

# Erick da Luz Scherf, MSW

The University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa

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Google Scholar: <http://bit.ly/4imRE1G>

## Education

Aug. 2023- Aug. 2027 (Expected)

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Social Work**

The University of Alabama, School of Social Work

Aug. 2021 – Aug. 2023

**Master of Social Work (MSW)**

Families and Children specialization

The University of Stavanger, Norway

(Equivalency recognized/granted by CSWE in December 2024)

Feb. 2016 – Dec. 2019

**Bachelor of Arts (BA) in 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 International Human Rights Law**

EBRADI - Brazilian School of Law (400 hrs.)

## Research interests

- Social work with migrants and refugees
- Immigrant and minority health
- Labor migration and occupational health outcomes
- The health of Latinx and Brazilian migrants

## Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles in English

15. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, and Badiezadeh, S. (2024). Immigration Policy as a Social Determinant of Health among Brazilian Immigrants in the United States: A Narrative Review. *Health Care Analysis, Online First*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10728-024-00499-7>
14. **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>
13. **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>
12. **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 by the European Commission of the European Union)

11. **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>
  10. **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>
  9. **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 - JHT*, 1(4), 01–22. <https://doi.org/10.47820/jht.v1i4.25>
  8. **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>
  7. **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 high-impact journals such as *Urban Studies*, *Organization*, and the *International Journal of Social Determinants of Health and Health Services*, among others)
6. **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>
  5. 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>
  4. 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>
  3. 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*)
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 journal articles in Portuguese

15. **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>

14. Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Schurf, 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>
13. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
12. Viana da Silva, M.V., da Silva, J.E., & **da Luz Schurf, 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>
11. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
10. Viana da Silva, M.V., & **da Luz Schurf, 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>
9. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
8. Zanatta, M.L.A.L., & **da Luz Schurf, 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>
7. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
6. de Oliveira, A.C.D.C., & **da Luz Schurf, 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>
5. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
4. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
3. **da Luz Schurf, 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>
2. de Souza, M.C.S.A., & **da Luz Schurf, 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)

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.

#### Refereed book reviews

2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2024). Matthew, D. B. (2024). Just Health: Treating Structural Racism To Heal America. New York University Press. Forthcoming in *Families, Systems, & Health*.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/fsh0000942>
1. **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>

#### Refereed book chapters in English

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 chapters in Portuguese

1. **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>

#### Conference Proceedings

1. Giorgio, 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>

#### **Under review**

4. Lee, J., Naseh, M., Sarvenaz, T., Badiezadeh, S., & **Da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted January 2025). Navigating Barriers: The Impact of Migration Policies for Highly Educated Iranian Immigrants. Submitted to *International Migration*.
3. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted March 2024). Addressing Anti-Racism and Diversity in the Social Work Undergraduate Curriculum in Portugal: A Qualitative Pilot Study. R&R in *Social Work Education: The International Journal* (Minor Revisions requested).

2. **da Luz Scherf, E.**, Naseh, M., and Lee, J. (Submitted September 2024). Migration Policies as Social Determinants of Health Among International Graduate Students in the United States. Under review in *Social Policy & Administration*.
1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Submitted October 2024). ‘Blow by blow, and brick by brick’: Anti-immigration policies as a threat to global health equity. Under review in *Discover Public Health*.

### Under preparation

4. Giorgio, L. C., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, & Ruggiano, N. Unveiling the Association between Social Isolation and Sleep Disturbances among Latinx Older Women and Men Living in the United States. Phase: Writing up.
3. Bride, B. E., **da Luz Scherf, E.**, and others TBC. The Effect of Personal Trauma History on Secondary Traumatic Stress and Distress and Impairment in Clinical Social Workers. Phase: Writing up.
2. Lee, H. Y., Malele-Kubanga, K., Won, C.R., & **da Luz Scherf, E.** Service Provision During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights and Challenges Faced by Rural Community Health Workers in Alabama. Phase: Manuscript revision and preparation for submission.
1. **Da Luz Scherf, E.**, Badiezadeh, S., Giorgio Cosenzo, L., Naseh, M. (TBC). Exploring the Health Profile and Behavior of Brazilian Immigrants in the United States: A Scoping Review. Phase: Protocol development.

### Refereed presentations at academic conferences

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.**, and 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.
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]. 16<sup>th</sup> 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 41<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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]. Florianópolis, 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.

## **Fellowships, Scholarships, Awards, and Funding**

### Fellowships

August 2023

**The University of Alabama, Graduate School**

Capstone Graduate Council Fellowship

5 years of Ph.D. funding (\$58,492 for 2023/2024 alone)

## Scholarships

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  
(Amount: 71,000 BRL)

## Awards

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

2018 **The University of Santa Cruz do Sul (Unisc)**  
Best Paper Award – Human Rights Cluster  
15th International Seminar on Social Demands and Public Policies in Contemporary Society (Brazil). The paper was selected to be published as a book chapter.

## Funding

Spring 2025 **The University of Alabama, School of Social Work**  
Professional development fund to attend and present at a National Conference (\$700)

Fall 2024 **The University of Alabama Graduate School and SSW**  
Professional Development Fund to attend and present at a National Conference (\$1000)

Fall 2024 **The University of Alabama, School of Social Work**  
Professional development funding for CSWE International Degree Review and Accreditation (\$645)

Spring 2024 **The University of Alabama School of Social Work**  
Professional Development Fund to attend and present at a National Conference (\$700)

Spring 2024 **The University of Alabama, School of Social Work and Graduate School**  
Professional Development Fund to attend and present at an International Conference (\$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 two times)

April 2022, June 2022 **The University of Stavanger (UiS)**  
Travel Award for presenting at a Conference  
(Amounts: 70 EUR, and 60 EUR)

## **Research experience**

Fall 2024 / Spring 2025 **Graduate Research Assistant** (<https://socialwork.ua.edu/>)  
The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Brian Bride (0.25 FTE) and Dr. Luciana C. Giorgio (0.25 FTE)

- Summer 2024 **Graduate Research Assistant** (<https://socialwork.ua.edu/>)  
The University of Alabama School of Social Work  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Hee Yun Lee (0.25 FTE) and Dr. Nicole Ruggiano (0.25 FTE).  
Funders: UA, NSF, and NIH, among others
- Sep. 2023 – Present **Graduate Student Affiliate**  
(<https://forcedmigration.wustl.edu/>)  
The Initiative on Social Work & Forced Migration  
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis  
Principal Investigator: Mitra Naseh, PhD  
Funders: RSF and WashU, among others
- Sep. 2023 – Present **Graduate Research Assistant**  
(<https://she-research.ua.edu/>)  
Sleep Health Equity (SHE) Research Lab  
The University of Alabama, School of Social Work  
Principal Investigator: Luciana Giorgio, PhD  
Funders: UA
- 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  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Shane Gill  
Funders: Unfunded Research Project
- Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2023 **Affiliated Researcher**  
(<https://www.humanrightsnudge.com/>)  
ERC Human Rights Nudge  
University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Veronika Fikfak  
Funders: ERC, UKRI, and others
- Mar. 2018 – Feb. 2021 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**  
Human Rights & Citizenship Research Group  
The University of Vale do Itajaí, Brazil  
Principal Investigator: Malu Zanatta, PhD  
Funders: Unfunded Research Project

## Teaching experience

- 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).

**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 (0.5 FTE).

Sep. 2022 – Oct. 2022

**Internationella Engelska Skolan**

[\(https://engelska.se/\)](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 Itajaí  
School of Legal and Social Sciences (Itajai, Brazil)  
Role: *Community Outreach Intern, Undergrad/BA-level.*  
Part-time (0.5 FTE).

**Invited talks and speaking engagements (not refereed)**

2024

**SAGE Research Methods Series**

SAGE: An Introduction to Diversifying and Decolonizing  
Research. Title: Race, Ethnicity and Diversity in Social Work.  
<https://methods.sagepub.com/video/race-ethnicity-and-diversity-in-social-work>

- 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 Itajai, 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.

## Service

### Journal editor roles

- April 2024 – Present **Frontiers in Political Science**  
International Studies section.  
Role: Editorial Board Member / Review Editor.

### Committee work

- April 2024 – Present **Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)**  
Doctoral Student Committee (DSC), Mentoring Sub-  
Committee.  
Role: Committee Member.

### Peer-review

- 2024 **Discover Social Science and Health** (Springer Nature)  
2024 **Frontiers in Political Science**  
International Studies, *Ad hoc* reviewer (3 times)  
2024 **BMC Global and Public Health** (Springer Nature),  
2024 **Biodemography and Social Biology** (Taylor & Francis)  
2024 **Discover Global Society** (Springer Nature)  
2024 **Council on Social Work Education**  
Annual Program Meeting (2024)  
Conference proposals reviewer  
2023 **Social Work in Public Health** (Taylor & Francis)  
2023 **Advances in Social Work** (Indiana University)  
2023 **Critical and Radical Social Work** (Bristol University Press)  
2023 **European Social Work Research** (Bristol University Press)  
2023 **International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**  
(Emerald Group Publishing)

- 2022 **Springer Book Series in International Social Work**  
(Springer Nature), Book proposal reviewer
- 2022 **International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy**  
(Emerald Group Publishing)
- 2022 **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  
Purpose: The Tide Together Graduate Mentor Program helps traditionally underrepresented students in graduate programs reach personal and professional success as they navigate the higher education journey.  
Role: Mentee.
- Fall 2023 **Brazilian Student Association (BRASA)**  
Purpose: To help and guide Brazilian students throughout their application process to graduate school in the United States, providing them with tips, advice, and guidance regarding admissions to various degree programs.  
Role: Mentor/Grad. School Admissions Consultant (Volunteer).

### Volunteering and Civic Engagement

- March 07, 2024, **Advocacy Day, The University of Alabama and NASW-AL**  
Montgomery, AL (In person).  
Role: Participant.  
We spent the day advocating on behalf of Criminal Justice Reform, Social Work Reinvestment, and Medicaid Expansion.
- 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.

### **Other publications (not peer-reviewed)**

3. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2021). Lei Maria da Penha completa 15 anos com conquistas e desafios [Maria da Penha Law celebrates 15 years with achievements and challenges]. *Instituto Aurora*. <https://institutoaurora.org/lei-maria-da-penha-completa-15-anos-com-conquistas-e-desafios/>
2. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (2021). Re-Assessing the Promises and Possibilities of Human Rights. *The Wall of Justice*. <https://thewallofjustice.in/re-assessing-the-promises-and-possibilities-of-human-rights/>

1. **da Luz Scherf, E.** (Winter 2018). Ought to kill or ought to heal? The importance of medicine in the history of warfare. *Hektoen International: A Journal of Medical Humanities*.  
<https://hekint.org/2018/03/05/kill-heal-importance-medicine-history-warfare/>

### **Media coverage**

Meet Erick da Luz Scherf. *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**

#### Established qualitative skills:

One-on-one and group interviewing; focus groups; interpersonal and people skills

Very familiar with thematic coding and analysis

Software: Dedoose and NVivo (Good knowledge)

#### Quantitative skills in development:

Software: Familiar with SPSS, and R (Fair knowledge)

Simple and multiple linear regression; logistic regression

#### Other research software:

Covidence (Good knowledge)

### **Academic and professional memberships**

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- Present      Social Policy Association (SPA, UK), International Early Career Scholar

2020-2023          Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA), Erasmus Master Student