

Gabi Celia Ortiz

PRONOUNS	She/Her/Hers	
CONTACT INFORMATION	Boston College School of Social Work McGuinn Hall	Email: ORTIZGE@BC.EDU

Education

EDUCATION	PhD Candidate in Social Work (2024-Present) Concentrations via Course Work: Organizational Behavior, Nursing Sciences and Mixed Methodologies Boston College School of Social Work
	Master of Social Work (MSW) (May 2024) Concentration: Clinical Mental Health Certificates: Advanced Research, Aging Populations and Gerontology Boston College School of Social Work
	Master of Arts in Education (MA.Ed) in Higher Education and Organizational Change (2019) UCLA School of Education and Information Studies (UCLA)
	Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Political Science (2018) University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
	Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in International Development Studies (2018) <i>Departmental Highest Honors</i> University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
ADDITIONAL TRAINING	Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Research Scholars. A National Policy and Leadership Training Program. (2023-2027) Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
	Doctoral Coursework in Organizational Behavior, Statistics, Social Psychology, Higher Education and Sociology (2019-2021) University of California, Los Angeles Graduate Division

Research Interests

Organizational inclusion, health and wellbeing among transgender, racialized, and gender-diverse workers; Intersectionality, power, and inequality in workplace structures and experiences; Informal-to-formal labor market transitions, including sex work and alternative economies; Critical organizational behavior, identity work, and institutional logics; Decolonial, feminist, and queer approaches to management and organizational analysis; Indigenous knowledge systems and relational models of leadership; Mixed methods and ethnographic approaches in management and DEI research; Health equity, organizational policy, and gender-affirming workplace practices; Global and comparative organizational studies; Interdisciplinary research bridging gender studies, social work, and organizational studies.

Funding, Honors, and Awards

GRANTS	Health Policy Research Scholar, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 06/30/2027 Role: Principal Investigator (PI) Project Title: Health Policy Research Scholars	09/01/2023-
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Description: Health Policy Research Scholars is a national leadership program for second-year doctoral students in any academic discipline who want to apply their research to help build healthier and more equitable communities.

Grant: \$120,000

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

07/01/2023-06/30/2027

Role: Co-Investigator (Co-I)

Project Title: The Women-Centered HIV Care Hub: Mobilizing and Scaling-up the Women-Centered HIV Care Model Across Canada

Description: This project aims to develop and carry out a national strategy to broaden the reach of knowledge mobilization of the Women-Centered HIV Care (WCHC) Model with diverse stakeholder groups across Canada. Through development of knowledge mobilization resources, convening and evaluating culturally-responsive knowledge mobilization events, and providing training and mentoring, we ultimately aim to enhance health outcomes, eliminate gaps in access to care, and improve the quality of healthcare for women with HIV, as well as build capacity of women's health researchers in Canada and abroad.

Grant: \$840,000

IWRG Faculty Seed Grant: Open Topic, Institute for Research on Women and Gender, University of Michigan

03/31/2023-02/28/2025

Role: Trainee (Quantitative Data Analysis)

Project Title: Factors Associated with Primary and Preventative Health Care Among Trans Women in Canada: Bridging Research Gaps to Enhance Holistic Health and Reduce Inequities

Grant: \$6,625

FELLOWSHIPS

- Fulbright Fellowship Semi Finalist 2025
- California State University System Chancellors Doctoral Incentive Fellow 09/2023-06-2026
- Boston College School of Social Work Dean's PhD Fellowship (\$150,000) 2021-2026
- Ford Foundation Predoctoral (NASEM) Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 2020, 2021, Alternate 2023
- Point Foundation Scholarship, Finalist 2020
- Clark Young Scholar Award Fellowship (\$24,000) 2018
- Will Rogers Memorial Fellowship (\$650) 2018
- The Walt Disney Company Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar (\$5,500) 2018

AWARDS

- NASPA 2025 Gender and Sexuality Knowledge Community Group Inclusion Award
- NASPA 2025 Mena Valdez Latinx Inclusion Award
- Boston College School of Social Work Dean's Scholar
- The Most Original Study by The ASHE Council on Ethnic Participation
- UCLA Chancellors Service Award
- UCLA International Development Studies Departmental Honors Program - Highest Honors
- Deans Prize Undergraduate Research Award

Peer Reviewed Research

WORKING PAPERS [1] **Ortiz G.C.**, Lacombe-Duncan A., Emrick R. (Under Review) Factors Associated with Trans Women's Recency of Last Visit with a Primary Care Physician: A Retrospective Chart Review Study. Target Journal Canadian Medical Association Journal.

PUBLICATIONS & PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION [1] Lacombe-Duncan, A., **Ortiz, G. C.**, Underhill, A., Persad, Y., Armstrong, I., Kyne, L., Gupta, M., Saucier, A., Arbess, G., Chan, L. Y. L., Goodhew, J., Loutfy, M. (Under Review.). A retrospective chart review analysis of anal cytology uptake among transgender women. Journal of Lower Genital Tract Disease

[2] Lacombe-Duncan A., **Ortiz G.C.** (Under Review) Prostate-specific Antigen Screening Among Transgender Women in Clinical Care: A Retrospective Chart Review Study. Urologic Oncology: Seminars and Original Research.

[3] Pandey, S., Paul, P., **Ortiz, G.C.** (2025) Sustainable Development Goals: A Mid-Point Review of

Accomplishments and Challenges. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*

- [4] Gamarel, K., Jennings Mayo-Wilson, L., Jadwin-Cakmak, L., Reyes, L., Monro, D., Ubong, I., Sullivan, S., Abad J., Poindexter, J., Harris, H., Riser, C., Stephenson, J., **Ortiz G.C.**, Poteat, T., Peitzmeier, S.M., Neilands, T.B. (2025) “Strengthening community responses to economic vulnerability (SeCuRE): A protocol of a an HIV status-neutral pilot randomized clinical trial with transgender women of color in Detroit, Michigan.” *BMC Pilot & Feasibility Studies*
- [5] Seim, J., Adams.J*, Huang, J.*, **Ortiz G.C.***, Franco de Paula, T.*, and Yang, Y.*. (2024) “Taking Ethnography to Court: Reflections on a Course-Based Field Study.” *Teaching Sociology* *
Denotes equal secondary authorship
- [6] Pulido, G., Orozco R., Gonzalez S., Duran A., Sérrano B., Santos Mendoza G., Gonzalez A., Cataño Y., **Ortiz G.C.**, (2024) The Story of the Queer and Trans Latinx/a/o Higher Education Collective: Revealing the Power of the Group Using Queer Pláticas. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education* Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dhe0000579>
- [7] **Ortiz, G.C** (2024) Queering Racialized Designations: Centering Queer and Trans Latine Students at an Emerging Hispanic Serving Institution (eHSI). *Journal of LGBTQ Youth*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/193>
- [8] Pinerós-Leano, M., Pérez-Flores, N. J., Damian, K., Rodrigues, K., **Ortiz, G.**, Simonovich, S. D.: (2022) Mental health disparities in Latinx immigrant communities residing in the United States during COVID-19: Implications for policy and practice. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 10. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2022.1000233>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Paper Presentations

Kluger, H., Lacombe-Duncan, A., Underhill, A., Iyer, H., **Ortiz, G.C.**, Gunduz, A., Soud, R., Loutfy, M. (2025, July). A qualitative exploration of social support experiences of trans women/transfeminine adults accessing estrogen-based gender-affirming hormone therapy in Canada. Accepted for Oral Presentation at the 2025 National Transgender Health Summit, San Francisco, California, USA.

Kluger, H., Lacombe-Duncan, A., Underhill, A., Iyer, H., **Ortiz, G.C.**, Gunduz, A., Soud, R., Loutfy, M. (2025, July). A qualitative exploration of social support experiences of trans women/transfeminine adults accessing estrogen-based gender-affirming hormone therapy in Canada. Accepted for Oral Presentation at the 6th International Sexuality and Social Work Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2025.

Ortiz, G.C., Lacombe-Duncan, A., Emrick, B., Underhill, A., Côté, P., Kyne, L.T., Besharati, A.A., Armstrong, I., Fung, R., Chan, L.Y.L., Weisdorf, T., & Loutfy, M.: (2025, January). Factors associated with trans women’s recency of last visit with a primary care physician: Implications for social work research and practice. Accepted for oral presentation at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA.

Ortiz, G.C., Lacombe-Duncan, A.: (2025, January). Trans Health in the Context of Social and Legal Gender Affirmation in Canada: A Scoping Review. Accepted for oral presentation at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA.

Lacombe-Duncan, A., **Ortiz, G.C.**, Kluger, H., Iyer, H., Underhill, A., Fung, R., Armstrong, I., Kia, H., & Loutfy, M.: (2025, January). A scale to center and measure trans women/transfeminine persons’ satisfaction with feminizing hormone therapy: Results of the feminizing hormone satisfaction scale (FEM-SQ). Accepted for oral presentation at the 29th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Seattle, WA.

Gutzwa, J.A., **Ortiz, G.C.**: (Sept 2024) Dollification as a Theoretic of Trans-Liberation: Celebrating Trans Femininity in Postsecondary Education. International Trans Studies Conference. Chicago, IL.

Lacombe-Duncan, A. **Ortiz, G.C** and Kruger, H.: (Nov 2023) Developing a Scale to Measure Trans Women’s Satisfaction with Feminizing Hormone Therapy: Preliminary Results of the FEM-SQ. Paper Presentation, Trans Women HIV Research Initiative (TWIRI). Toronto, CA.

Ortiz, G.: (April 2023) Engaging in Social Welfare Organizational Behavior for Queer and Trans Latinx Students. Paper Presentation, American Education Research Association (AERA). Chicago, IL.

Ortiz, G.: (Feb 2021) Testimonio as a Methodology of Healing in Queer and Trans Latinx Scholarship, Interactive Symposium in Futurity of Queer and Trans Latinx/a/o Possibilities in Higher Education, Paper Presentation at the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AHHE) Virtual Conference.

Ortiz, G.: (Nov 2020) (Re)centering Queer and Trans* Latinx students at an emerging Hispanic Serving Institution (eHSI). Paper Presentation at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) New Orleans, LA

Ortiz, G.: (2020) (Re)Conceptualizing Narratives: Centering Queer and Trans* Latinx at an Emerging Hispanic Serving Institution, Paper presentation, Research and Inquiry Conference. Los Angeles, CA (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

Ortiz, G.: (2020) Queer Students of Color with Thoughts of Dropping out: A Binary Logistic Study. Roundtable presentation, American Education Research Association (AERA). San Francisco, CA.

Ortiz, G.: (2018) Transgressing Neoliberal Education Reforms: An Examination of Revolutionary Teacher Agency in Mexico. Oral presentation for the Going Global Conference: Exploring Human Rights in the Shadow of Nationalism, Los Angeles, CA
Nominated for Best Undergraduate Paper

Posters

Lacombe-Duncan, A., **Ortiz, G.C.**, Underhill, A., Persad, Y., Armstrong, I., Kyne, L., Gupta, M., Saucier, A., Arbess, G., Chan, L.Y.L., Loutfy, M. (2025, May). Anal cytology among trans women: Implications for cancer screening from the Montreal-Toronto Trans Study. Accepted for Poster Presentation at the 34th Canadian Conference on HIV/AIDS Research, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Ortiz, G.C: (2024) Navigating Access to Gender-Affirming Healthcare”: "Disparities and Outcomes Among Transgender Women Populations in Toronto and Montreal Canada an EMR Analysis.

Ortiz, G.: (2019) Literature Review: Queer and Trans* Latinx Students in Pursuit of Higher Education. Poster presented at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE). Portland, OR.
Awarded: The Most Original Study by The ASHE Council on Ethnic Participation

Ortiz, G.: (2018) Developmental Reform its Revolutionary Discontents: The Global Regulation of Teachers the Fight for Public Education in Mexico. Oral and Poster presentation, UCLA Undergraduate Research Week. Los Angeles, CA
Awarded: Dean's Prize for Undergraduate Research

Ortiz, G.: (2017) Literacy, and Economic Marginalization: A Look into the South African Economy from a Linguistic Standpoint. UCLA International Development Studies Department. Los Angeles, CA

Research Experience

Role: Doctoral Level Research Assistant (Qualitative Analysis and Publications) 2023 - Present
Principle Investigator: Kristi E. Gamarel, PhD (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), and Larissa Jennings Mayo-Wilson PhD (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
Project Title: Strengthening community responses to economic vulnerability and HIV inequities (Se-CuRE))
Funded By: National Institutes of Health (R34MH130207)

Role: Lead Doctoral Level Research Assistant (Quantitative Analysis and Publications) 2022- Present
Principle Investigator: Ashley Lacombe-Duncan, PhD (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)
Project Title: Trans Women HIV Research Initiative
Funded By: Canadian Institutes of Health

Role: Lead Doctoral Level Research Assistant (Qualitative Analysis and Publications) 2021- 2025
Principle Investigator: Maria Fernanda Piñeros-Leaño, PhD (Boston College), Alethea Desrosiers PhD (Brown University)
Project Title: Improving Mental Health Among Colombian and Venezuelan Children and Youth Affected by Armed Conflict: Adaptation and Implementation of Two Trauma-informed, Evidence-based Interventions
Funded By: Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Role: Doctoral Level Research Assistant (Ethnography, and Curriculum Preparation) 2022
Principle Investigator: Samuel Bradley Jr. DSW
Project Title: Work Equity Amongst Small and Mid Sized Employment Organizations

Funded By: Boston College Center for Social Innovation

Role: Research Analyst (Survey Development and Mixed Methods Analyses) 2019-2022

Principle Investigator: Cecilia Rios-Aguilar, PhD (UCLA)

Project Title: Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative

Funded By: UCLA School of Education and Information Studies

Role: Doctoral Level Research Assistant 2021-2022

Principle Investigator: Maggi Price, PhD (Boston College)

Project Title: Building a School-Staff Training Program to Improve Transgender Adolescents' Mental Health

Funded By: Boston College Schiller Institute

Role: Doctoral Level Research Assistant 2021-2022

Principle Investigator: Maggi Price, PhD (Boston College)

Project Title: Development of a Training Intervention to Improve Mental Health Treatment for Gender Minority Youth

Funded By: National Institutes of Health (K23MH124670)

Role: Undergraduate Researcher (PI of a year-long Qualitative Honors Thesis Project) 2017-2018

Adviser: Lorena Guillen, PhD (UCLA)

Project Title: Honors Thesis: Developmental Reform its Revolutionary Discontents: The Global Regulation of Teachers & the Fight for Public Education in Mexico

Funded By: UCLA International Institute

SKILLS

Statistics Software: R, R Studio. Python, STATA, SPSS

Qualitative Software: Dedoose, NVivo.

Document Preparation Systems: L^AT_EX,

Survey Research: Qualtrics

Teaching

AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

Boston College

- *Course:* SCWK 7701 - The Social Welfare System Spring 2025
School of Social Work (Foundational MSW Program Course)
Instructor of Record: Dr. Vincent Fusaro PhD, MSW. Assistant Professor (Tenure Stream)
- *Course:* SCWK 7747 -Research Methods in Social Work Practice Fall 2024
School of Social Work (Final Year MSW Program Course)
Instructor of Record: Dr. William Biyansi PhD, MSW. Assistant Professor (Tenure Stream)
- *Course:* SCWK 7721 - Human Behavior and the Social Environment Fall 2023
School of Social Work (Foundational MSW Program Course)
Instructor of Record: Dr. Scott Easton, PhD, MSW. Associate Professor (Tenured)
- *Course:* HLTH8000 - Examining Diversity in Nursing and Health Care Fall 2022
William F. Connell School of Nursing (Graduate - Doctorate in Nursing Practice DNP)
Instructor of Record: Dr. Nadia Abuelezzam, Sc.D. Associate Professor (Tenured)

University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)

- *Course:* Education 299C - Research Practicum in Education (Publishable Paper) Spring 2021
School of Education and Information Studies (Required Ph.D. Course)
Instructor of Record: Dr. Cecilia Rios-Aguilar PhD. Professor (Tenured)
- *Course:* Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Studies M114 - Introduction to LGBTQ Studies Fall 2020
College of Letters and Sciences (Upper Division Required Minor Course)
Instructor of Record: Dr. Morgan Woolsey PhD. Lecturer
- *Course:* Education 250B - Organizational Analysis of Higher Education Winter 2020
School of Education and Information Studies (Foundational Course for Ph.D., and MA Programs)
Instructor of Record: Dr. Ozan Jaquette PhD. Associate Professor (Tenured)

- *Course:* Education C209A - History of Higher Education Fall 2019
School of Education and Information Studies
Instructor of Record: Dr. Walter R. Allen, PhD. Distinguished Professor (Tenured)

AS TUTOR

Boston College

- *Course:* SCWK 7747 -Research Methods in Social Work Practice Fall 2024
School of Social Work (Final Year MSW Program Course) *Course Wide Tutor to 200+ Students throughout the semester.*

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

- [1] Boston College School of Social Work, Research Methods **Sampling, Recruitment and Sample Size.** (Oral Presentation)
- [2] Boston College School of Social Work, Health and Mental Health Practice with Older Adults **Cultural Competency, Gender, and Sexual Diversity.** (Oral Presentation)
- [3] Boston College Center for Teaching and Learning, Experienced Teaching Assistant and Fellows Panel **International and Underrepresented Teaching Fellows Experiences.** (Oral Presentation)
- [4] Boston College School of Social Work, Health and Mental Health Practice with Older Adults **Cultural Competency, Gender, and Sexual Diversity.** (Oral Presentation)
- [5] Boston College School of Social Work, Human Behavior and the Social Environment (**A Conceptualization of Young Adulthood.** (Oral Presentation)
- [6] Brown University Warren Alport Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior. **Qualitative Results from a Cultural Adaptation of an Emotional Regulation and Entrepreneurship Skill Building Intervention.** (Oral Presentation)
- [7] Boston College School of Social Work, Human Behavior and the Social Environment (**Life Course Theory and Transgender Populations.** (Oral Presentation)
- [8] California Lutheran University Department of Counseling, Student Development Theory (Educ 522) (**(Trans)gender Student Development in Higher Education: Towards organizational lenses of racialized-genderaffirming academic and health needs.** (Oral Presentation)
- [9] UCLA School of Education and Information Studies, Organizational Analysis of Higher Education Seminar **An Introduction to Queer Theory, Queer Politics, and Queering Power in Society and Organizations.** (Oral Presentation)
- [10] UCLA César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o and Central American Studies, Introduction to Chicana Studies(Chicana Studies 10): History and Culture. **Interseccionalidad Como Teoria en Investigaciones Educativas..** (Oral Presentation)
- [11] UCLA School of Education and Information Studies, Organizational Analysis of Higher Education Seminar **Whiteness as Property an Introduction.** (Oral Presentation)

Service

TO THE
INSTITUTION AND
ACADEMY

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars Annual Conference Planning Committee
Boston College Social Work PhD Mentor to Incoming Students
MACONDO Research Team Mentor to Undergraduate and MSW level Research Assistants
Affirm Lab Research Team Mentor to Undergraduate and MSW level Research Assistants
UCLA Higher Education & Organizational Change Program Co-Liaison for Masters student Inclusion.
UCLA Higher Education & Organizational Change program Division Representative.

GRADUATE AND
UNDERGRADUATE
MENTEES

Hadas Kluger (Undergraduate - University of Michigan)
Eduardo Dager (Undergraduate - Boston College)
Sofia Gillespie (Undergraduate - Boston College)
Josue Velasquez (MSW - Boston College)

Melissa Bustillo (MSW - Boston College)
 Zoe Katsoufis (Undergraduate - Boston College)

PEER REVIEW Transgender Health
 Journal of Sleep Research
 Journal of Community Psychology
 Association For The Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

PROFESSIONAL
 AFFILIATIONS American Public Health Association (APHA)
 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
 National Women's Studies Association
 Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
 American Education Research Association (AERA)

Clinical and Professional Experience

South Shore Child and Family Counseling 05/2023- 05/2024

Role: Clinical Outpatient Clinician, Intern

Skills Utilized: Led individual counseling sessions with a caseload of nine clients, provided CBT and DBT geared sessions with clients across the lifespan aged 13 to 60

Citrus College 06/2018- 04/2019

Role: Disability Services Adjunct Counselor -Chronic Health and Disability Specialist.

Azusa Unified School District 08/2017- 06/2018

Role: College Going Pathways Coordinator.