

GISELLE PÉREZ-AGUILAR

CURRICULUM VITAE

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- 2020-Present University of California, San Francisco, Medical Sociology Doctoral Program. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Stacy Torres
- 2016 University of Michigan, MSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker—License No. 113755
- 2012 University of California at Berkeley, BA in Social Welfare and with honors in Sociology

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023-24 COMEXUS Fulbright García-Robles Grant
- 2023 3rd Place UCSF Synapses Storytelling Contest—Non-Fiction Category
- 2022 Harold Varmus, MD, Endowed Fund for Global Health Scholars
- 2020-22 Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship
- 2015-16 Detroit Clinical Scholar, University of Michigan School of Social Work
- 2008-12 The UC Berkeley Achievement Award Program

TEACHING

UCSF School of Nursing | Spring 2023, Nursing 211

As teaching assistant for a graduate level course on health policy and leadership, I reviewed and assigned grades on weekly assignments and final team projects, and responded to student inquiries in a timely manner. I participated in weekly meetings with instructors and TAs.

UCSF Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences | Winter 2023, Sociology 237

As instructor of seminar for first year doctoral students, I covered the topics of decolonial qualitative methods, negotiating entrée, literature reviews, research purpose, questions, and specific aims, using interactive tools like google jam boards and decolonial pedagogies

PUBLICATIONS

Pérez-Aguilar, G., “Healing Cycles of Institutional Harm with Indigenous Wisdom.” UCSF Synapses. Published online on September 19, 2023

Pérez-Aguilar, G., “Traumatic grief and dismantling anti-Brownness in the Uvalde school mass shooting aftermath.” UCSF Synapses. Published online on January 15, 2022

James, J., Riddle, L, **Pérez-Aguilar, G.**, “Prison life is very hard and it’s made harder if you’re isolated”: COVID-19 and the mental health of incarcerated women. Health Disparities Among

Criminal Justice-involved Older Adults special issue. *International Journal of Prisoner Health*. (2022)

Valdovinos, C., **Pérez-Aguilar, G.**, Gonzalez Huerta, R., Barrios, C., Gutierrez, G., Mendez, C., Abhat, A., Moreno, G., Brown, A., Casillas, A. *The Safety Net's Digital Language: Electronic Health Literacy among Linguistically Diverse Patients in the Los Angeles County Safety Net Health System*. *Ethnicity & Disease* (2022)

Casillas, A. **Pérez-Aguilar G**, Abhat A, Gutierrez G, Olmos-Ochoa T, Mendez C, Mahajan A., Brown A, Moreno, G. Su salud a la mano (your health at hand): patient perceptions about a bilingual patient portal in the Los Angeles safety net. *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*, Volume 26, Issue 12, December 2019, Pages 1525–1535, Published: 02 August 2019

Dudovitz RN, Wong MD, **Pérez-Aguilar G**, Kim G, Chung PJ. Update on how School Environments, Social Networks, and Self-Concept impact Risky Health Behaviors. *Academic Pediatrics*

Dudovitz RN, **Pérez-Aguilar G**, Kim G, Wong MD, Chung PJ. How Urban Youth Perceive Relationships Among School Environments, Social Networks, Self-Concept, and Substance Use. *Academic Pediatrics* 17.2 (2017): 161-167

UNDER REVIEW

Hoskins, D., **Pérez-Aguilar, G**, Campos-Navarro, R. “Ancestral healers’ experiences of marginalization when working with biomedical professionals.” *American Psychologist special issue on Practicing Decolonial and Liberation Psychologies*.

Pollowitz, M., **Pérez-Aguilar, G.**, et al. "Indigenous One Health: Connecting Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Western Science" *CABI One Health*.

James, J., **Pérez-Aguilar, G.**, Riddle, L., Elster, A., Medical neglect as carceral violence: How incarcerated women seek health, give care, and resist violence behind bars. *All of this Safety is Killing Us: Health Justice through Prison, Police, and Border Abolition*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Studies –Clinical Interventionist | 2021-23

This clinical intervention study aims to test the feasibility and acceptability of a Behavioral Activation (BA) intervention for depression among Latinos living with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. As a bilingual interventionist, I delivered the 8-week BA intervention to Spanish speaking participants, attended bi-monthly meetings with the study team, and completed clinical notes within 48 hours of sessions. Additionally, I contributed to a manuscript on the topic of HIV care for Latine peoples

UCSF Osher Center for Integrative Health | 2022

As a summer Integrative Health Equity and Applied Research (IHEAR) fellow I deepened the phenomenological analysis for my qualitative pilot project on traditional healing as trauma healing and community-based care strategies

UCSF Institute of Health & Aging—Graduate Student Researcher (GSR) | 2020-22

Yoga for urinary incontinence management among older women: this mixed methods research project, following a sequential explanatory design aims to assess the learning experiences of older women in a yoga intervention trial and contribute to the literature on how older women can use yoga as a symptom management and wellness tool for urinary incontinence. As a Graduate Student Researcher, I reviewed audio interviews and transcriptions for content consistency, trained another assistant/colleague in learning how to use Atlas Ti coding software, supported data analysis with coding, writing analytic memos and participating in ongoing team meetings and discussions.

Chronic aging among system impacted women: this qualitative research explores compounding outcomes of chronic health and aging among system impacted Black and non-black women, using Black feminist theories and intersectional frameworks. As Graduate Student Researcher, I coded and analyzed interviews using Atlas Ti, conducted literature reviews, brainstormed ideas for publications with research team members, and contributed to manuscript development.

UCLA Department of Internal Medicine—Research Associate | 2017-19

This qualitative study explored barriers to the accessibility of the electronic health portal by limited English proficient (LEP) patients with heart disease and/or diabetes. As lead research associate, I recruited largely low-income Latino patients from the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and Mid-Valley Comprehensive Clinic to participate in English or Spanish focus groups that explored barriers and ways to improve access to the LA County online health portal, performed qualitative data analysis using Atlas Ti software and contributed to presentations at local and national meetings and two peer-reviewed publications

University of Michigan Parenting in Context Research Lab—Research Assistant | 2015-16

This tele-health intervention aimed to increase emotional bonds between first time African American fathers and their newborn babies through play. As research assistant, I developed culturally appropriate messages about positive discipline and father engagement in early childhood, created online surveys using Qualtrics, pilot tested the acceptability and effectiveness of messages administered through text-based programs, and conducted literature reviews on the use of social media to engage new parents

UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine—Research Associate | 2014-15

This qualitative study investigated how the experiences youth had in high school influenced their social networks, self-concept, and substance use decisions. As the main research associate I managed IRB applications and the study protocol, was the primary contact recruiting and coordinating over 30 in depth interviews with youth from low-income minority neighborhoods, attended all interviews and recorded non-verbal communication and emerging themes, contributed to codebook development and conducted qualitative data analysis using a grounded

theory approach in Atlas Ti, and contributed to presentations at national meetings and two peer-reviewed publications.

UCLA Center for Community Health—Research Coordinator | 2013-15

This mixed-methods study aimed to develop a trauma-informed substance abuse treatment for minority youth with post-traumatic stress and major depression symptoms and testing its efficacy and adaptability, compared to standard substance abuse treatment. As research coordinator, I recruited and screened minority youth and their parents for eligibility in the full study, administered baseline and follow up interviews assessing for substance abuse, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), managed study databases, IRB process, and supervised research assistants

COMMUNITY SERVICE OR OTHER EXPERIENCES

Volunteer and invited speaker to “Compartición de Saberes Ancestrales” at the 13th El Llamado del Caracol, April 20-21, 2024, Amecameca, Estado de México, México.

El Sol da Para Todxs: Médicas tradicionales de Oaxaca como defensoras y guardianas de la medicina tradicional Indígena. Jornada Académica. March 22, 2024. CIESAS, Pacifico Sur, Oaxaca de Juárez, Oaxaca, México.

Indigenizing Mental Health Practices: Caring for Mental Health Providers, Migrant Communities, and Traditional Healers. 2024 Latinx Social Workers Organization Symposium, Presentations on February 22-24, 2024. Oaxaca de Juárez, Oaxaca, México

Volunteer at Hoja Santa’s Healing Clinic and annual anniversary healing ceremony, December 1-3, 2023, Zipolite, Oaxaca, México.

Curanderes as Portals of Trauma Healing and Liberation Wellness. 2022 Annual Conference of the National Latinx Psychological Association. Poster Session and Roundtable discussion on October 21-22. Denver, CO.

Curanderes as Portals of Trauma Healing and Liberatory Community Care Practices. 2022 Annual Conference of Integrative Medicine 4 the Underserved. Poster Session on October 6-8, 2022. Virtual.

Exploring the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of incarcerated women and correctional healthcare providers. Mental Health Challenges Created by COVID-19 and the Carceral State Roundtable. American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Conference. August 9, 2022. Los Angeles, CA

Formerly Incarcerated Black Women Reclaiming Health Worthiness. Women and the Carceral State Oral Presentation session. California Sociological Association Annual Conference. November 12-13, 2021. Virtual.

Formerly Incarcerated Black Women Reclaiming Health Worthiness. Stakeholders Perspectives Roundtable and poster presentation. UCSF 14th Annual Health Disparities Research Symposium. October 2021. Virtual.

Trauma Healing as Resistance Among Formerly Incarcerated Black Women. Roundtable discussion. Sociologists for Women in Society “Retaining and Rebuilding a Feminist Community” July 8 & 9, 2021. Virtual.