

# Erick Scherf, MSW, LSW

The University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa

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 <https://www.erickscherf.com>

## Education

Aug. 2023 – May 2027	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Social Work The University of Alabama, School of Social Work  <u>Dissertation</u> : Listening to the voices at the front lines: a case study of advocacy with and for Latine immigrant workers in the U.S. Southeast
Aug. 2021 – Aug. 2023	Master of Social Work (MSW), Families and Children specialization The University of Stavanger, Norway ( <i>Equivalency recognized/granted by CSWE in December 2024</i> )
Feb. 2016 – Dec. 2019	Bachelor of International Relations The University of Vale do Itajaí, Brazil

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## Certifications

Issued Feb. 2024	Excellence in Online Teaching (4 hrs.) The University of Alabama, Faculty Development Program
Jan. 2020 – Sep. 2020	Graduate Cert. in Applied International Law EBRADI - Brazilian School of Law (400 hrs.)

## Licenses

Issued April 2026	Licensed Social Worker (LSW) - Masters Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation License no. 150.129223 (through 11/30/2027)
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## Summary of scholarly achievements

Google Scholar citations: 101 (H-index: 6)  
Peer-reviewed journal articles: 33  
Conference presentations: 23  
Peer review contributions: 19

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## Research interests

Biopsychosocial implications of migration; Migration and integration policies; Community organizing and advocacy; Social and political determinants of health; Human rights and global social problems; Qualitative and Mixed Methods.

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## Competitive Fellowships, Scholarships, Awards, and Honors

### *Fellowships*

2025/2026	<b>Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)</b> <a href="#">Doctoral Student Policy Fellowship (DSPF)</a> Amount: 4,000 USD
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- Summer 2025 **The University of Alabama School of Social Work**  
The Ben Avis Orcutt Summer Research Fellowship  
Amount: 1,500 USD
- August 2023 **The University of Alabama Graduate School**  
Capstone Graduate Council Fellowship  
5 years of guaranteed Ph.D. funding  
Amount: \$58,492 (2023/2024 alone), estimated total at \$150,000

### **Scholarships**

- April 2026 **The University of Alabama School of Social Work**  
Leslie J. Shellhase Endowed Scholarship for Doctoral Students  
Amount: 2,000 USD
- August 2021 **European Commission / European Union**  
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degree Scholarship  
Amount: 49,000 EUR
- January 2016 **The Brazilian Ministry of Education**  
University for All Scholarship Program (ProUni)  
Amount: Approx. 71,000 BRL

### **Awards**

- April 2026 **The University of Alabama School of Social Work**  
2026 Honors Day Convocation  
Award for Outstanding Contributions to Scholarship by a  
PhD Student
- December 2025 **SSWR — Society for Social Work and Research**  
SSWR Doctoral Student Travel Award (\$500)
- December 2024 **SSWR — Society for Social Work and Research**  
SSWR Doctoral Student Travel Award (\$500)

### **Honors**

- November 2025 **3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition – University of Alabama**  
Semifinalist and selected representative for the School of Social Work
- April 2025 **Phi Alpha Social Work Honors Society**  
Inducted for being in the top 35% of Ph.D. class (4.0 GPA)

### **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

#### **Journal articles**

#### Migration, immigrant well-being, and policy:

- Lee, J., Naseh, M., Sarvenaz, T., Badiezadeh, S., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2026). Health Impacts of Migration and Policy on the Iranian Diaspora. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-025-01844-1>
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Badiezadeh, S. (2025). Immigration Policy as a Social Determinant of Health among Brazilian Immigrants in the United States: A Narrative Review. *Health Care Analysis*, 33(1), 76–96. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10728-024-00499-7>

Zanatta, M.L.A.L., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). The Role of Rights-Based Social Work in Contemporary Latin American Diasporas: The Case of Venezuelan Migrant Children. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*, 4(4), 238-247. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41134-019-00104-1>\*

(\*Cited in *Research on Social Work Practice*, and *The British Journal of Social Work*)

Public health, health equity, and health-related topics:

Bride, B. E., Hatcher, S., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Accepted Nov. 2025). Personal Trauma History and Secondary Traumatic Stress Symptoms: The Mediating Role of Trauma Impact. Forthcoming in *Social Work* (NASW Press).

Lee, H. Y., Malele-Kubanga, K., Won, C.R., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Park, G. Y. (2025). Empowering Rural Alabama: The Critical Role and Challenges of Community Health Providers in Healthcare Delivery During the COVID-19 pandemic. *Social Welfare Policy and Practice*, 11(2), 49-90. <http://dx.doi.org/10.37342/swpp.2025.11.2.49>

**da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024). Addressing Discrimination and Healthcare Disparities for Sexual and Gender Minorities in South Africa: A Human Rights-Based Perspective. *Journal of Health Management*, Ahead-of-Print. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09720634231216025>

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M. V. (2023). Brazil's Yanomami Health Disaster: Addressing the public health emergency requires advancing criminal accountability. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 11, 01–05. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2023.1166167>\*

(\*Cited in high-impact journals such as *Nature Communications*, *The Lancet Regional Health*, *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, and in a Policy Report of the European Commission/European Union)

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, Alves Lima Zanatta, M. de, Viana da Silva, M. V., & Da Silva, J. E. (2022). Health Care Access by Transgender Persons in South Africa: Gender-based Discrimination, Human Rights Violations, and the Role of the African Human Rights System. *Journal Health and Technology*, 1(4), 01–22. <https://doi.org/10.47820/jht.v1i4.25> \*

(\*Cited in the prestigious, high-impact *International Journal of Transgender Health*, as well as in *BMC Global and Public Health*)

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, Viana da Silva, M., & S. Fachini, J. (2021). The management (or lack thereof) of COVID-19 in Brazil: implications for human rights and public health. *International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare*, 14(2), 158-174. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ijhrh-09-2020-0085> \*

(\*Cited in multiple high-impact journals such as *Urban Studies*, *Organization*, and the *International Journal of Social Determinants of Health and Health Services*, among others)

Human rights, social justice, and global social problems:

**da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024). Anti-Racist Values in Portuguese Baccalaureate Social Work Education: A Content Analysis Study. *International Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics*, 21(2), 86-114. <https://doi.org/10.55521/10-021-208>

**da Luz Scherf, E.** (2023). Latin American perspectives on Indigenous Social Work: In search of mind, body, and soul. *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*, 19(1), 155–165. <https://doi.org/10.1177/11771801221140460>

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M. V. (2023). Oil giant, climate savior, or somewhere in between? Human rights and the Norwegian climate paradox. *International Journal of Public Law and Policy*, 10(3), 227-243. <https://www.inderscienceonline.com/doi/abs/10.1504/IJPLAP.2024.139509>

**da Luz Scherf, E.** (2021). Challenges in making school social work a reality in Brazilian schools. *International Social Work*, 66(2), 590–596. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00208728211031965> \*

(\*Cited in the *Journal of Social Work*: <https://doi.org/10.1177/14680173241258927>)

- da Luz Scherf, E.**, Alves Lima Zanatta, M. de L., & Tumenas Mello, E. (2020). Gender-Awareness amongst Brazilian Children Enrolled in Primary Education: Implications for Women's Rights & Equality. *Multidisciplinary Journal of Gender Studies*, 9(1), 25–50. <https://doi.org/10.17583/generos.2020.4865>
- Viana da Silva, M.V., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & da Silva, J.E. (2020). The Right to Data Protection Versus “Security”: Contradictions of the Rights-Discourse in the Brazilian General Personal Data Protection Act (LGPD). *Revista Direitos Culturais/Cultural Rights Review*, 15(36), 209-232. <https://doi.org/10.20912/rdc.v15i36.18>
- Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). Dream the impossible dream? An ecosocialist account of the human right to a healthy environment. *Direito Ambiental & Sociedade* [Environmental Law & Society], 10(2), 35-60. <https://doi.org/10.18226/22370021.v10.n2.02>
- da Silva, J.E., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2019). In Tech We Trust? Some General Remarks on Law in the Technological Era from a Third World Perspective. *Journal Juridical Opinion*, 17(25), 107-123. <https://doi.org/10.12662/2447-6641oj.v17i25.p107-123.2019>
- Souza, I.F., Leme, L.R., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2018). Creating bridges between international relations theory and international human rights law: constructivism and the role of Brazil in the Inter-American system of human rights. *Brazilian Journal of International Law*, 15(3), 179-197. <https://doi.org/10.5102/rdi.v15i3.5653>

### **Book chapters**

- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2022). Critical perspectives on social work and social policy practice with vulnerable migrants in an era of emergencies. In A. Jolly, R. Cefalo, & M. Pomati (Eds.), *Social Policy Review* 34 (1st ed., pp. 134–157). Bristol University Press. <https://doi.org/10.46692/9781447365815.008>
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, Viana da Silva, M.V., & da Silva, J.E. (2021). Indigenous Rights, Necropolitics and the 'Daily Genocides' of Brazil's Native and Traditional Peoples. In T. Ribeiro Teles (Ed.), *Língua(gens), Literaturas, Culturas, Identidades e Direitos Indígenas no Brasil* [Languages, Literature, Culture, Identity, and Indigenous Rights in Brazil] (1st ed., pp. 172-180). BAGAI. <http://dx.doi.org/10.37008/978-65-89499-57-2.23.04.21>
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2018). Manaus' massacre as a result of the crisis in the Brazilian penitentiary system: an analysis in the light of international human rights law. In A. Jobim do Amaral et al (Eds.), *Anais do 8º Congresso Internacional de Ciências Criminais – PUCRS* [Proceedings of the 8th International Congress on Criminal Sciences – Global Criminology Section], Vol. 3 (1st ed., pp. 121-140). Tirant Lo Blanch.

### **Book reviews**

- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2025). Review of the book Just Health: Treating Structural Racism to Heal America by D. B. Matthew. *Families, Systems, & Health*, 43(1), 162–164. <https://doi.org/10.1037/fsh0000942>
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). Mary Mee-Yin Yuen, Solidarity and Reciprocity with Migrants in Asia: Catholic and Confucian Ethics in Dialogue. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 29(4), 553-555. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0117196820983983>

### **Conference proceedings**

- Giorgio Cosenzo, L., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Ruggiano, N. (2024). Unveiling the association between social isolation and sleep disturbances among Latinx older women and men. *Innovation in Aging*, 8(Suppl. 1), 1174–1174. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igae098.3762>

### **Review protocol (non-refereed)**

- Gill, S. J., Alfonso, A., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2025). *Hispanic/Latinx Patients' Experiences of Prejudice in Outpatient Healthcare Settings: A Scoping Review Protocol*. OSF Registries. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/2T6NP>

**Revise and resubmit**

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, Naseh, M., and Lee, J. (Re-submitted Feb. 2025). Immigration Policies as Social Determinants of Health Among International Students in the United States. Under review (Round 2) in the *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. Minor revisions submitted.

**Under review**

**da Luz Scherf, E.** (Re-submitted Dec. 2025). Anti-immigration policies are a threat to global health and democracy: a commentary and call to action. Under review in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.

Giorgio, L. C., Scales, J., Hossain, S., Nwatu, U., Taer, H., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Bell, A. (Submitted September 2025). Harvesting Hope: A case example of experiential, community-engaged learning implemented in collaboration with a community garden, BSW, and PhD students. Under review in the *Journal of Social Work Education*.

**da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted Nov. 2025). Addressing Anti-Racism and Diversity in the Social Work Undergraduate Curriculum in Portugal: A Qualitative Pilot Study. Under review in the *Journal for Social Work Scholar-Practitioners*.

**Under preparation**

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, Giorgio, L.C., & Cheatham, L. P. Moving up or going down? Examining the association between occupational mobility and self-esteem among Latinx migrant workers in the United States. Target journal: *Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology*.

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, Mehrara, L., Bruce, N., & Naseh, M. (TBC). Mapping the Health Profile of Brazilian Immigrants in the United States: A Scoping Review. Target journal: *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*.

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**International Peer-Reviewed Publications (in Portuguese)****Journal articles**

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, Viana da Silva, M.V., & da Silva, J.E. (2021). A Few Considerations on Human Rights in the Biotechnological Era: Normativity Versus Dignity. *Revista Direito e Justiça: Reflexões Sociojurídicas*, 21(41), 195-210. <https://doi.org/10.31512/rdj.v21i41.636>

Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). Advances and Challenges in Implementing Public Policies for the Protection of the Social Rights of Older Migrants in Brazil. *Revista Eletrônica da Faculdade de Direito de Franca*, 15(1), 215-228. <https://doi.org/10.21207/1983.4225.951>

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2020). "The Canadian Citizenship is a Privilege, Not a Right": Migration and Securitization in the Promised Land. *Brazilian Review of Canadian Studies*, 20, 1-36. <https://doi.org/10.15210/interfaces.v20i0.19069>

Viana da Silva, M.V., da Silva, J.E., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). The Role of the Canadian Supreme Court in Defending the Rights of Migrant Persons: Subverting the State of Exception by the Routes of Judicial Activism. *Journal of Contemporary Public Law*, 1(2), 85-110. <http://www.rdpc.com.br/index.php/rdpc/article/view/124>

**da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2020). Child Migration and International Relations: Theoretical Neglect versus Child Protagonism. *Revista Relações Internacionais no Mundo Atual*, 28(3), 269-297. <http://revista.unicuritiba.edu.br/index.php/RIMA/article/view/4138>

Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020). The Justiciability of the Right to Education in the Inter-American System of Human Rights: A Possible Way Out for the Dismantling of the Brazilian Public Education System? *Revista Humanidades & Inovação*, 7(7), 350-367. <https://revista.unitins.br/index.php/humanidadeseinovacao/article/view/2574>

- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). Fundamental freedoms and the role of struggles for rights in the movie Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri. *Revista Avant*, 3(1), 26-30. <https://ojs.sites.ufsc.br/index.php/avant/article/view/7005>
- Zanatta, M.L.A.L., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). Child Migration and the United Nations Regime for the Protection of Human Rights. *Caderno de Relações Internacionais*, 9(17), 105-134. <https://doi.org/10.22293/2179-1376.v9i17.989>
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Zanatta, M.L.A.L. (2019). Human rights and corporate social responsibility in the context of international commerce: the Barrick Gold miner and sexual violence against women in Papua New Guinea between 2006 and 2010. *Revista Vertentes do Direito*, 6(1), 161-181. <https://doi.org/10.20873/uft.2359-0106.2019.v6n1.p161-181>
- de Oliveira, A.C.D.C., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). Rights-Based Social Work as a Tool for Realizing the Human Rights of Venezuelan Migrant Children in Latin American Countries. *Revista TOMO*, 34, 241-286. <https://doi.org/10.21669/tomo.v0i34.9933>
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2019). The principle of minimum criminal intervention and the incarceration of minors in Brazil: From violations to the role of the Inter-American Human Rights System. *Revista Jus Navigandi*, 24(5790), 1-8. <https://jus.com.br/artigos/67916>
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Milindre Gonzalez, R. (2018). Civil society and the fight for the recognition of fundamental liberties during peace negotiation processes: lessons from the civil war in Sierra Leone and the Lomé Peace Accord. *Conjuntura Global*, 7(2), 170-188. <https://doi.org/10.5380/cg.v7i2.59393>
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Milindre Gonzalez, R. (2018). Forced migration and humanitarian crisis in Myanmar: Rohingya – no territory, nation, or rights. *Revista de Iniciação Científica em Relações Internacionais*, 5(10), 37-73. <https://doi.org/10.22478/ufpb.2318-9452.2018v5n10.37368>
- de Souza, M.C.S.A., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2017). Business Management Towards Sustainable Development: The Dialogue Between Climate Change and Human Rights. *Revista Jurídica da Escola Superior do MP-SP*, 12(2), 68-86. [https://es.mpsp.mp.br/revista\\_esmp/index.php/RJESMPSP/article/view/337](https://es.mpsp.mp.br/revista_esmp/index.php/RJESMPSP/article/view/337)
- Hall, C.C., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2017). The Failure of the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights: The Case Cosme Rosa Genoveva, Evandro de Oliveira and Others v. Brazil. *(Re)Pensando Direito*, 7(14), 55-70.

### **Book chapter**

- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Rocha Leme, L. (2019). A theory of international justice for whom? Failures in the restrictive concept of human rights in Rawls' The Law of Peoples. In M. Leal & A. Custódio (Eds.), *Fundamentos Constitucionais das Políticas Públicas* [Constitutional Foundations of Public Policy], Vol. 1 (1st ed., pp. 186-198). EDUNISC. <http://hdl.handle.net/11624/2723>

### **Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations**

- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Giorgio, L. (2026, January). *Moving Up or Going Down? Examining the Association between Occupational Mobility and Self-Esteem Among Latinx Migrant Workers in the United States* [Oral presentation]. SSWR 30th Annual Conference: Leading for Transformative Change: Aligning Social Work Science with Policy and Practice. Washington, D.C., USA.
- Lee, J., Naseh, M., Badiezhadeh, S., Taridashti, S., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2026, January). *Health Impacts of Migration and Policy on the Iranian Diaspora* [Oral presentation]. SSWR 30th Annual Conference: Leading for Transformative Change: Aligning Social Work Science with Policy and Practice. Washington, D.C., USA.
- Giorgio, L., Bell, A., Hossain, M.D. S., Nwatu, U., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Others (2026, January). *Harvesting Hope: A Qualitative Case Study of a Community Garden's Impact on Food Insecurity and Wellbeing in Alabama* [Poster presentation]. SSWR 30th Annual Conference: Leading for Transformative Change: Aligning Social Work Science with Policy and Practice. Washington, D.C., USA.

- Lee, J., Naseh, M., Badiezhadeh, S., Taridashti, S., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2025, November). *Health Impacts of Migration and Policy on the Iranian Diaspora* [Oral presentation]. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference. Seattle, WA, USA. [Presented by co-author]
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, Naseh, M., Okine, J., Proadhan, M., & Lee, S. (2025, October). *Global Scholars, Local Struggles: Navigating the Social Work Doctoral Journey as International Students* [Panel discussion]. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)'s 71st Annual Program Meeting. Denver, CO, USA.
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, and Mehrara, L. (2025, October). *Mapping the Health Profile of Brazilian Immigrants in the United States: A Scoping Review* [Poster session]. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)'s 71st Annual Program Meeting. Denver, CO, USA.
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, Lee, J., and Naseh, M. (2025, January). *Migration Policies as Social Determinants of Health among International Graduate Students in the United States* [Poster session]. SSWR 29th Annual Conference: Strengthening Social Impact through Collaborative Research. Seattle, WA, USA.
- Cosenzo, L. G., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Ruggiano, N. (2024, November). *Unveiling the Association between Social Isolation and Sleep Disturbances among Latinx Older Women and Men* [Poster session]. Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting 2024. Seattle, WA, USA. [Presented by co-author]
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024, October). *Immigration Policy as a Social Determinant of Health among Brazilian Immigrants in the United States* [Oral presentation]. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)'s 70th Annual Program Meeting. Kansas City, MO, USA.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024, April). *Understanding the Health and Social Needs of Older Brazilian Adults in the United States: A Needs Assessment Pilot Study* [Poster session]. 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024, April). *International and Comparative Social Work Research in Latin America: Tapping into the Untapped Potentials* [Poster session]. SWSD 2024 – Joint Conference on Social Work, Education, and Social Development. Panama City, Panama.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024, March). *Investigating the (non-)place of race and ethnicity in undergraduate social work education in Portugal* [Oral presentation]. Infusing Resilience, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Big Easy: BPD 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA, USA.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2023, May). *Challenging the colorblind curriculum: addressing race, ethnicity, and diversity in Social Work education in Portugal* [Oral presentation]. European Social Work Conference 2023: Against all odds, a social Europe is possible where no one is left behind! Prague, Czech Republic. [Online]
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2023, March). *Climate Change and Green Social Work: An Ecosocialist Critique* [Oral presentation]. Injustice in a World of Uncertainty: Finland World Convention 2023. Stream 1: Climate Change, Insecurity, and Danger. Mikkeli, Finland. [Online]
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2022, June). *Climate Litigation, Human Rights, and the Norwegian Oil Industry: An Early Assessment of Greenpeace Nordic and Others against Norway* [Oral presentation]. Conference on the Intersection between Human Rights and Sustainability as an Evolving and Justiciable Concept. Oslo, Norway.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2022, April). *Critical perspectives on social work and social policy practice with vulnerable migrants: exploring anticolonial human rights narratives* [Oral presentation]. CCNY's 2<sup>nd</sup> Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference. New York, NY, USA.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2021, September). *Unwanted and overlooked: barriers to transgender persons' access to health care in South Africa and the role of the African human rights system* [Oral presentation]. Conference on the Responsiveness of the African human rights system to sexual and gender-based violence. Stellenbosch, South Africa. [Online]
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020, November). *Judicialization of the Right to Mental Health: A Pathway to Mental Health Care in Brazil?* [Oral presentation]. Global Mental Health: Today and Tomorrow. Michigan, USA. [Online]
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2020, October). *Impunity and Human Rights Violations Amid and After the Covid-19 Pandemic: Questioning the Future of State Responsibility under International Human Rights Law* [Oral presentation]. Pandemic & International Responsibility Conference. Porto, Portugal. [Online]

- da Silva, M.V.V., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & da Silva, J.E. (2019, October). *The unconventionality of the dismantling of public education policies in Brazil and the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Human Rights System* [Poster session]. II Congresso Internacional de Políticas Públicas para a América Latina [II International Conference on Public Policies for Latin America]. Itajaí, Santa Catarina, Brazil.
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Morales, P.A. (2018). *Human rights, corporate social responsibility, and international business: looking for coherence through the experience of Papua New Guinea* [Oral presentation]. XIII Congresso Direito UFSC [XIII Law Conference at the Federal University of Santa Catarina]. Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil.
- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2017). *Manaus' massacre as a result of the crisis in the Brazilian penitentiary system: an analysis in the light of international human rights law* [Oral presentation]. 8th International Conference on Criminal Sciences – Global Criminology Section. Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.
- da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Morales, P.A. (2016). *Reform of the judiciary and the democratization of access to justice: an analysis on the influence of the judicial reform secretariat and its contributions to the realization of fundamental rights* [Oral presentation]. XIII Seminário Internacional Demandas Sociais e Políticas Públicas na Sociedade Contemporânea [XIII International Seminar on Social Demands and Public Policies in Contemporary Society]. Santa Cruz do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.
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## Research Experience

- Sep. 2023 – Present **Graduate Research Assistant**  
[\(https://she-research.ua.edu/\)](https://she-research.ua.edu/)  
 Rest and Resilience (R&R) Research Lab  
 The University of Alabama, School of Social Work  
 Principal Investigator (PI): Luciana Giorgio, PhD  
 Funders: UA
- Sep. 2023 – Present **Graduate Student Affiliate**  
[\(https://forcedmigration.wustl.edu/\)](https://forcedmigration.wustl.edu/)  
 The Initiative on Social Work & Forced Migration  
 Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis  
 PI: Mitra Naseh, PhD  
 Funders: RSF and WashU, among others
- Summer 2025 **Graduate Research Assistant** [\(https://socialwork.ua.edu/\)](https://socialwork.ua.edu/)  
 The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
 PI: Dr. Luciana C. Giorgio (0.50 FTE)
- Fall 2024 / Spring 2025 **Graduate Research Assistant** [\(https://socialwork.ua.edu/\)](https://socialwork.ua.edu/)  
 The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
 PIs: Dr. Brian Bride and Dr. Luciana C. Giorgio (0.50 FTE)
- Summer 2024 **Graduate Research Assistant** [\(https://socialwork.ua.edu/\)](https://socialwork.ua.edu/)  
 The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
 PIs: Dr. Hee Yun Lee (0.25 FTE) and  
 Dr. Nicole Ruggiano (0.25 FTE)  
 Funders: UA, NSF, and NIH, among others
- Oct. 2023 – Dec. 2024 **Student Co-Principal Investigator**  
 Project title: Experiences of Racism and Discrimination  
 Among Latinx Patients in Primary Healthcare Settings  
 In collaboration with Thomas Jefferson University  
 PI: Dr. Shane Gill  
 Funders: Unfunded Research Project
- Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023 **Affiliated Researcher**  
[\(https://www.humanrightsnudge.com/\)](https://www.humanrightsnudge.com/)

ERC Human Rights Nudge  
University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law  
PI: Dr. Veronika Fikfak  
Funders: ERC, UKRI, and others

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## Teaching Experience

Fall 2025 and Spring 2026

### **Instructor of record**

The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
Course: SW 101 Orientation to Social Work  
3 credits, In-person.

Fall 2024

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA)**

The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
Course: SW 410 Human Behavior and Social Environment  
Instructor of Record: Hyunjune Lee, PhD  
Teaching Practicum. In-person.

November 2024

### **Guest Lecturer**

The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
Course: SW 410 Human Behavior and Social Environment  
Topic: Immigration and the Life Course  
Instructor of Record: Hyunjune Lee, PhD  
Mode of delivery: In-person.

October 2024

### **Guest Lecturer**

The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
Course: SW 212 Death, Dying, Bereavement  
Topic: Cultural Manifestations of Grief in Latin America  
Instructor of Record: Haelim Jeong, LMSW  
Mode of delivery: In-person.

September 2024

### **Guest Lecturer**

Middle Tennessee State University  
Course: SW 4690 Integrative Seminar in Social Work  
Topic: Human Rights and Social Work Practice in Brazil  
Instructor of Record: Andrea Bell, LCSW  
Mode of delivery: Online (via Zoom).

April 2024

### **Guest Lecturer**

The University of Vale do Itajaí (Brazil)  
Course: Human Rights (International Program)  
Topic: Global Migration and Human Rights  
Instructor of Record: Ricardo Boff, MSc.  
Mode of delivery: Online (via Teams).

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## Direct Practice Experience

May 2024 – Aug. 2024

### **University Medical Center (UMC)**

[\(https://umc.ua.edu/\)](https://umc.ua.edu/)

Department of Social Services

The University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa, AL

Role: *Healthcare social work intern, post-MSW level.*

Part-time (0.50 FTE).

Sep. 2022 – Oct. 2022

### **Internationella Engelska Skolan**

(<https://engelska.se/>)

[International English School]

Gothenburg, Sweden

Role: *Social work intern, MSW-level*. Part-time (0.25 FTE).

Dec. 2021 – Dec. 2021

**Field Placement at Different Organizations**

(Lisbon, Portugal)

Role: *Social work intern, MSW-level*. Part-time (0.5 FTE)

Non-profits visited: Child Protection Institute, Portuguese League Against AIDS, and Salvador Association.

Mar. 2018 – Dec. 2019

**Intergenerational Law & Transversality Community Project**

The University of Vale do Itajai

School of Legal and Social Sciences (Itajai, Brazil)

Role: *Community Outreach Intern, Undergrad/BA-level*.

Part-time (0.5 FTE).

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**Grant Writing Experience**

February 2026

**Russell Sage Foundation (RSF) Dissertation Research Grant**

Proposal title: *Listening to the voices at the front lines: a study of community advocacy with and for Latine immigrant workers in the U.S. Southeast*

Amount: USD 15,000

Status: Not selected

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**Policy Training Experience**

Spring 2026

**Council on Social Work Education**

Washington, D.C. (Virtual)

- Completed virtual policy placement with [Lewis-Burke Associates](#), a national organization engaged in the federal legislative process. Produced a legislative policy brief integrating research, stakeholder input, and legislative analysis.

March 07, 2024

**The University of Alabama and NASW-AL**

State House, Montgomery, AL (In person).

- Social Work Advocacy Day: We spent the day engaging with different stakeholders and advocating for Criminal Justice Reform, Social Work Reinvestment, and Medicaid Expansion.

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**Invited Talks and Speaking Engagements (*non-refereed*)**

March 2026

**University of Alabama Career Center**

Title: Grad School 01: Exploring Non-Traditional Pathways

Role: Panelist

May 2025

**Synergy Education System (Navegantes-SC, Brazil)**

Title: The Promise of Human Rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Between Idealism and Reality (Keynote Address)

Event: Synergy's Academic Week

2024	<p><b>SAGE Research Methods Series</b>          SAGE: An Introduction to Diversifying and Decolonizing Research.          Title: Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity in Social Work.  <a href="https://methods.sagepub.com/video/race-ethnicity-and-diversity-in-social-work">https://methods.sagepub.com/video/race-ethnicity-and-diversity-in-social-work</a></p>
March 2024	<p><b>Monmouth University School of Social Work, United States</b>          Speaking Engagement with Social Work Students In          Celebration of Social Work Month          Title: Leading a Career in Academia as a Macro          Social Work Researcher  <a href="https://youtu.be/64hJmIfjQhM?si=1v6BEFrnxMZTdI9-">https://youtu.be/64hJmIfjQhM?si=1v6BEFrnxMZTdI9-</a></p>
November 2023	<p><b>University of Minho, Portugal</b>          Center for International Relations Area Studies          Event: Beyond Borders: The Challenges of Refugees and Migrants          Around the World          Title: Immigration Policy as a Social Determinant of Health</p>
August 2023	<p><b>University of Vale do Itajai, Brazil</b>          School of Legal and Social Sciences          Event: Alumni Week          Title: Pathways to an International Research Career</p>
November 2022	<p><b>University of Gothenburg, Sweden</b>          Department of Social Work          Event: Alumni Session on Ph.D. Opportunities for Erasmus Mundus          Graduates in Social Work</p>

**Miscellaneous Funding**

Spring 2026	<p><b>The University of Alabama School of Social Work</b>          Professional development fund to present at a National Conference          Amount: \$700</p>
Fall 2025	<p><b>The University of Alabama Graduate School and SSW</b>          Professional Development Fund to present at a National Conference          Amount: \$1000</p>
Spring 2025	<p><b>The University of Alabama School of Social Work</b>          Professional development fund to present at a National Conference          Amount: \$700</p>
Fall 2024	<p><b>The University of Alabama Graduate School and SSW</b>          Professional development fund to present at a National Conference          Amount: \$1000</p>
Fall 2024	<p><b>The University of Alabama, School of Social Work</b>          Professional development fund for CSWE International Degree          Review and Accreditation          Amount: \$645</p>
Spring 2024	<p><b>The University of Alabama School of Social Work</b>          Professional development fund to present at a National Conference          Amount: \$700</p>

Spring 2024	<b>The University of Alabama, School of Social Work and Graduate School</b> Professional development fund to present at an International Conference Amount: \$1600
June 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021	<b>Norwegian Agency for Education and Research</b> Open Access journal publication fee awarded Amounts: \$410 and \$2,500 awarded twice

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**Service**

**Editorial roles**

March 2026 – Present	<a href="#"><u>The International Journal of Qualitative Methods</u></a> Publisher: Sage Publishing Role: Editorial Review Board Member
April 2024 – Present	<a href="#"><u>Frontiers in Political Science</u></a> International Studies section. Role: Community Reviewer

**Committee work**

April 2024 – Present	<b>Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)</b> Doctoral Student Committee (DSC) Mentoring Sub-Committee Role: Committee Member
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**Peer-review (Ad hoc)**

2025	<b>Journal of Homosexuality</b> (Taylor & Francis)
2025	<b>Archives of Public Health</b> (BMC, Springer)
2025	<b>Frontiers in Public Health</b> , section Public Health Policy
2025	<b>Frontiers in Sociology</b>
2024	<b>Discover Social Science and Health</b> (Springer Nature)
2024	<b>Frontiers in Political Science</b>
2024	<b>BMC Global and Public Health</b> (Springer Nature),
2024	<b>Biodemography and Social Biology</b> (Taylor & Francis)
2024	<b>Discover Global Society</b> (Springer Nature)
2024	<b>Council on Social Work Education</b> Conference proposals reviewer
2023	<b>Social Work in Public Health</b> (Taylor & Francis)
2023	<b>Advances in Social Work</b> (Indiana University)
2023	<b>Critical and Radical Social Work</b> (Bristol University Press)
2023	<b>European Social Work Research</b> (Bristol University Press)
2023	<b>International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare</b> (Emerald Group Publishing)
2022	<b>Springer Book Series in International Social Work</b> Book proposal reviewer
2022	<b>International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy</b> (Emerald Group Publishing)
2022	<b>Globalizations</b> (Taylor & Francis)

2020 **Asian Journal of Education and Social Sciences** (SCIENCEDOMAIN International)

**Mentoring**

August 2023 – April 2024

**Graduate School at The University of Alabama**  
Tide Together Graduate Mentor Program  
Role: Mentee.

Fall 2023

**Brazilian Student Association (BRASA)**  
Role: Mentor/Graduate School Admissions Consultant (Volunteer).

**Volunteering and civic engagement**

January 2025

**SSWR — Society for Social Work and Research**  
SSWR 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Seattle, WA.  
Role: Student Volunteer.

Jul. 2021 – Aug. 2021

**Aurora Institute for Human Rights Education**  
Curitiba, Brazil (Remote).  
Role: Writing contributor.  
I helped the Institute strengthen its mission by providing short articles for its online blog platform.

May 2021 – July 2021

**Eshet Children and Youth Development**  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Remote).  
Role: Project proposal and grant writing volunteer.  
I was responsible for identifying potential donor organizations and for revising funding proposals.

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**Media coverage**

Meet Erick da Luz Scherf. *Bold Journey Magazine*. August 8, 2024. <https://boldjourney.com/meet-erick-da-luz-scherf/>

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**Languages spoken**

**English** – Advanced/Fluent

**Portuguese** – Native Speaker

**Spanish** – Upper-Intermediate

**French** – Basic/Beginner

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**Research skills**

**Qualitative skills**

One-on-one and group interviewing. Focus groups. Interpersonal and people skills.  
Very familiar with coding qual. data and performing thematic and content analyses.  
Experienced with community-engaged methodologies (e.g., photovoice and other CBPR approaches).

**Quantitative skills**

Secondary data analysis (SDA) of large cross-sectional surveys.  
Experienced with analyzing data from complex samples and survey designs (e.g., stratified samples).

Experienced with data cleaning, transformation, and regression analyses.

### **Software**

Covidence, Microsoft Office applications, Dedoose, NVivo, SPSS, R (Basic knowledge).

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### **Academic and professional memberships**

2025 – Present	Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM), Doc Student Member
2024 – Present	The Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR), Doc Student Member
2024 – Present	Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Graduate Student Member
2022 - 2025	Social Policy Association (SPA, UK), International Early Career Scholar

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### **References**

1. Luciana Giorgio, PhD  
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