T. & **Vergara, A.** (2025). *A Thematic Analysis of the Year-End Top Ten Songs from 2019 -2023*. Southern Sociological Society. Charlotte, NC

Vergara, A. (2025). *Supporting Immigrant Students at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)*. Eastern Sociological Society Conference. Boston, MA

*Jones, T. & **Vergara, A.** (2025). *A Thematic Analysis of the Year-End Top Ten Songs from 2019 -2023*. Eastern Sociological Society Conference. Boston, MA

Vergara, A. (2024). *Empowering Immigrant Students at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs): Challenges, Barriers, and Pathways to Success*. Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Nashville, TN

*Damarla, A. & **Vergara, A.** (2024). *Relationship of Patient Ethnicity/Race/Culture to Physician-Patient Communication: A Mixed-Methods Systematic Review*. UCF Student Scholar Symposium. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL

*Nguyen-Luu, ML. & **Vergara, A.** (2024). *Attitudes and Perceptions of Mental Health in the Vietnamese Community: A Comprehensive Analysis*. UCF Student Scholar Symposium. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL

Hawthorne, T.L., Cota, J., **Vergara, A.**, Graham, L., Braden, D. (2024). *“Mapping Beach Debris and Sense of Place with Community Geography”* American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI

Hawthorne, T., Graham, L., **Vergara, A.**, *Wilkerson, B., Palacio, V., Cota, J. & Braden, D. (2024) *Community Geography to Understand Connections Between Coastal Debris and Sense of Place*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Honolulu Hawaii

Vergara, A., Hawthorne, T., Graham, L., Wilkerson, B., Palacio, I., Fermin, C., Cota, J. & Braden, D. (2024). *Participatory Action Research in Belize: Lessons learned from a National Science Foundation REU/RET Site to Prepare the Next Generation of Global Scholars through Community Geography and Geographic Information Systems*. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Honolulu, Hawaii

*Rodriguez, L. & **Vergara, A.** (2024) *#PRStatus: A social media analysis of public opinion*

towards Puerto Rico's political status after Hurricane Maria. Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA

*Londoño, E. & **Vergara, A.** (2024) *"We're girls and girls have a lot of feelings": Critical Analysis of gendered medical dismissiveness in the diagnostic and treatment journey of PMDD.* Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA

*Labuhn, L. & **Vergara, A.** (2024) *"That's crazy!": Exploring the social construction of mental illness using Google search engine results from 2012-2022.* Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA

Vergara, A. (2024). *Where are we now? Donde estamos? The impact on reproductive rights and healthcare access of Latinas in the United States.* Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA

*Nguyen-Luu, ML. & **Vergara, A.** (2024). *Attitudes and Perceptions of Mental Health in the Vietnamese Community: A Comprehensive Analysis.* University of Central Florida. Central Florida Brain Bee presented by the UCF Neuroscience Alliance. Orlando, FL

Vergara, A. (2024) *Exploring the Impact of Marginalized Identities on Teaching Inequality: A Multifaceted Analysis of Political Discourse.* Sociologists for Women in Society. Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

Eichelberger, E., Thornton, A., Hawthorne, T.L., **Vergara, A.**, Graham, L. (2023) *"Community Geography Partnerships for the Next Generation of Science"* at the Applied Geography Conference (AGX). Pittsburgh, PA

Vergara, A. (2023) *Screaming to be Heard! Autoethnography, Intersectionality, the Medical Institution, and Chronic Illness.* Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA

Vergara, A. & Fernandez, K. (2023) *Rompiendo el Silencio! An Intersectional Approach to Understanding Hispanic/Latinx Women's Experiences with Domestic Violence.* Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA

*Rush, L., **Vergara, A.** (2023) *Gender Differences in Adult Diagnoses of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Mental Health Outcomes.* UCF Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship. Orlando, FL

Vergara, A., Stone, A., Cox, J., Carter, S.K., Carter, S. (2023) *Navigating the (non-Hispanic)*

White Space of a Hispanic Serving Institution of Higher Education. Southern Sociological Society. Myrtle Beach, SC

Ibanez, N. & Vergara, A. (2022) StonerTok: Effect of Cannabis Content and Social Acceptance via Tiktok.* Sociology Student Research Showcase. Orlando, FL

Senecharles, M. & Vergara, A. (2022) Representation of the Mental Health of Black Women.* UCF Scholar Symposium. Orlando, FL

Vergara, A. (2022) *Screaming to be Heard! A Collaborative Autoethnography, the Medical Institution, and Chronic Illness.* Southern Sociological Society. Birmingham, AL

Vergara, A., Fernandez, K. & Londono, E. (2022) *Rompiendo el Silencio! An Approach to Understanding Hispanic/Latinx Women's Experiences with Domestic Violence.* Southern Sociological Society. Birmingham, AL

Gallot, J. & Vergara, A. (2022) The Impact of Race/Ethnicity on Obstetric and Gynecologic Diagnoses and Treatment.* Southern Sociological Society. Birmingham, AL

Domech, CA. & Vergara, A. (2022) Exploring the History of Cuban Americans and the Responses to the July 2021 Protest in Cuba.* Southern Sociological Society. Birmingham, AL

Vergara, A. (2022) *Screaming to be Heard! A Collaborative Autoethnography, the Medical Institution, and Chronic Illness.* Sociologists for Women in Society. Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

Vergara, A., Fernandez, K. & Londono, E. (2022) *Rompiendo el Silencio! An Approach to Understanding Hispanic/Latinx Women Experiences with Domestic Violence.* Sociologists for Women in Society. Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

Matos, E. & Vergara, A. (2021). Impact of Community Doulas on the Perinatal Outcomes of women of Color: A Meta-Analysis.* Southern Demographic Association Annual Meeting. Postponed due to COVID-19.

Vergara, A. (2021) *Puerto Rico After Hurricane Maria: Responses to Trauma and Constructing a New Life in Central Florida.* Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, April 2021.

Eisenstark, L. & Vergara, A. (2021). Sorority Women in STEM and Impostor Syndrome.* Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, April 2021.

Cahow, J., Bubriski, A., Vergara, A. (2021). The Girlhood Double-Standard: Girl's Perceptions of Gendered Classroom Expectations.* Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, April 2021

- Matos, E. * & Vergara, A.** (2021). *Impact of Community Doulas on the Perinatal Outcomes of women of Color: A Meta-Analysis*. Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, April 2021
- Vergara, A.** (2020). *Netflix and the New Sociological Lens: Everyday Use of the Sociological Imagination*. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference.
- Vergara, A.** (2020). *Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria: Overcoming Trauma and Constructing a New Life in Central Florida*. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- Vergara, A., Carter, S.** (2020). *#Amamantar: Representations of Breastfeeding Targeting Hispanic/Latinx Populations*. International Sociological Association. Porto Alegre, Brazil. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- Vergara, A., Rivera, F.** (2020). *Can Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Act as a Point of Entry into the Healthcare System? Evaluating the Motivating Factors behind the Use of CAM services by the Hispanic/Latinx Population*. International Sociological Association. Porto Alegre, Brazil. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- Quamina, P. * & Vergara, A.** (2020). *Difference in Racial Disparities in Childbirth Mortality Rates: Why are Black Women Dying?* Southern Sociological Society. Jacksonville, FL. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- Ellis, J. * & Vergara, A.** (2020). *Can Daily Internet Use Cause Self-Reported Anxiety?* Southern Sociological Society Jacksonville, FL. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- Isaiah, J. A. * & Vergara, A.** (2020). *Effects of LGB Awareness on LGB Mental Health*. Southern Sociological Society. Jacksonville, FL. Postponed due to COVID-19.
- Matos, E. * & Vergara, A.** (2020). *Content Analysis of Community Doulas' Impact on Women of Color with Low-income*. UCF Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence (SURE). Cancelled due to COVID-19
- Vergara, A., Carter, S.** (2019). *#Amamantar: Representations of Breastfeeding Targeting Hispanic/Latinx Populations*. Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. New York, NY
- Vergara, A., Rivera, F.** (2019). *Can Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Act as a Point of Entry into the Healthcare System? Evaluating the Motivating Factors behind the Use of CAM services by the Hispanic/Latinx Population*. Presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. New York, NY.
- Vergara, A., Carter, S.** (2019). *#Amamantar: Global Breastfeeding Representations Targeting Hispanic/Latinx populations*. Presented at the Southern Sociological Society Annual

Meeting. Atlanta, GA.

Vergara, A. (2019). *Netflix and the New Sociological Lens: Everyday Use of the Sociological Imagination*. Upcoming presentation at North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Cincinnati, OH.

Vergara, A., Carter, S. (2018). *#Amamantar: Social Media Representations of Breastfeeding Targeting Hispanic/Latinx Populations*. Presented at the 98th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association. Orlando, FL

Vergara, A., Rivera, F. (2018). *Another Way Forward: An Exploration of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) and Psychological Distress in the Hispanic Community*. Presented at 68th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Philadelphia, PA.

Nicholson, H., **Vergara, A.** (2017). *Factors Affecting Telemedicine Use in Mental Health Facilities Throughout the U.S.* Presented at the Graduate Research Forum at University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.

Rivera, F., **Vergara, A.** (2012). *Complementary and Alternative Medicine: A pathway or an alternative for the Hispanic community*. Presented at the Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence at University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.

Cohn, M., Remy, C., **Vergara, A.,** Wax, A. (2011). *Is there a stigma associated with gender composition in teams? An in-depth analysis of gender bias in peer evaluations*. Presented at the Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.

STUDENT MENTORSHIP

Alyssa Perez, a Social Sciences B.S. student pursuing minors in Global Sociology, Intercultural Communication, and International & Global Studies, in applying study abroad coursework toward interdisciplinary academic and global learning goals.

Study Abroad Faculty Advisor. Fall 2025

Allende, Malenys., Cook, Caleb., Doman, Ravi., Fang, Lily., Halleran, Caitlyn., Kaylee, Howard. *Research and Writing Assistants: Department of Sociology Podcast: "Sociology: In the Trenches"*. Spring 2025

Lead Host: Angela Vergara. Co-Host: Amanda Koontz

Jones, Thomas. *Qualitative Content Analysis and Literature Review*. Graduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Fall 2024

Londono, Estefany. *PMDD and Diagnostics: Literature Review*. Graduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Summer 2023

Mohammend, Salema. *Social Inequalities Comprehensive Examination Study Guide*. Summer 2023

Combs, Sean. *It is Deaf, not Death! Social Inequalities and Health*. Graduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Fall 2022

Damarla, Akhila. *Culturally Responsive Care and Patient-Centred Attitudes in the Medical Institution*. Undergraduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Summer 2022

Watkins, Chloe. *Are Social Factors Hindering Infant and Maternal Survivability rates for African Americans in the United States?* Committee Chair Masters Comprehensive Examination. Department of Biomedical Sciences. Summer 2022

Gallot, Jennifer. *The Impact of Race/Ethnicity on Obstetric and Gynecologic Diagnoses and Treatment*. Undergraduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Summer 2022

Senecharles, Maya. *Representation of the Mental Health of Black Women*. Undergraduate Directed Research Faculty Advisor. Spring 2022

Mendez, Aixa. *Qué pasa? BASTA! The Adventure of Colonialism in Puerto Rico at the Wake of Hurricane Maria*. Graduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Fall 2021

Namur, Douglas. *Social Inequalities Comprehensive Examination Study Guide*. Graduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Fall 2021

Matos, Emely. *Content Analysis of Community Doulas' Impact on Women of Color with Low-income*. Graduate Directed Research Faculty Advisor. Fall 2021

*Resulting coauthored paper presented at SDA Annual Meeting, October 2021

Cahow, Juliet. *The Girlhood Double-Standard: Girls' Perceptions of Gendered Classroom Expectations*. Student Scholar Symposium Faculty Mentor Spring 2021

*\$500 Scholarship winner in Social Sciences category

Eisenstark, Lyndsey. *Sorority Women in STEM and Impostor Syndrome*. Student Scholar Symposium Faculty Mentor Spring 2021

Quamina, Pavia. *Differences in Racial Disparities for Childbirth Mortality Rates: Why are Black Women Dying?* Student Scholar Symposium Faculty Mentor Spring 2021

Poulsen, Julie. *The Sociology of Media and Culture*. Research Faculty Advisor. Fall 2020

Matos, Emely. *Content Analysis of Community Doulas' Impact on Women of Color with Low Income*. Undergraduate Independent Study Faculty Advisor. Summer 2020

*Resulting coauthored paper presented at SSS Annual Meeting, April 2021

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2025 HSI Faculty Fellow

The Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (DHSI) Program out of the U.S. Department of Education provides grants to assist HSIs in expanding educational opportunities for, and improving the attainment of, Hispanic and low-income students, by expanding and enhancing academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability. UCF was awarded a \$2.99M DHSI grant in fall 2022 to implement Project POTENCIAL (Promoting Opportunities that Enhance Navigation, Completion, Inclusion, and Learning). The faculty development component of the grant accentuates institutional capacity building by providing faculty with a knowledge base and the tools to cultivate an intentional and inclusive learning environment for all students. The Office for HSI Initiatives invites nominations and applications for a one-year appointment as HSI Faculty Fellow, beginning in the summer 2025 semester.

2024 \$513,879, Hawthorne, T.L. (PI) and Vergara, A. (Co-PI), “Renewal REU/RET Site: Preparing the Next Generation of Global Scholars through Community Geography and Geographic Information Systems” to the National Science Foundation Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Office of Multidisciplinary Activities Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program: submitted September 26, 2023: unfunded.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Panelist, 2026 ISLAC Global Symposium at University of South Florida: Participated in an interdisciplinary panel discussion on mentorship, STEM education, and collaborative approaches to student success alongside scientists and educators from diverse fields.

Faculty Keynote Speaker, *Resilience in Action: Emotional Regulation Techniques and Stress Management Strategies*. National Voices for Equality, Education, and Enlightenment (NVEEE): Peace Ambassadors Leadership Summit. Nicholson School of Communication and Media. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Summer 2025

Faculty Keynote Speaker, *Navigating Success: The Impact of Latin American Student Presence on Academic Achievement in a Hispanic-Serving Institution*. First ISLAC Global Symposium: Mapping Contemporary Challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean. College of Arts and Sciences. University of South Florida. Tampa, FL. Spring 2024

Invited Faculty Panelist. *The Research Journey: Panel for Undergraduate Students*. Office of Undergraduate Research. Introduction to Research Panel. Burnett Honors College. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Spring 2024

Invited Faculty Panelist and Moderator. *“Redefining Internationalism: What does it Mean?”* UCF Global Perspectives & International Initiatives International Education Week. UCF Global. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Fall 2023

Invited Faculty Panelist and Moderator. GPII hosted a panel discussion titled: Redefining Internationalism. The panel included esteemed scholars and community experts who addressed the rapidly changing world and how individuals from different background fit within its context. The conversation included insightful personal perspectives on how it can be both a scourge and great opportunity for growth. Panelists included Dr. Fernando Rivera, Director of the Puerto Rico Research Hub; Dr. Sandra Sousa, Associate Professor of Portuguese at UCF’s Department of Modern Languages and Literatures; Dr. Francisco Fernandez-Rubiera, Professor at the College of Arts and Humanities and Honorary Consul of Spain; and Marlyn Bonzil-Juste, Chairwoman for Greater Haitian American Chamber of Commerce in Orlando.

Faculty Keynote Speaker, *Social Media, Bias, and Breastfeeding: A Latinx Psychosociological Approach*. Department of Sociology and Anthropology Spring 2023 Colloquium. Co-Sponsored by the Psychology Department, CLACS, and WGSS. St. John’s University, New York, NY. Spring 2023

Invited Faculty Panelist, *The Hispanic/Latinx Experience in the United States*. FAMU Law Review-Hispanic American Law Student Association (HALSA) Symposium. College of Law. Florida A & M University. Orlando, FL. Spring 2023

Invited Lecturer, January 2023: “Hispanic/Latinx; Culture and Identity in the United States”. Undergraduate Student Workshop. College of Business and Public Management. School of Criminal Justice and Public Administration. Kean University. Union, NJ

Invited Lecturer, September 2022: “Hispanic/Latinx Culture and Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes: Acculturation and Assimilation: Criminal Justice System, Health Care, and the Workforce”. Undergraduate Student Workshop. College of Business and Public Management. School of Criminal Justice and Public Administration. Kean University. Union, NJ

Invited Lecturer, March 2022: “Medical Sociology Training: Health Inequities and Sociological Factors Affecting Health Care Access” Multicultural Association of Pre-Health Students at UCF. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL

Invited Speaker, December 2021: “Emotional Regulation and Distress Tolerance During the Holidays” QLatinx. Orlando, FL

Invited Lecturer, November 2020: “Medical Sociology and Minority Health” Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law. Undergraduate Student Workshop. University of Florida. Gainesville, FL.

Invited Faculty Panelist, October 2020: “Latinos Stand Together Against Covid” UCF Student Government & Latino Medical Association. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL

Invited Faculty Presenter, October 2020 - Present: Professional Development Seminar Faculty Mentoring Panel Session. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL

Invited Faculty Panelist, September 2020: “What’s in a Name? Latin/a/o/x a Discussion” Virtual Event. Orlando, FL

Panelist, February 2020: “Decolonizing your Syllabus: Creating a Curriculum” Department of Sociology. Graduate Student Workshop. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL.

Invited Lecturer, January 2020: “Minorities in American Society: Hispanic/Latinx Population” Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law. Undergraduate Student Workshop. University of Florida. Gainesville, FL.

Invited Lecturer, September 2019: “Minority Population: Hispanic/Latinx in America” Department of Sociology. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL.

Invited Faculty Presenter, Summer 2018: “Stress, Emotions, and Healthy Communication: A Biopsychosocial Approach to Health”. 6th Hispanic Health Conference. New York, NY. Arlington, TX. Commerce, CA.

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Student Engagement Events, Spring 2026: Created and organized two “Sociology Smoothie Social” student engagement events in February and March 2026 for Academic Exploration Week and Registration/Class Exploration initiatives, promoting Sociology programs, academic pathways, course planning, and student community engagement.

Faculty Representative and Public Sociology Advocate, November 2025: UCF **Spatial Sociology at the 3rd Annual Space Game Tailgate hosted at the UCF FAIRWINDS Alumni Center.**

Goals:

- Promote interdisciplinary public engagement by showcasing the role of spatial sociology and community-based STEM learning within university outreach initiatives.

- Foster community connections through interactive pre-game programming that highlighted sociology, technology, and space-themed innovation to students, alumni, and the broader public.
- Expand visibility of the UCF Spatial Sociology Lab by participating in university-wide traditions and demonstrating the value of social science within STEM-focused educational environments.

Lead STEM Educator and Faculty Representative, October 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology Lab at UCF STEM Day through “Drone Lane: STEM Takes Flight.”

Goals:

- Expand interdisciplinary STEM engagement through hands-on drone technology demonstrations, mapping activities, and applied social science learning experiences for middle school students.
- Promote community-centered and place-based STEM education by connecting sociology, spatial analysis, and emerging technologies in accessible outreach programming.
- Inspire future interest in STEM and social science careers by creating interactive learning environments that emphasize innovation, collaboration, and real-world applications of research and technology.

Lead Faculty Representative, July 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology at The Mobile Lab Coalition 2025 Annual Conference. *STEM in a Moving Environment*. Sponsored by University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Sports Innovation Institute

Goals:

- **Expand Impact through Storytelling and Demonstration**
Showcase how the Spatial Sociology Mobile Lab integrates social science, mapping, and STEM education, and inspire new ways of delivering interdisciplinary, place-based learning.
- **Cultivate Cross-Disciplinary Partnerships**
Engage with fellow mobile lab leaders during Speed Dating, Concurrent Sessions, and Curriculum Showcases to identify shared goals and spark collaborations focused on equity-driven STEM outreach and community engagement.
- **Contribute to Strategic Visioning for Mobile STEM**
Participate in thought-sharing and planning sessions to help shape the future of mobile education by elevating the role of social science in discussions on funding, policy, and adapting to the evolving STEM landscape.

Lead Faculty Representative, July 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology at Geo Explorer Summer Institute. Sponsored by UCF K-12 Initiatives in STEM and iSTEM

Goals:

- To support this incredible week of hands-on STEM learning for rising 6th and 7th Graders.
- Bringing sociology, mapping, and tech together in one powerful experience.
- From drone flights to GPS campus explorations and immersive VR, these students are diving into the world of geospatial science

Lead Faculty Representative, April 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology at UCF Celebrates the Arts: Cocktails in the Cosmos. Sponsored by UCF Alumni Association.

Goals:

- Showcase an immersive VR space experience powered by our very own GIS Geographic Spatial Sociology Lab

Lead Faculty Representative, April 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology at the Dive Into STEM at UCF. Sponsored by the College of Sciences.

Goals:

- 6th–12th graders are invited to Dive Into STEM with:
 - Virtual Reefs
 - Coding Robots
 - Bonus Drone Lane

Lead Faculty Representative, April 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology at the City of Ocoee's Spring into Conservation Event. Sponsored by the City of Ocoee.

Goals:

- Drone demonstrations
- GIS and sustainability lessons
- Conversations with community members and partners

Lead Faculty Representative, March 2025: UCF Spatial Sociology at the Spark STEM Fest at the Orlando Science Center. Sponsored by the College of Sciences.

Goals:

- Educate the community on the importance of STEM education.
- Inspire interest in STEM careers for participants of all ages.
- Promote UCF student recruitment into STEM programs.

Invited Speaker, October 2022: "Uniquely Sociology" Department of Sociology Podcast.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxGgXsPBDTo>

Interview Article, April 2022: "Mujeres Latinas e Hispanas enfuerzan representación en puestos de liderazgo y posiciones administrativas"

http://www.nicholsonstudentmedia.com/knightly_latino/mujeres-latinas-e-hispanas-enfuerzan-representaci-n-en-puestos-de-liderazgo-y-posiciones-administrativas/article_6dbb3dd0-962c-11eb-8bc4-e704299a46ed.html

Invited Panelists, March 2022: “Race, Ethnicity, and Sex” The Sex Café Podcast.
<https://rss.com/podcasts/thesexcafe/455527/>

Newspaper Article, March 2022: “Let’s talk about sex: UCF professor hosts Sex Cafe Podcast” <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/education/os-ne-ucf-professor-podcast-about-sex-20220405-h3q66mq2pncbpazeotrpk24obe-story.html?fbclid=IwAR0pRRJoWnh6bOKjzSZwAEPSL3XjXQuYm87BQ6Ax0tgEmrwG8kZZ14cw5NY>

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2025 HSI Faculty fellow

Faculty presenter, HSI - Title V POTENCIAL New Faculty Orientation

Faculty Presenter, Teaching and Learning Day: *Resilience in Acción: Emotional Regulation and Distress Management for HSI Communities*. Faculty Center

Leadership Positions

Undergraduate Director of Sociology and Social Science. Department of Sociology. Fall 2024 – Present.

Chair and Committee Member. COS UG Curriculum & Standards. College of Sciences. Fall 2024 – Present.

Chair. Visibility Committee. Department of Sociology. Fall 2024 – Present.

NSF REU/RET Faculty Mentor. Citizen Science GIS. Department of Sociology, Spring 2022 - Present.

Chair, PR/Social Media Committee. Department of Sociology, Spring 2021 – Spring 2025.

Member, Departmental Graduate Comprehensive Examination: Social Inequalities Grading Committee. Department of Sociology, Spring 2021 – Spring 2025

Member, Departmental Graduate Program Committee. Department of Sociology, Spring 2021 – Present

Professional Service

Faculty Judge, UCF Student Scholar Symposium. College of Sciences. University of Central Florida. Spring 2026

Chair, Social Inequalities Doctoral Comprehensive Examination Grading Committee. Department of Sociology. Fall 2025

Committee Member, Assistant/Associate Dean of Undergraduate Student Success in STEM Hiring Committee. College of Sciences. University of Central Florida. Spring 2025 - Summer 2025

Faculty Judge, UCF Student Scholar Symposium. College of Sciences. University of Central Florida. Spring 2025

Committee Member. Teaching Incentive Program. College of Sciences. University of Central Florida. Fall 2024 – Spring 2025.

Faculty Representative, Career Services and Experiential Learning Advisory Board. University of Central Florida. Fall 2024 – Spring 2025.

Faculty Judge, UCF Student Scholar Symposium. College of Sciences. University of Central Florida. Spring 2024

Faculty Presenter. *CV/Resume Writing Workshop*. Department of Sociology. University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. Spring 2024

Subcommittee Award Chair. *SWS Barbara Rosenblum Scholarship for the Study of Women and Cancer*. Sociologists for Women in Society. Spring 2024

Moderator, *Breakfast with Scholars: Mindfulness and Well-being in Academia*. Sociologists for Women in Society. New Orleans, LA. Spring 2023

Moderator, *Navigating the Conflicts Around Scholar Activism: Co-Sponsored by the Student Caucus and Academic Justice Committee*. Sociologists for Women in Society. New Orleans, LA. Spring 2023

Faculty Presenter, First Year Experience at UCF. Transfer Students and Family Orientation. Well-Being at UCF. (In Spanish). University of Central Florida. Fall 2022

Anonymous (double-blind) Peer Reviewer. *UCF Research Foundation – Understanding and Advancing Racial Equity on Social Media*. Fall 2022.

Anonymous (double-blind) Peer Reviewer. *Sociological Inquiry*, Summer 2022.

Mentor, Alpha Kappa Delta. Spring 2022.

Faculty Judge, UCF Student Scholar Symposium. College of Sciences. University of Central Florida. Spring 2022

Presider, Experiences with Interpersonal Violence. Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. April 2022.

Moderator, Rethinking Feminist Sociologies in the Era of Global Pandemics. Southern Sociological Society. Birmingham, AL Spring 2022

Committee Member, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Program. English Department Mentor. Burnett Honors College. Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

Sociology Faculty Representative, Department of Sociology, Co-Listed Courses Collaboration Initiative. UCF/VC Downtown. Fall 2021

Faculty Facilitator, Syllabi Workshop. Department of Sociology. University of Central Florida. Spring 2021

Presider & Discussant, Reproductive Experiences on the Margins *Co-Sponsored by SWS – South and SSS Committee on Gender and Sexuality. Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, April 2021.

Presider, Racializing Women's Health. Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, April 2021.

Faculty Member, High Impact Practices (HIP) Course Coach Scholarship Program. Division of Student Learning and Academic Success. University of Central Florida. Spring 2021.

* Spring 2021: Data Analysis Class: Mentor two student coaches

1. Undergraduate student received a scholarship of \$300
2. Graduate student received scholarship of \$300

Faculty Member, SWS Latin Liberatory Praxis Group. Sociologist for Women in Society. Spring 2021 – Present

Faculty Research Mentor, Honors Independent Research Program. UCF/Valencia College Downtown. Fall 2020 – Present

Anonymous (double-blind) Peer Reviewer. *The Pegasus Review: UCF Undergraduate Research Journal*, 2020

Presider, Latina/Latino Sociology Roundtables. Table: Institutions and Community. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference, August 2020.

Teaching Development

UCF Summer Faculty Development Institute: Hispanic Serving Institution Track. Spring 2025

UCF Spring Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Faculty Learning Community (FLC). Spring 2025. The HSI Faculty Learning Community was an environment for faculty members to investigate their academic self-concept and eventually pass on those reflective tools to students.

FCTL 2024 Teaching and Learning Day: HSI and Curriculum Development. Fall 2024

UCF Teaching and Learning with AI Conference: A Sharing Conference Between Educational Practitioners Hosted by the University of Central Florida. Summer 2024

UCF Summer Faculty Development Institute: Career Development: Classroom to Careers Track. Spring 2024

UCF Summer Faculty Development Institute: Hispanic Serving Institution Track. Spring 2023

Introduction to Sociology (SYG2000) Quality Online Course Designation. Center for Distributed Learning. Fall 2021

Alpha Kappa Delta and Teaching & Learning. Workshop on Teaching Theory. Spring 2021

TLC-z Teaching with Lecture Capture: Zoom Edition Certificate. Faculty Development. Center for Distributed Learning. Spring 2021.

Alpha Kappa Delta and Teaching & Learning. Workshop on Teaching Research Methods. Spring 2021.

Essentials of Online Teaching Certification. Orlando, FL. Center for Distributed Learning. Summer 2020. University of Central Florida.

Digital Professor Certification. Orlando, FL. Faculty Development. Summer 2020. Valencia College.

Summer Faculty Development Conference. Orlando, FL. 2020 Diversity Track: Diversity and Inclusion: Navigating Difficult Conversations on Campus. Summer 2020. University of Central Florida. Cancelled due to COVID-19.

Women Faculty Mentoring and Networking Community. Orlando, FL. New Women Faculty Track. Spring 2020. University of Central Florida

Faculty Development. Orlando, FL. SEED I: Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity Track. Summer 2019. Valencia College

Other University Service

Graduate Faculty Member, College of Graduate Studies. Applied Sociology, Domestic Violence, and Medical Sociology MA track. Sociology PhD. Fall 2020 – Present

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- UCF Sociology Excellence in Undergraduate Mentoring Award **May 2026**
- UCF Football Academic Success Partner of the Game during the University of Central Florida Homecoming football game for contributions to student success and academic excellence. **October 2025**
- UCF Sociology Department Faculty Excellence in Leadership Award **May 2025**
- UCF Sociology Department Faculty Excellence in Research Award **May 2024**
- NSF REU/RET: Citizen Science GIS Faculty Mentor **May 2023**
- NSF REU/RET: Citizen Science GIS Faculty Mentor **May 2022**
- UCF Graduate Student Research Paper Award **May 2020**
- UCF Graduate Student Research Paper Award **May 2019**
- Summer Mentorship Program **Summer 2016**

CERTIFICATIONS

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Certified **2017 – Present**
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

- Completed training

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Certified **2014**
Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY

- Completed training

Question, Prevent, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper **2010**
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

- Completed training

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) **2010**
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

- Completed training

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Professional Memberships

- American Sociological Association

- Society for the Study of Social Problems
- Southern Sociological Society
- Sociologist for Women in Society - South
- American Psychological Association
- Tau Sigma National Honor Society
- Alpha Kappa Delta
- Psychological Society at the University of Central Florida

SKILLS

Languages

- Fluent in English, Spanish, and working knowledge in French

Computer Skills

- Microsoft Office Applications – Experienced in Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Publisher
- PAWS Statistics 18 Software
- STATA Statistic Software
- DARS – Degree audit system
- NVIVO