

Erick Scherf, MSW, LSW

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Education

Aug. 2023 – May 2028

Ph.D. in Social Work

The University of Alabama, School of Social Work
Dissertation: 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
(*Equivalency recognized by CSWE in December 2024*)

Feb. 2016 – Dec. 2019

Bachelor of International Relations

The University of Vale do Itajaí, Brazil

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)

Academic Affiliations

Sep. 2023 – Present

Graduate Student Affiliate, Rest and Resilience Research Group

(<https://sites.ua.edu/she-research/>) University of Alabama
Principal Investigator: Luciana Giorgio, PhD

Sep. 2023 – Dec. 2024

Graduate Student Affiliate, The Forced Migration Initiative

(<https://forcedmigration.wustl.edu/>) Brown School at Washington
University in St. Louis. Director: Mitra Naseh, PhD

Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023

Affiliated Researcher, ERC Human Rights Nudge

(<https://www.humanrightsnudge.com/>) University of Copenhagen, Faculty
of Law. Director: Dr. Veronika Fikfak

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.

Summary of Scholarly Achievements

Google Scholar citations: **116** (H-index: **7**); Peer-reviewed journal articles: **35**; Conference presentations: **26**; Other refereed work (e.g., book chapters): **6**; Reviewer reports: **21**.

Competitive Fellowships & Scholarships

April 2026

The University of Alabama School of Social Work

Leslie J. Shellhase Endowed Scholarship for Doctoral Students
Amount: 2,000 USD

2025/2026

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Doctoral Student Policy Fellowship (DSPF)
Amount: 4,000 USD

Summer 2025

The University of Alabama School of Social Work

The Ben Avis Orcutt Summer Research Fellowship

August 2023	Amount: 1,500 USD The University of Alabama Graduate School Capstone Graduate Council Fellowship 5 years of guaranteed Ph.D. funding
August 2021	Amount: \$58,492 (2023/2024 alone), estimated total at \$150,000 European Commission / European Union Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degree Scholarship
January 2016	Amount: 49,000 EUR The Brazilian Ministry of Education University for All Scholarship Program (ProUni) Amount: Approx. 71,000 BRL

Awards & Honors

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)
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)
December 2024	SSWR — Society for Social Work and Research SSWR Doctoral Student Travel Award (\$500)

Research Funding

September 2026	The University of Alabama Graduate School & School of Social Work Project: Listening to the voices at the front lines: a case study of advocacy with and for Latine immigrant workers in the U.S. Southeast (Dissertation). Role: Student Principal Investigator (PI) Amount: 600 USD
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Competitive Training and Mentoring Programs

Fall 2026	Building Healthy Relationships to End Violence (BHREV) Network Grand Challenges for Social Work Selected for the 2026 Doctoral Student Mentoring Cohort of the Foundations Collective
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Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

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

20. Bride, B. E., Hatcher, S., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** Personal Trauma History and Secondary Traumatic Stress Symptoms: The Mediating Role of Trauma Impact. Forthcoming in *Social Work* (NASW Press).
19. 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>
18. **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>

(Cited in the high-impact journal *Nurse Education Today*, and in *Sexuality & Culture*, among others)

17. **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)

16. **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*, and *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health*, among others)

15. **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 many others)

II. International migration, immigrant well-being, and policy:

14. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Naseh, M., and Lee, J. (2026). Immigration Policies as Social Determinants of Health Among International Students in the United States. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, Online First. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-026-01948-2>
13. 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>
12. **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>
11. 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*)

III. Social work education, practice, and research:

10. Giorgio Cosenzo, L. A., Scales, J., Hossain, M.D. S., Nwatu, U., Taer, H., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Bell, A. Harvesting Hope: A case example of experiential, community-engaged learning implemented in collaboration with a community garden, BSW, and PhD students. Forthcoming in the *Journal of Social Work Education*.
9. **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>
8. **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>
7. **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*)

IV. Human rights and global social problems:

6. **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>
5. **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>

4. 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>
3. 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>
2. 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>
1. 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>

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

3. **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>
2. **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>
1. **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.

Refereed 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>

Policy Briefs (non-refereed)

- da Luz Scherf, E.** (2026, May). *Protecting Immigrant Farmworkers and Securing America's Agricultural Workforce: A Policy Brief* (Policy Brief). Council on Social Work Education's Doctoral Student Policy Fellowship. <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.11059.39206>

Review Protocols (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>

Under Review

4. Giorgio, L., Bell, A., Hossain, S., Taer, H., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Scales, J. (Submitted Sep. 2026). Community Gardens as Critical Sites of Intervention to Bolster Individual and Community Health: Opportunities for the Social Work profession. Submitted to *Social Work & Public Health*.

3. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted Sep. 2026). Anti-immigration policies in high-income democracies threaten health equity and democratic governance: a review and call to action. Submitted to *the Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*.
2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted Aug. 2026). Protecting Immigrant Farmworkers' Health and Well-Being and Securing the U.S. Agricultural Workforce: A Policy Brief. Submitted to *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services*.
1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted Aug. 2026). Anti-Racism and Diversity in the Undergraduate Social Work Curriculum in Portugal: Insights from a Qualitative Pilot Study. Under review in the *European Journal of Social Work*.

Under Preparation

4. Giorgio, L., Hernandez, R., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** "We Are Valuable, We Have a Mission": Pictures of Resilience of Mid-Life Latina Women. Target journal: *Affilia: Feminist Inquiry in Social Work*.
3. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Hernandez, R., & Mehrara, L. Exploring Health Behaviors Among Brazilian Immigrants in the United States: A Structured Narrative Review and Synthesis. Target journal: *Health Education & Behavior*.
2. **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*.
1. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Prodhon, M., & Okine, J. Searching for the Missing Piece of Social Work Doctoral Education: Centering the Experiences of International Students and Early-Career Scholars. Target Journal: *Journal of Social Work Education (JSWE)* special issue.

International Peer-Reviewed Publications (titles translated from Portuguese)

Journal Articles

I. Migration studies:

15. 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>
14. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Viana da Silva, M.V. (2020). "The Canadian Citizenship is a Privilege, Not a Right": Migration and Securization in the Promised Land. *Brazilian Review of Canadian Studies*, 20, 1-36. <https://doi.org/10.15210/interfaces.v20i0.19069>
13. 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.rdp.com.br/index.php/rdpc/article/view/124>
12. **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>
11. 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>
10. 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>
9. **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>

II. Human rights issues:

8. **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>

7. 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/humanidadesinovacao/article/view/2574>
6. **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>
5. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Zanatta, M.L.A.L. (2019). Human rights and corporate social responsibility (CSR) 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>
4. **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>
3. **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>
2. 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
1. 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

26. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Forthcoming 2027, January). *Organizations and Immigrant Worker Advocacy in the U.S.: Findings from a Structured Narrative Review*. [Flash talk]. SSWR 31st Annual Conference: Social Work Research at the Service of Democracy: Advancing Rigorous Inquiry for the Common Good. San Francisco, CA, USA.
25. Giorgio, L., Hernandez, R., **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Forthcoming 2027, January). *"We Are Valuable, We Have a Mission": Pictures of Resilience of Mid-Life Latina Women* [Flash talk]. SSWR 31st Annual Conference: Social Work Research at the Service of Democracy: Advancing Rigorous Inquiry for the Common Good. San Francisco, CA, USA.
24. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2026, November). *Voices from the Frontlines: Designing a Qualitative Case Study of Immigrant Advocacy in the U.S. Southeast* [Poster presentation]. 48th Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM) Annual Research Conference. Boston, MA, USA.
23. **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.
22. Lee, J., Naseh, M., Badiezadeh, 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.
21. 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.
20. Lee, J., Naseh, M., Badiezadeh, 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 47th Annual Research Conference. Seattle, WA, USA. [Presented by co-author]

19. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Naseh, M., Okine, J., Prodhan, 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.
18. **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.
17. **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.
16. 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]
15. **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.
14. **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]. 16th Annual Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium. Tuscaloosa, AL, USA.
13. **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.
12. **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 41st Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA, USA.
11. **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]
10. **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]
9. **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.
8. **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 2nd Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference. New York, NY, USA.
7. **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]
6. **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]
5. **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]
4. 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.
3. **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]. Florianopolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil.

2. **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.
 1. **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

Fall 2026	Graduate Research Assistant The University of Alabama, School of Social Work Principal Investigators (PI): Luciana Giorgio, PhD (0.25 FTE), and Sheila McMahon, PhD (0.25 FTE) Funders: University of Alabama
Summer 2025	Graduate Research Assistant The University of Alabama School of Social Work PI: Dr. Luciana C. Giorgio (0.50 FTE) Funders: University of Alabama
Fall 2024 / Spring 2025	Graduate Research Assistant The University of Alabama School of Social Work PIs: Dr. Brian Bride and Dr. Luciana C. Giorgio (0.50 FTE) Funders: University of Alabama
Summer 2024	Graduate Research Assistant 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 PI: Dr. Shane Gill, at Thomas Jefferson University
Jan. 2018 – Dec. 2019	Undergraduate Research Assistant The University of Vale do Itajai (Brazil), School of Social Sciences Human Rights and Citizenship Research Group PI: Malu Zanatta, PhD

Teaching Experience

Summer 2026	Instructor of Record The University of Alabama School of Social Work Course: SW 200 History of Social Welfare in the U.S. Mode of instruction: Online. Credit hours: 3.
Spring 2026 & Fall 2025	Instructor of Record The University of Alabama School of Social Work Course: SW 101 Orientation to Social Work Mode of instruction: In-person. Credit hours: 3.
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 Mode of instruction: 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.

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.

Invited Talks and Speaking Engagements

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 21st Century: Between Idealism and Reality (Keynote Address)
 Event: Synergy's Academic Week

March 2024

Monmouth University School of Social Work, United States

Speaking Engagement with Social Work Students In
 Celebration of Social Work Month
 Title: Leading a Career in Academia as a Macro
 Social Work Researcher
<https://youtu.be/64hJmIfJQhM?si=1v6BEFrnxMZTdI9->

November 2023

University of Minho, Portugal

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

August 2023

University of Vale do Itajaí, Brazil

School of Legal and Social Sciences
 Event: Alumni Week
 Title: Pathways to an International Research Career

November 2022

University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Department of Social Work
 Event: Alumni Session on Ph.D. Opportunities for Erasmus Mundus
 Graduates in Social Work

Direct Practice Experience

May 2024 – Aug. 2024

University Medical Center (UMC)

(<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 Community Project

The University of Vale do Itajaí, School of Legal and Social Sciences (Itajai, Brazil)

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

Part-time (0.5 FTE).

Grant Writing Experience

September 2026

Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Dissertation Grant

Amount: USD 10,000

Status: Submitted

August 2026

Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Doctoral Fellows Award

Dissertation grant. Amount: USD 3,000

Status: Under review

February 2026

Russell Sage Foundation (RSF) Dissertation Research Grant

Amount: USD 15,000

Status: Not selected

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.

Miscellaneous Funding

Fall 2026

The University of Alabama Graduate School

Professional Development Fund to present at a National Conference

Amount: \$1000

Spring 2026

The University of Alabama School of Social Work

Professional development fund to present at a National Conference

Amount: \$700

Fall 2025

The University of Alabama Graduate School

Spring 2025	Professional Development Fund to present at a National Conference Amount: \$1000 The University of Alabama School of Social Work Professional development fund to present at a National Conference Amount: \$700
Fall 2024	The University of Alabama Graduate School Professional development fund to present at a National Conference Amount: \$1000
Fall 2024	The University of Alabama, School of Social Work Professional development fund for CSWE International Degree Review and Accreditation Amount: \$645
Spring 2024	The University of Alabama School of Social Work Professional development fund to present at a National Conference Amount: \$700
Spring 2024	The University of Alabama Graduate School Professional development fund to present at an International Conference Amount: \$1600
June 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021	Norwegian Agency for Education and Research Open Access journal publication fee awarded Amounts: \$410 and \$2,500 awarded twice

Service

Editorial Roles

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

Committee Work

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

2026: **Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine** (Springer); **Journal of Loss and Trauma** (Routledge). 2025: **Journal of Homosexuality** (Taylor & Francis); **Archives of Public Health** (BMC, Springer); **Frontiers in Public Health**, section Public Health Policy; **Frontiers in Sociology**. 2024: **Discover Social Science and Health** (Springer Nature); **Frontiers in Political Science**; **BMC Global and Public Health** (Springer Nature); **Biodemography and Social Biology** (Taylor & Francis); **Discover Global Society** (Springer Nature); **Council on Social Work Education** Conference proposals reviewer. 2023: **Social Work in Public Health** (Taylor & Francis); **Advances in Social Work** (Indiana University); **Critical and Radical Social Work** (Bristol University Press); **European Social Work Research** (Bristol University Press); **International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare** (Emerald Group Publishing). 2022: **Springer Book Series in International Social Work** (Book proposal reviewer); **International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy** (Emerald Group Publishing); **Globalizations** (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 29th 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.

Media Coverage & Interviews

- Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity in Social Work (Video Interview). 2024. *SAGE Research Methods Series: An Introduction to Diversifying and Decolonizing Research*. <https://methods.sagepub.com/video/race-ethnicity-and-diversity-in-social-work>
- Meet Erick da Luz Scherf (Written Interview). *Bold Journey Magazine*. August 8, 2024. <https://boldjourney.com/meet-erick-da-luz-scherf/>

Languages Spoken

English – Advanced/Fluent, Portuguese – Native Speaker, Spanish – Upper-Intermediate, French – Basic/Beginner

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), and Claude AI.

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

References

1. Luciana Giorgio, PhD
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2. Hyunjin (Gina) Noh, PhD
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Associate Professor
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4. Mitra Naseh, PhD
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