

**CURRICULUM VITA**  
Yolanda Machado-Escudero  
Auburn University at Montgomery  
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work  
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## **EDUCATION**

2019	Doctor of Philosophy	University of Georgia, School of Social Work Dissertation: <i>Detentions and deportations in Georgia: Implications for Latina women, their families, and communities.</i> (June Hopps, Chair)
1998	Master of Social Work	University of Puerto Rico, School of Social Work
1994	Bachelor of Social Work	University of Puerto Rico, School of Social Work

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

August 2024- Present	Auburn University at Montgomery, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work, Montgomery, AL, Assistant Professor
2019- 2024	University of North Florida, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work, Jacksonville, FL, Assistant Professor
2018	University of Georgia, Department of Counseling and Human Development Services and Latin American & Caribbean Studies Institute Athens, GA, Co-Instructor
2016-2018	University of Georgia, School of Social Work, Athens, GA, Instructor
2006-2009	Radford University, School of Social Work, Radford, VA, Instructor

## **AREAS OF INTEREST**

Intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, and class among Latinx and other transnational migrant communities in the U.S.; migration policy and its aftermath on undocumented immigrant families; community organizing, advocacy, and social mobilization promoting immigrants' rights; trauma, resilience, and resistance in oppressed groups; systemic inequality and other barriers to access health care, education, and self-sufficiency for families living in vulnerable contexts; social work education in Latin America; environmental and climate justice issues and feminist ecology.

## **PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

Machado-Escudero, Y., Gilliam, C.C. & Prussia, L. (2025). Righting Relationships: Reclaiming Places, Spaces, and Lifeways. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work.* (Online).  
DOI: [10.1007/s41134-024-00363-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s41134-024-00363-7)

Giraldo-Santiago, N., Alvarez-Hernandez, L., & **Machado-Escudero, Y.** (2024). Factors associated with thoughts of migration among mental health professionals in Puerto Rico. *Clinical Social Work Journal*. DOI: [10.1007/s10615-024-00920-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10615-024-00920-7)

Velez, C., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, Gilliam, & C. Sloan, L. (2022). Environmental reproductive justice and social work praxis. *Smith College Studies in Social Work*, 92(1):1-18. DOI: [10.1080/00377317.2022.2123426](https://doi.org/10.1080/00377317.2022.2123426)

Nesmith, A.; Schmitz, C.L. **Machado-Escudero, Y.**; Powers, M.C.; Forbes, R.A.; Billiot, S.; Lawrence, L.; Buckhoy, N. (2021). *The intersection of environmental justice, climate change, community, and the ecology of life*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International.

Walsdorf, A.A., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, & Bermúdez, J.M. (2019). Undocumented and mixed-status Latinx families in therapy: Sociopolitical considerations for systemic practice. *Journal of Psychotherapy*. Advanced Online Publication. DOI: [10.1080/08975353.2019.1679607](https://doi.org/10.1080/08975353.2019.1679607)

Matthew, R. A., Willms, L., Voravudhi, A., Smithwick, J., Jennings, P., & **Machado-Escudero, Y.** (2017). Advocates for community health and social justice: A case example of a multisystemic Promotores organizations in South Carolina. *Journal of Community Practice* 25(2):1-21. doi: [10.1080/10705422.2017.1359720](https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2017.1359720)

**Machado-Escudero, Y.** & Hernandez-Ramírez, R. (2017). Manejadores de casos de salud mental en el sistema de salud para veteranos en la región del Caribe [Mental health case management at veterans' health system in the Caribbean region]. In Holosko, M. (Ed.), *Social work case management: Case studies from the frontlines* (371-381). Thousand Oaks: Sage.

**Machado-Escudero, Y.** (2016). Review of the book *Mixed-methods research for social workers: Integrating methodologies to strengthen practice and policy* by W. L. Haight & L. N Bidwell]. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 26(6), 735-736. DOI: [10.1177/1049731516651730](https://doi.org/10.1177/1049731516651730)

**Machado-Escudero, Y.**, & Nackerud, L. (2016). Review of the book *Forgotten citizens: Deportation, children and the making of American exiles and orphans* by L. Zayas. *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, 25(4), 327-328. DOI: [10.1080/15313204.2016.1231650](https://doi.org/10.1080/15313204.2016.1231650)

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Bermúdez, J.M., Muruthi, B.A., Alvarez-Hernandez, L.R., Machado-Escudero, Y. & Fausto Gomez-Lamont, M. (2025). Agents of Third Order Change: Decolonizing Family Science Using Intersectional Feminist Latinx and Caribbean Sensibilities. Submitted to the Journal of Family Theory and Review, Special Issue. (Submitted, in revision).

Machado-Escudero, Y. & Bermudez, J.M. (in progress). Adversity and resistance of Latina women in the aftermath of deportations in U.S. Latinx communities.

Machado-Escudero, Y. & Schmitz, C.L. (in progress). Climate change, forced migrations, and human rights: Considerations for social work practice in the Caribbean and U.S. Territories.

Machado-Escudero, Y., Alvarez, L. & Giraldo, N. (in progress). Social Work Education and Practice with Puerto Rican Migrants.

## **NATIONAL & REGIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Machado-Escudero, Y. (June, 2025). Latina Social Work Comadres Framework: Navigating the Migration Antagonism Together. Interactive Workshop at the Latino Social Workers Organization (LSWO) Conference, Chicago, IL.

Prussia, L., Sloan, L.M., Machado-Escudero, Y., & Nesmith, A.A. (October, 2024). Re-Centering Community Voices: Sharing Stories of Hope and Change for a Just Climate. Interactive presentation at the 70<sup>th</sup> Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO.

Machado-Escudero, Y., Nesmith, A., Gilliam, C., & Sloan, L. (November, 2023). Restoring indigenous & Afro-Centric practices in learning communities through environmental justice. Interactive presentation at the 69<sup>th</sup> Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (April, 2023). Comadres in Academia: Owning our sense of space and place as faculty women of color. Interactive workshop at the 11<sup>th</sup> Faculty Women of Color in the Academy (FACW), Arlington, VA.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (April, 2023). Environmental justice and community engagement: Examples from the Island of Puerto Rico. Virtual presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ecological Justice and Social Work Conference, Adelphi University.

Machado-Escudero, Y., Nesmith, A., Velez, C., Gilliam, C., Prussia, L. (November, 2022). Human rights, environmental justice, and food inequities: An integrated response. Interactive presentation at the 68<sup>th</sup> Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Anaheim, CA.

Machado- Escudero, Y., Alvarez-Hernandez, L. & Bermudez, J.M. (April, 2022). Using the comadres and motherwork frameworks for the wellbeing and empowerment of Latinas. *Presentation at the International Family Therapy Association Conference (IFTA)*, San Juan, Puerto, Rico.

Machado-Escudero, Y., & Bermudez, J. M. (April, 2022). Deportations in Georgia:

Implications for Latina immigrants, their families, and communities. Poster presentation at the International Family Therapy Association Conference (IFTA), San Juan, Puerto, Rico.

Alvarez-Hernandez, L. R., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, & Bermudez, J. M. (April, 2022). Resistencia y activismo among diverse Latina Immigrants living in the Southern Region of the United States. Workshop presentation in Spanish at the International Family Therapy Association Conference (IFTA), San Juan, Puerto, Rico.

Giraldo, N. & **Machado-Escudero, Y.** (2021). El cooperativismo Latinoamericano: Implicaciones para el trabajo social en Estados Unidos. Presentation for the 67th Council on Social Work Education: (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (November, 2020). Deportaciones en Georgia: Implicaciones para inmigrantes latinas, sus familias, y sus comunidades. Presentation for the 66th Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Annual Program Meeting, Virtual Conference.

Evans, D.; **Machado-Escudero, Y.** & Evans, S.L. (November, 2020). A needed shift in clinical practice: A social justice approach. Presentation for the 66th Council on Social Work Education: (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Virtual Conference.

Schmitz, C.L.; Forbes, R.; **Machado-Escudero, Y.**; Nesmith, A. & Sloan, L. (November, 2020). Environmental justice curriculum guide: Values, coursework, and community intersect in practice. Presentation for the 66th Council on Social Work Education: (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Virtual Conference.

Brunson, A.; Isom, S.; Corley, N. & **Machado-Escudero, Y.** (April, 2020). Academic m/othing in the ivory tower. Presentation accepted on the 8th Annual Faculty Women of Color in the Academy National Conference. Blacksburg, VA. (Presentation was intended to be delivered in the 2021 conference but was cancelled due to one participant being impacted by COVID-19).

Schmitz, C.L., Nesmith, A., Prussia, L., Billiot, S., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, Forbes, R., Villaverde, V., & Lawerence, L. (October, 2019). Intersection of ecology with social work & environmental justice: Historical context to action. Workshop for the 65th Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Giraldo, N., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, & Alvarez, L. (October, 2019). Consideraciones para la educación y práctica del trabajo social con migrantes puertorriqueños. Presentation for the 65th Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (January 2019). Detentions and deportations in Georgia: Implications for Latina immigrants, their families, and communities. Poster on dissertation findings for the 23rd Society for Social Work & Research Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Rechkemmer, A., Powers, M., Rai, A., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, & Schultz, J.M. (January 2019). Environmental migration and climate refugees: An intersectional, interdisciplinary dialogue on research, policy, practice and action. Roundtable for the 23rd Society for Social Work & Research Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Machado-Escudero, Y. & Otálorra, T. (November 2018). Influencia de la cohesión familiar, las condiciones vecinales y la discriminación percibida en los jóvenes inmigrantes con síntomas de depresión: Un análisis de ruta. Presentation for the 64th Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.

Schmitz, C.L., **Machado-Escudero, Y.**, Billiot, S., & Powers, M.C. (November 2018). Climate change, ecological degradation, and environmental migration. Workshop for the 64th Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL.

Walsdorf, A., Bermúdez, J.M. & **Machado-Escudero, Y.** (October, 2017). Status matters: Working with undocumented and mixed-status Latinx in MFT. Oral presentation at the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapist Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (January, 2017). Predictors of higher education outcomes for children of immigrants in the U.S. Poster presented at the 21st Annual Society for Social Work Research Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (November, 2016). Desarrollando un taller comunitario interdisciplinario para inmigrantes Latinas. Presentation for the 62nd Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Machado-Escudero, Y. (April, 2016). Latino panethnicity: Searching for meaning of Latino identities in the United States. Poster presented at the Latino Social Workers Conference, New York, NY

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Self-regulation and school readiness project in Dallas, TX. PI: Margaret O'Brien Caughy, Human Development and Family Sciences, University of Georgia. (Research Assistant, 2017-2019)

Positive youth development and violence prevention in Athens, GA. PI: Jennifer Elkins, Co-PI: Rebecca Matthew, University of Georgia School of Social Work. (Research Assistant, 2015 – 2016)

The long-term outcomes for amnesty registrants of the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act, PI: Larry Nackerud, University of Georgia School of Social Work. (Research Assistant, 2014 – 2015)

Segmentation of women in the public career service in Puerto Rico, PI: Palmira Rios,  
University of Puerto Rico, Graduate School of Public Administration. (Research  
Assistant, 2003 – 2004)

## **TEACHING**

### Courses Taught

Auburn University at Montgomery, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work

- Human Behavior and the Social Environment II (SOWK 3110)
- Social Welfare Policy (SOWK 3600)
- Social Work with Teens (SOWK 4600)
- Social Work with Organizations and Communities (SOWK 4100)

University of North Florida, Brooks College of Health, Department of Public Health, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program

- Counseling Diverse Populations (MHS 6428)

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work

- Advanced Interpersonal Practice with Children, Adolescents, & Families (SOW 6126)
- Field Education I & II (SOW 5940-5941)
- Principles of Social Service Provision (SOW 4352)
- Social Welfare Policy (SOW 3213)
- U.S. Social Welfare Policies & Institutions (SOW 5235)
- Social Work Theory & Research (SOW 5470)

University of Georgia, Department of Counseling and Human Development Services and Latin American & Caribbean Studies Institute

- U.S. Latino Mental Health: An Introduction (ECHD/LACSI 4660/6660)

School of Social Work

- Social Work with Diverse Groups (SOWK 2156)
- Practicum in Social Work I & II (SOWK 5835-5836)
- Integrative Field Seminar I & II (SOWK 5845- 5846)
- Policy and Practice with Immigrants, Refugees, and Internally Displaced Persons (SOWK 6152)

Radford University, School of Social Work

- Human Behavior in the Social Environment (SOWK 602)
- Social Work Practice II -Foundations (SOWK 632)
- Social Welfare Policy II (SOWK 761)
- Social Work Practice III-Community Practice to Strengthen Communities (SOWK 783)
- Concentration Practicum and Field Seminar (SOWK 791)

## **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

### **Service to the Department Social Work & Anthropology, at Auburn University at**

**Montgomery, AL**

2025

Co-Organizer, AUM and NASW Alabama Chapter Advocacy Day, Montgomery, Alabama

**Service to the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Social Work at the University of North Florida**

2022

Member, Search Committee, Sociology, Anthropology, & Social Work Collaborator, UNF and NASW Florida Chapter Leadership Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD), Tallahassee, FL

2019-2024

Faculty Advisor, Social Work Club

2019- 2023

Member, Student Development Committee

**Service to the College and the University of North Florida**

2023

Member, Search Committee. Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program, Brooks College of Health, Department of Public Health.

2022-2024

Member, Grade Appeals Committee, Dean of Students.

2021

Panelist, International Women of Influence. Panel at the Intercultural Center for Peace, Women's Center & International Center

2020-2021

Mentor, Connections Program. Intercultural Center

**Service to the Community-at-Large**

2025

Volunteer, Day of Service food pantry distribution, Mercy House, Montgomery, AL

2018

Panelist, From Anita to Now: Increased Inequality? Power, Gender, and Political Consequences. A Parham Policy Initiative at the University of Georgia, School of Social Work

2017

Facilitator, Awareness to Action: Community Summit on Trauma and Toxic Stress. Co-Sponsored by the University of Georgia, School of Social Work

2016

Panelist, The Effects of Deportation and Detention on Children and Families, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Immigration (LACSI) Forum, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

Facilitator, Movimiento Latino- Office of Institutional Diversity (OID) at the University of Georgia Latino Freshman Orientation.

Interviewer, Community survey at Rolling Ridge- Data collection for a Clarke County and the University of Georgia coalition effort to address youth needs in vulnerable neighborhoods.

2015

Graduate Student Chair, LATIN@UGA, University of Georgia.

Faculty/student driven efforts to promote research collaborations on issues affecting Latinos in the US.

Interviewer, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute-(LACSI), University of Georgia. Data collection for the first needs' assessment of the Latino community in Athens, GA.

## Service to the Profession

2025	Co-Editor and Peer Reviewer, Social Work in Public Health Journal- Special Issue on Climate Crisis: Strategies for Equity and Resilience
2024-Ongoing	Member, Council on Environmental Justice and Human Rights, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
2022-Ongoing	Peer Reviewer, Journal of Human Rights & Social Work
2021	Peer Reviewer, The Centro Journal, Center for Puerto Rican Studies, CUNY
2021	Panelist, Webinar: Los asuntos ambientales son Trabajo Social: Experiencias prácticas y oportunidades. Universidad Ana G. Mendez, Carolina, PR.
	Panelist, Webinar: Disrupting Environmental Racism. University of Denver, CO.
	Panelist, Webinar: Environmental Justice Plenary in Practice, Annual Program Meeting, Council on Social Work Education, Alexandria, VA.
2020- 2024	Affiliate, Florida Institute for Child Welfare
2020	Panelist, Access to Mental Health Services in Covid-19 Times: Impact on Black and Brown Families and Communities. Virtual panel sponsored by Mosaic Mental Wellness and Health, Roanoke, VA
2018	Panelist, Hablemos: First Community Panel on Latinx Identity Sponsored by Athens Immigrant Right Coalition (AIRC)
	Athens-Clark County Public Library, Athens, GA
2016	Emcee, 6th Athens Latino Fest, Athens, GA. Collaboration with media campaign and fundraising to promote the Latin American cultural diversity and folklore within the Athens Latino community.
2015 – 2017	Facilitator, Pinewoods Community Library & Educational Center, Athens, GA. Developed a 9-month interdisciplinary workshop series with Latina mothers to identify community resources to cope with life stressors.
	Board Member, Community Supports for Immigrant Families in Crisis (CSIFC), Athens, GA. Collaboration to provide direct support to local families facing deportation. Training of volunteers to assist families in crisis.
	Board Member, Athens Immigrant Rights Coalition (AIRC), Athens, GA. Collaboration to educate about immigration as a human right and advocate for families at risk of deportation. Allocation of funding sources for operational activities.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

2025	Civil Rights and Civil Virtue Fellowship, Auburn University at Montgomery, \$1,000
2021	Eisen Experiential Learning Award University of North Florida, \$2,500
2019	Charlayne Hunter-Gault Grant Giving Voice to the Voiceless Grant University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, \$1,000

2019	Society for Social Work and Research Student Travel Award, \$500
2017	Aliados y Cómplices (Allies and Accomplices) Award by Dignidad Inmigrante en Athens (DIA), in recognition of commitment to activism and volunteer work.

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

2009 – 2012 Medical Social Worker, AMEDISYS Home Health, Roanoke, VA

- Individual and family counseling
- coordination of referrals to community services, among others.
- Represented the Agency in diverse provider- network groups in the area.

2011 – 2012 Director of Discharge Planning, Pulaski Health & Rehab Center, Pulaski, VA

- Coordinated community resources for patient's needs upon discharge home or another level of care.
- Provided social work services to long-term care patients residing at the facility.

2008 – 2008 Community Outreach Coordinator, FAMIS Outreach Project, Radford, VA

- Coordinated community outreach efforts to insure low-income children in the State Children's Insurance Program (SCHIP) for the New River Valley Region
- Emphasis in recruiting Latino-Hispanic families.
- Provided supervision for graduate students during their internship with the project.

2005 – 2006 General Coordinator/Director, EcoRecursos Comunitarios, Inc., Caguas, PR

- Coordinated community activities for a 500-unit public housing community.
- Staff supervision, budget management, fundraising, program evaluation and community engagement, among others.

2004 – 2006 Community Development Manager, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR

- Coordinated socio-economic projects in 90 underrepresented communities to promote the well-being of their residents.
- Performed personnel supervision for 20 employees.

2004 Workshop Facilitator, Community Alliance for Family Strengthening, Caguas, PR

- Designed and implemented workshops for adolescents and their caretakers to improve their relationships at home and school and prevent drug abuse.
- Developed educational media campaigns.

2003 Program Coordinator, Chana and Samuel Levis Foundation, San Juan, PR

- Coordinated technical assistance for 200 community organizations to improve services offered to the homeless population.
- Support in search of funding availability and proposal writing. Administrative duties such as supervision, program planning, implementation and evaluation.

2002 Coordinator, The FILIUS Institute, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR

- Developed multimedia approaches for the dissemination of research findings concerning individuals with disabilities.
- Performed administrative tasks such as collaboration in proposal writing and staff supervision.

2001 Social Worker, Women Correctional Center, Vega Alta, PR

- Co-managed social services to confined women of Medical Dormitory, a 20-bed capacity facility. Multidisciplinary interventions were conducted with other health professionals.

1999 – 2001 Social Worker /Primary Therapist, First Hospital Panamericano, Cidra, PR

- Performed multidisciplinary clinical therapy in 8 psychiatric inpatient and outpatient settings.
- Individual, group and family interventions in substance abuse therapy.
- Peer training for new therapists.

1996 – 1999 Social Worker/ Interagency Coordinator, Proyecto SIPAF, San Juan, PR

- Coordinated supportive services to prevent child abuse.

1995 – 1996 Social Worker/ Group Supervisor, Programa Abrigo, San Juan, PR

- Performed case management with child protection services.
- Staff supervision, emergency interventions and court witness, among other duties.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2016 – Present	Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)
2015 – Present	Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
2015 – Present	Association for Community Organization and Social Action (ACOSA)
2015 – Present	International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)
2007 – Present	Latino Social Workers Organization (LSWO)
1996 – Present	National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Alabama Chapter