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# Esther Ayers

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Michigan State University, ayersest@msu.edu

## EDUCATION

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### Michigan State University

PhD Chicano/Latino Studies Program

East Lansing, MI

Expected May 2023

- Research interests: Latinx youth, Adventure Therapy, Community Mental Health Services

### University of Michigan School of Social Work

Masters in Interpersonal Practice (Minor: Social Policy & Evaluation)

Ann Arbor, MI

December 2014

- Child Welfare Certificate
- Child Welfare Scholarship Recipient
- School of Social Work Dean's Scholarship Recipient
- Organization of Latino Association for Social Workers Michigan Chapter Award

### Eastern Michigan University

Bachelor of Social Work

Ypsilanti, MI

April 2013

- NASW BSW Student of the Year
- Summa Cum Laude
- Honors College

### Washtenaw Community College

Liberal Arts Degree with Macro Stamp

Ann Arbor, MI

December 2003

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

### Michigan State University

*Graduate Assistant for Chicano Latino Studies*

Lansing, MI

February 2018-present

- Conduct Research, Summarize Findings
- Teaching assistant for CLS 201 in Fall 2020
- Attend outreach meetings
- Coordinate CLS workshops

## CLINICAL POSITIONS

Amplify Colectivo

Ann Arbor, MI

*Bilingual therapist*

September 2017 – December 2019

- Conduct biopsychosocial assessments
- Develop cultural adaptive interventions and treatment plans
- Provide therapy services in English and Spanish

**Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County**

**Ann Arbor, MI**

*Bilingual Therapist,*

June 2015 – July 2018

- Created culturally adaptive intervention and treatment plans
- Utilized EBP that include SFT, TF-CBT, AT, CBT, Person Centered, and MI
- Wrote grant for fundraising money for client transportation (won)

**Family Assessment Clinic**

**Ann Arbor, MI**

*Social Work Intern and Clinic Coordinator, Catholic Social Services*

January 2014 - December 2015

- Participated in comprehensive child maltreatment assessments.
- Worked with multicultural, and racial and ethnic minority families
- Conducted collateral interviews for forensic assessment of child welfare cases

## PUBLICATIONS & EDITORIALS

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<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1066-1462>

Torrez, E., **Ayers, E.**, (under review). Exploring Cultural Wealth with Latinx Youth: Storytelling to Understand Aspirational, Motivational, and Navigation Practices. *Journal of Latinos and Education*.

**Ayers, E.**, (2020). A Literature Review of Adventure Therapy with Latinx Youth in Community Based Settings:: Implications for Research and Practice. *Journal of Experiential Education*.

doi:[10.1177/1053825920968637](https://doi.org/10.1177/1053825920968637)

Nelson, A., **Ayers, E.**, Sun, F., & Zhang, A. (2020). Culturally adapted psychotherapeutic interventions for Latino depression and anxiety: A meta-analysis. *Research on Social Work Practice*,

doi:[10.1177/1049731519899991](https://doi.org/10.1177/1049731519899991)

**Ayers, E. A.** (2019). *Sanctuary cities, communities, and organizations*. Book Review. *Journal of Sociology Social Welfare*, 46(3), 194-196

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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“A Literature Review of Adventure Therapy with Latinx Youth in Community Based Settings:: Implications for Research and Practice.” *2020 Association EE Symposium for Experiential Education Research (SEER) Conference*. Virtual November 13, 2020

“Community is At The Heart of What Keeps us Together” accepted August 17, 2020 ActivatEE Keynote Speaker. *Association of Experiential Education 48<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference*. Virtual November 12, 2020

“The Voice of Silence in the Child Maltreatment Disclosure Process: A Multicultural Perspective” Accepted oral presentation at *27<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)*, Virtual on September 22, 2020 Presented by Dr. Robert Ortega and Co-presenters Mary Ortega and Esther Ayers.

“The Voice of Silence A Multicultural Perspective” Accepted oral presentation at *39<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Statewide Conference Child Abuse & Neglect Conference (CAN) Prevention, Assessment, and Treatment*. Plymouth, MI. October 26-27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Presented by Robert Ortega and Co-presenters Mary Ortega and Esther Ayers (rescheduled October 25-26<sup>th</sup> 2021)

“A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Culturally Adaptive Interventions for Latino Populations with Anxiety or Depression.” Accepted oral presentation at *24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)*, Washington, DC. January 2020. Presented by Abbie Nelson, co-author Esther Ayers, Fei Sun and Anao Zhang

“Latina Adolescents Suicide and Mental Health Services” Accepted Individual Presentation. *15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry*. Urbana, Illinois May 15-19, 2019 (did not attend)

“Addressing Trauma in the Family: A Comprehensive Family Treatment Using Play/Adventure-Based Therapeutic Strategies.” Conference Presentation. *American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children*. New Orleans, LA. June 2016. Presented with Mary Ortega and Leah Elliot.

“Strengthening Latino Voices within Washtenaw County.” Conference Presentation. *University of Michigan School of Social Work Alumni Conference*. Ann Arbor, MI. May 2016.

“The Experiences of the Latin@ Student Population at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Evaluation and Needs Assessment. Poster Presentation. *Latino Social Work Organization*. Chicago, IL. October 2014.

## WORKSHOPS, LECTURES, & INVITED TALKS

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**CLS 201: Introduction to Chicano/Latino Studies** Virtual presentation “Shedding Light on Mental Health using a Counterstory Lens” December 11, 2020, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI

**SW 790: Working with Latino Families** “Testimonio to heal the Mind, body and Soul with Latinx Families using Adventure Therapy”, Guest Presenter, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020, University of Michigan School of Social Work, Ann Arbor, MI.

**“Testimonio to heal the Mind, Body and Soul with Adventure Therapy.** LatinX Movement Series on Health, Identity and Spirituality, Guest Presenter, June 2, 2020, Michigan Conference United Methodist Church, Adrian, MI

**RCAH 326: Voces de la Comunidad.** Guest Lecturer. February 28, 2020. Michigan State University, Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, Lansing, MI.

**SW 504: SW Diversity and Social Justice in Social Work.** Guest Lecturer. November 20, 2019. University of Michigan School of Social Work, Ann Arbor, MI.

**SW 696: SW Practice with Children and Youth.** Guest Lecturer. October 10, 2019. University of Michigan School Social of Work, Ann Arbor MI.

**“Experiential Education Facilitation”** August 25, 2019, Camp De Sales, ALMA Latinx UM Students, Jackson Michigan

**“Experiential Education Retreat”** May 10, 2019, Monroe Community College, Monroe County Intermediate School District (ISD), Monroe, MI.

**“Experiential Education Workshop”** April 19, 2019, Michigan State University Chicano Latino Studies (CLS). East Lansing, MI.

**“Día de la Mujer: Navigating White Spaces as Women of Color in Academia.”** Panelist with Bustos, T.E., Rojas, C., Saucedo, J., Bilbao, M.I. April 6, 2019. Office of Cultural & Academic Transitions (OCAT). MSU. East Lansing, MI.

**“Understanding the Emotional Well Being of Latinx.”** March 13, 2019. Michigan State University College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP). East Lansing, MI.

**SW 420: Social Work and Social Policy II.** Guest Lecturer. October 24, 2018. MSU. East Lansing, MI.

**SW 200 Social Justice and Human Diversity.** Guest Lecturer. November 11, 2015. Eastern Michigan University. Ypsilanti, MI.

**SW 739 Integrated Seminar and Child Welfare.** Guest Lecturer. November 30, 2015. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.

**“Latino population Issues in the United States.”** Guest Speaker. August 7, 2013. Eastern Michigan School of Social Work. Ypsilanti, MI.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Trainings during COVID**

**Dia De La Mujuer,** March 5<sup>th</sup>-March 6, 2021. Michigan State University. Virtual Conference

**Ethical Decision Making in Social Work: Complex Cases,** February 17, 2021. ContinuED 1 CEU

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training for Students,** January 26, 2021 completed.

**Avoiding Professional Potholes: Everyday Ethical Social Work Practice,** January 19, 2021. ContinuED 1 (Continuing Education Unit) 1 CEU credit in Ethics

**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity,** January 18-April 12, 2021. “WriteNow Access Spring 2021 Session Beta

**Qualtrics Workshop (online),** January 18, 2021. Michigan State University Library.

**Responsible Conduct of Research Training,** November 10, 2020. Strategies for Effective Team Authorship Decisions: Power Dynamics, Authorship Policies, and Team Climate. Zoom session

**Responsible Conduct of Research Training,** October 13. Authorship, Plagiarism and Peer Review

**Qualitative and Multi-Method Inquiry (IQMR),** June 15-June 26, 2020. Syracuse University (cancelled due to COVID-19)

**Human Research Protection Program, Beginners Hands on In Kuali Coeus,** June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Michigan State University

**Certificate Program in Mixed Methods Research,** June 1-June 30, 2020, University Of Michigan School of Social Work. Certificate obtained on August, 2020.

**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity,** May 17<sup>th</sup>-August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 “Write Now Summer Session Beta”

**Advancing Culturally Responsive Research and Researchers,** May 13-15, 2020, The Ohio State University. (cancelled due to COVID-19)

**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity,** May 14<sup>th</sup> “Every Summer needs a Plan”

**CITI Social and Behavioral Protocol: Module 1** May 13, 2020

**Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct**

### **National Institute of Health Training**

**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 9 Conclusion,** May 15, 2020

**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 8 Research Misconduct,** May 15, 2020

**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 7 Quality Control and Assurance**, May, 14, 2020  
**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 6 Participant Safety and Adverse Event Reporting**, May 14, 2020  
**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 5 Confidentiality and Privacy**, May 14, 2020  
**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 4 Informed Consent Communication** May 13, 2020  
**NIH GCP Social and Behavior Research: Module 3 Recruitment and Retention**, May 13, 2020  
**NIH GCP For Social and Behavior Research: Module 2 Research Protocol**, May 13, 2020  
**NIH GCP for Social and Behavior Research: Module 1 Introduction** April 20, 2020

**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity**

**NCFDD WriteNow Spring Session Beta**, January 18-April 5, 2021  
**NCFDD WriteNow Summer Session Beta**, May 17 - August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.  
**NCFDD From Project to Publication-The Art of Manuscript Revisions**, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020  
**Graduate Student Write Winning Grants Seminar** “accepted” May, 6, 2020, MSU Zoom  
**Summer Online Professional Development Workshop** April 27-May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 MSU Zoom  
**CIRTL's Effective Teaching Online playlist of YouTube** (part 1 of 4) Building a Social Presence In The Online Synchronous Classroom, April 16, 2020  
**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity**, January 31, 2020 “Cultivating Your Network of Mentors, Sponsors and Collaborators”  
**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity** February 21, 2020 “How to Manage Stress, Rejection & The Haters in Your Midst”.  
**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity**, November 19, 2019 “Overcoming Academic Perfectionism”  
**National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity**, October, 24, 2019 “Moving from Resistance to Writing”

**AWARDS**

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**Julian Samora Research Institute Endowed Scholarship (JSRI)** \$2,000.00