

Javier Garcia-Perez, PhD | MSW

School of Social Policy & Practice
University of Pennsylvania

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023— **Postdoctoral Fellow** School of Social Policy & Practice, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Mentors: Dr. Desmond Patton, SAFELab & Dr. Tamara Cadet

EDUCATION

2023 **Ph.D.** Social Welfare, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
Dissertation: *Viviendo en la Intersección: Queer Femme Latinx Individuals Experience Living at the Intersection of Identities*
Committee: Dr. Laura S. Abrams (Chair), Dr. Ian W. Holloway, Dr. Brian Keum, Dr. Anita Tijerina Revilla

2017 **M.S.W.** Clinical Concentration, University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice, Philadelphia, PA

2017 **M.S.** Nonprofit Leadership, University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice, Philadelphia, PA

2013 **M.A.** Sociocultural Anthropology, Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, New York, NY

2011 **B.A.** Chicana/Chicano Studies, University of California, Davis

AREAS OF INTEREST

LGBTQ+ Latinx mental health and well-being; Trauma; Intersectionality; Identity based trauma and mental health; Social work education; Community based methodologies; qualitative methodologies; Digital well-being; Ethnic-Racial identity; LGBTQ+ identity; Chicanx studies.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Sonsteng-Person, M., **Garcia-Perez, J.**, Copeland, V., Lievano-Karim, L., (2023) "What I would do to take away your pain:" A photovoice project conducted by mothers of children with medical complexity. *Journal of Qualitative Health Research*. DOI: [10.1177/10497323221146047](https://doi.org/10.1177/10497323221146047)

2. Brock-Petroshius, K., **Garcia-Perez, J.**, Gross, M., Abrams, L., (2022) Colorblind attitudes, empathy, and shame: preparing white students for anti-racist social work practice. *Journal of Social Work Education*. DOI: [10.1080/10437797.2022.2045233](https://doi.org/10.1080/10437797.2022.2045233)
3. Abrams, L. S., **Garcia-Perez, J.**, Brock-Petroshius, K., & Applegarth, D. M. (2021). Racism, colorblindness, and social work education: an exploratory study of California MSW student beliefs and experiences. *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*, 714830. <https://doi.org/10.1086/714830>
4. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2020) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer + Latinx youth mental health disparities: A systematic review, *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Social Services*, 32:4, 440-478, DOI: [10.1080/10538720.2020.1764896](https://doi.org/10.1080/10538720.2020.1764896)

Forthcoming

1. Sonsteng-Person, M., Spoth, A.P., Hostetter, C. R., Akapnitis, I., Barbera, R., Joseph, A., Mackey, C., **Garcia-Perez, J.**, (*Under Review*) A new world cannot be built alone: an abolitionist framework for collective action in social work. *Abolitionist Perspectives in Social Work*
2. Robles, G., Dellucci, T. V., **Garcia-Perez, J.**, Starks, T. J. (*Under Review*) Validation of the Modified Machismo for Gay Latino Men Scale (Spanish Version) for use among Latinx sexual minority men in the United States. *Journal of Men's Studies*

In Preparation

1. **Garcia-Perez, J.**, (*In Preparation*) "It comes at a price:" LGBTQ+ Latinx living with multiple minoritized identities.
2. **Garcia-Perez, J.**, (*In Preparation*) "I should have been born different:" California Trans masculine Latinx experience.

Research Reports

1. González-Vásquez, A. L., López, M. N., *Contributor: Garcia-Perez, J.* (2021). The high road to economic prosperity: an assessment of the California Workforce Development Board's high road training partnership initiative. UCLA Labor Center. [Link.](#)

Other Publications

1. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2016). The Fear of Writing: How White Supremacy Normalized my Cognitive Distortions. *Collectivist Journal Volume One*, School of Social Policy & Practice University of Pennsylvania. [Link.](#)

FUNDED RESEARCH

- 2018-2019 **Principal Investigator**, *The Relationship between discrimination and trauma among queer Latinx youth—a systematic review*.
Funding: UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Award (\$6000)
Responsibilities: Conduct a systematic review of existing academic literature. Developed a qualitative analysis framework. Manuscript writing and disseminate findings.
- 2017-2019 **Co-Principal Investigator**, *Building evidence of racism-induced psychological barriers to effective racial equity social work practice*.
Funding: Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. Social Justice Award (\$1,500) & Diversity, Disparities, and Difference (D3) Initiative Research Grant (\$2,000)
Responsibilities: Co-develop survey instrument and support administration of survey to California MSW students. Conduct literature review and aid in analysis plan. Support with the dissemination of findings.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2022 **Graduate Student Researcher**, UCLA Pritzker Center
Project: *Blind Removals*
Principal Investigators: Tyrone Howard, PhD
Funding: Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services & the Pritzker Foster Care Initiative
Responsibilities: Support with the preparation of IRB materials and IRB submission, lead a research team to conduct structured focus groups, transcribe/clean data, conduct data analysis.
- 2021-2023 **Principal Investigator**, *Viviendo en la Intersección (Dissertation)*
Responsibilities: Prepare and submitted IRB application, renewals, and amendments. Recruited participants, developed data collection instruments, collect data through semi-structured interviews, managed qualitative data in ATLAS.ti, analyzed data, and present findings at academic conferences. Prepare manuscripts for peer-review publication.
- 2020-2021 **Principal Investigator**, *LGBTQ+ Latinx Trauma*
Responsibilities: Prepare and submitted IRB application, renewals, and amendments. Recruited participants, developed data collection instruments, collect data through semi-structured interviews, managed qualitative data in ATLAS.ti, analyzed data, and present findings at academic conferences. Prepare manuscripts for peer-review publication.
- 2020 **Graduate Student Researcher**, UCLA Labor Center
Project: *California Workforce Development Workforce Equity Initiative*
Principal Investigators: Ana Luz Gonzalez-Vasquez, PhD and Magaly Lopez, MA
Funding: The James Irvine Foundation
Responsibilities: Conduct a literature review and support in the development of dissemination materials.

- 2020-2021 **Co-Principal Investigator, Queering BLM**
Responsibilities: Review existing academic literature, social media (i.e. Instagram, Twitter) and traditional media (i.e. newspapers), developed processes to systematically collect data, managed qualitative data in ATLAS.ti. Developed a qualitative analysis framework. Manuscript writing and disseminate findings.
- 2019-2020 **Graduate Student Researcher, UCLA Labor Center**
Project: *The California Workforce Development Board High Road Training Partnership Evaluation*
Principal Investigators: Ana Luz Gonzalez-Vasquez, PhD and Magaly Lopez, MA
Funding: California Workforce Development Board
Responsibilities: Conduct literature review, support with structured interview data collection from grantee partners. Support with data management/organization. Conduct qualitative data analysis using Dedoose. Support with manuscript writing and dissemination.

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2022-2023 **University Fellowship**
 University of California, Los Angeles
- 2021-2022 **Meyer and Renee Luskin Fellowship**
 University of California, Los Angeles
- 2020 **Department of Social Welfare Summer Award**
 University of California, Los Angeles
- 2018 **Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Award**
 University of California, Los Angeles Graduate Division
- 2017-2021 **Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship**
 University of California, Los Angeles Graduate Division
- 2016-2017 **Master of Science, Nonprofit Leadership Scholarship**
 University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice
- 2015-2017 **Master of Social Work Scholarship**
 University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice
- 2010-2011 **Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program**
 University of California, Davis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice

- Fall 2023 **Instructor**, Social Work 6010 History of Philosophy of Social Work & Social Welfare *Graduate Level

UCLA, Luskin School of Public Affairs

- Spring 2023 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 202B Dynamics of Human Behavior Child and Adolescent Psychological Functioning **Graduate Level* (Dr. S. Dunlap)
- Spring 2023 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 232 Prevention and Promotion **Graduate Level* (Professor M. Talley)
- Winter 2023 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 214B Leadership for Social Change **Graduate Level* (Dr. K. Cooper)
- Winter 2023 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Public Affairs 114 People, Organizations, and Systems (Dr. J. Leap)
- Fall 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 202A Dynamics of Human Behavior **Graduate Level* (Professor L. Alongi Brinderson)
- Fall 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Public Affairs 116 Using Qualitative Methods to Understand Social Problems and their Solutions (Dr. A. Armenta)
- Spring 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 232 Prevention and Promotion in Health and Mental Health **Graduate Level* (Professor M. Talley)
- Spring 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 202A Dynamics of Human Behavior **Graduate Level* (Professor L. Alongi Brinderson)
- Winter 2022 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Public Affairs 170, Civil Society, Nonprofits and Philanthropy (Dr. H.K. Anheier)
- Fall 2021 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Public Affairs 50 Foundations and Debates in Public Thought (Dr. G.M. Segura)
- Spring 2021 **Teaching Associate**, Department of Public Affairs 125 Creating Safe and Welcoming Schools (Dr. R. Astor)
- Winter 2021 **Teaching Associate**, Department of Public Affairs 80 How Environments Shape Human Development (Dr. I. Holloway)
- Spring 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Social Welfare, Social Welfare 232 Prevention and Promotion in Health and Mental Health **Graduate Level* (Dr. I. Holloway)
- Winter 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Public Affairs M142 Latino Social Policy (Dr. F. Torres-Gil)

Guest Lecture Presentations

1. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2023) *There is no particular way of existing: Queer Femme Latinx at the Intersection of Identities*. Presented for UCLA, Department of Social Welfare: 232 Prevention and Promotion in Health and Mental Health taught by Professor M. Talley. Spring Quarter.
2. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2023) *Queer Latinx in Context: Implications and Directions for Practice*. Presented for Denver University Graduate School of Social Work: 4132 Power, Privilege, and Oppression taught by Dr. Melanie Sonsteng-Person. Winter Quarter.
3. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2021) *Understanding Intersectionality*. Presented for UCLA, Department of Public Affairs: 80 How Environments Shape Human Development taught by Dr. Ian Holloway. Winter Quarter.
4. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2021) *Chronic Stress, Multiple Stressors and an Intersectional understanding*. Presented for CSULA, Department of Child Development: 4360 Family Stress and Resilience: Cultural Considerations taught by Professor Jason Anthony Plummer. Spring Semester
5. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2020) *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ Latinx Youth Mental Health Disparities: A Systematic Review*. Presented for UCLA, Department of Social Welfare: 232 Prevention and Promotion in Health and Mental Health taught by Dr. Ian Holloway. Spring Quarter.

PRESENTATION

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

1. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2023, January). Cheated an Upbringing of Boyhood: Transmasculine Latinx Experience. (Oral Presentation) Society for Social Work Research, Phoenix, AZ.
2. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2022, June). I should have been born different: LGBTQ+ Latinx experience holding multiple minoritized identities. (Oral Presentation) LGBTQ Research Symposium, University of Kansas Center for LGBTQ+ Research & Advocacy, Virtual.
3. Baca-Atlas, S., Agha, E., Hogg, L., Mendez, A., **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2022, January). Gatekeeping as a Mechanism of Systemic Racism: BIPOC Student Perspective. (Roundtable) Society for Social Work Research, Washington, DC.
4. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2022, January). Pilot Study: LGBTQ+ Latinx Experiences with Minoritize Identities. (ePoster) Society for Social Work Research, Washington, DC.
5. Hart, D., **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2021, November). From Assimilation Strategies to Challenging White Supremacy: Anti-Blackness Activism within Queer Online Communities. (Oral Presentation) Association for Ethnic Studies, Bowling Green, OH.

6. Hart, D., **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2021, June). Queering #BlackLivesMatter: Representation and Strategies of Queer Anti-Blackness Activism. (Oral Presentation) LGBTQ Research Symposium, University of Kansas Center for LGBTQ+ Research & Advocacy, Virtual.
7. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2020, January). California MSW Students of Color Experience with Discrimination: Implications for Student Engagement. (Oral Presentation) Society for Social Work Research, Washington, DC.
8. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2019, October). Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioral Responses of MSW Students to Racial Issues. (Oral Presentation) Council on Social Work Education, Denver, CO.
9. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2019, April). The Relationship between Discrimination and Trauma among Queer Latinx Youth— A Systematic Review. (Oral Presentation) National Association of Chicana Chicano Studies, Albuquerque, NM.
10. de Luria, L., **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2016, May). “Cultural Concepts & Norms in Mexican & Central American Immigrants. (Oral Presentation) CPHU-Asylum Collective Group. Bala Cynwyd, PA.
11. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2012, April). “Dreamer: The Unifying Immigrant Identity (Oral Presentation) National Association of Ethnic Studies Conference. New Orleans, LA.
12. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2012, April). “Is there a pan-immigrant identity? A critical look at the D.R.E.A.M. Act and its use for mobilization. (Poster Presentation) Yale University Bouchet Conference on Diversity in Graduate Education. New Haven, CT.
13. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2012, March). Perceptions of Immigration through Media Production: Dominant vs. Counter Dominant Discourse. (Oral Presentation) National Association of Chicana Chicano Studies, Chicago, IL.

Invited Presentations

1. **Garcia-Perez, J.** (2023, February). Viviendo en la Intersección: Queer Latinx Individuals’ Experiences at the Intersection of Identities. Boston University School of Social Work Equity & Inclusion Speaker Series. [Virtual](#).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2021— **Reviewer**, Journal of LGBT Youth
- 2020— **Reviewer**, Journal of Psychology & Sexuality
- 2020 **Planning Committee Member**, *2020 UCLA Minority Health Conference; Truth to Power: Exercising Political Voice to Achieve Health Equity*, UCLA Center for the Study of Racism, Social Justice, and Health
- 2019-2021 **Doctoral Student Representative**, Doctoral Program Steering Committee, UCLA Department of Social Welfare

2019-2021 **SSWR Doctoral Student Committee:** Mentoring Subcommittee, Society for Social Work and Research

2017-2019 **Student Representative,** Dean's Doctoral Student Advisory Committee (Inaugural), UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2018-2022 **Alumni Interviewer,** Undergraduate Admissions, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

2015 **Steering Committee,** Abyssinian Development Corporation, New York, NY

2013-2015 **Cabinet Member,** Thurgood Marshall Academy, Harlem, NY

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-2017 **MSW Clinical Intern,** Albert Einstein Medical Center: Immunodeficiency Center (IDC), Philadelphia, PA

- Manage communication with clients in order to establish healthy and trustworthy client-practitioner relationships.
- Conduct psychotherapy for 4-5 HIV+ clients with intersecting marginalized social identities.
- Support patients with psychosocial needs during a medical visit, walk-in hours and via phones.
- Co-facilitate and collaborate with the IDC's Consumer Advisory Board to improve the institution's quality of care.
- Participate in psychotherapy team meetings to establish appropriate care.

2015-2016 **MSW Clinical Intern,** La Puerta Abierta/The Open Door, Philadelphia, PA

- Manage communication with clients to establish healthy and trustworthy client-practitioner relationships.
- Conduct culturally-specific and competent psychotherapy in Spanish for 5-6 cases in a variety of settings (individual, couples' and group).
- Co-lead and coordinate school interventions for recently-immigrated, undocumented high school age youth.
- Interview Latin-American immigrants and write psychosocial evaluations for relief of status in immigration proceedings in collaboration with the Clinical Supervisor.

2013-2015 **Program Director,** Thurgood Marshall Academy ExapndED Learning Time Program, New York, NY

- Develop and implement a student-centered, inquiry-based, and Common Core-aligned middle school afterschool program with a \$432,000 annual program budget.
- Oversee the hiring and professional development of seventeen staff members and teachers.

- Perform program quality evaluations to ensure that desired outcomes are met.
- Secure and maintain required licenses and permits (New York Department of Health SACC).
- Participate and present at school leadership cabinet meetings and Parent Teacher Association meetings.
- Build and sustain collaborative partnerships with community organizations, colleges/universities, cultural institutions, businesses, and grant funders.

2012-2013 **Program Assistant**, Thurgood Marshall Academy ExapndED Learning Time Program, New York, NY

- Collect and input program data (student records, daily attendance records, and student outcomes) and generate reports.
- Manage all program evaluation processes and track program progress against desired outcomes.
- Prepare and process all fiscal documents and materials, including time-sheets, requisitions, reimbursements, budget reports, and invoices.

2010-2011 **Founding Student Director**, Collective Program, Student Recruitment & Retention Center, University of California, Davis

- Develop and oversee project proposal and operating budget of \$25,000.
- Implement and lead professional development opportunities center-wide for staff.
- Oversee recruitment and retention initiatives for prospective and current transfer students.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2021— LGBTQ Caucus of Social Work Students & Faculty

2021— Association for Ethnic Studies (AES)

2019— Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

2017— Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)

2017— National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

2012— National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS)

2012-2015 National Association for Ethnic Studies (NAES)

CERTFICATIONS & TRAININGS

2020 Assessment & Grading: Measuring Student Achievement in the Classroom, UCLA Center for the Advancement of Teaching

2020 Active Learning Strategies for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, UCLA Center for the Advancement of Teaching

- 2020 How Students Learn, UCLA Center for the Advancement of Teaching
- 2020 Interrupting Bias to Cultivate Inclusivity, UCLA Center for the Advancement of Teaching
- 2019 Creating Inclusive Classrooms, UCLA Center for the Advancement of Teaching
- 2016 Small Group Processes, University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice
- 2016 Design Thinking for Social Impact, University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice
- 2016 Psychological Evaluation Interviewing & Report Writing, La Puerta Abierta/The Open Door
- 2016 Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice (35 hrs.)
- 2015 Core Competencies for Supervisors of Youth Work Professionals Community Resource Exchange Department of Youth & Community Development

LANGUAGE

Spanish Native Fluency