

# Jessica P. Cerdeña, Ph.D.

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## CURRENT POSITION

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2022-present **University of Connecticut**  
Assistant Research Professor (*gratis*)  
Institute for Collaboration on Health Intervention and Policy (InCHIP)  
Research Scientist (*gratis*)  
Department of Anthropology

## EDUCATION

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2023 (*expected*) **M.D., Yale School of Medicine**  
National Institutes of Health Medical Scientist Training Program

2021 **Ph.D., Yale University**  
Anthropology  
Dissertation: “Onward: An Ethnography of Latina Migrant Motherhood During the COVID-19 Pandemic” (<https://www.proquest.com/docview/2631668322>)

2018 **M.Phil., Yale University**  
Anthropology

2014 **A.B., Washington University in St. Louis**  
International and Area Studies & Spanish, minor in Biology  
*magna cum laude*

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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health justice	medical anthropology	epigenetics
racism	biocultural anthropology	qualitative methods
migration	anthropology of	bioethnography
medical education	reproduction	community engagement
race-conscious medicine	science studies	health policy

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

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### *Externally Funded*

2022 American Academy of Family Physicians Family Medicine Emerging Leader Scholarship (\$1,000)

2022 Health Policy Research Scholars Research Dissemination Award (\$500)  
*For artwork accompanying Art of Medicine article in The Lancet: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)00488-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)00488-3)*

2020 Health Policy Research Scholars Research Dissemination Award (\$1,500)  
*For animation accompanying Viewpoint in The Lancet: <https://youtu.be/FlqQ4qvqcL8>*

2020 Health Policy Research Scholars Biostatistical Consultant Award

2020-2025 National Institutes of Health Medical Scientist Training Program Grant (T32GM136651; Yale MD/PhD Program)

2019-2021 National Science Foundation Biological Anthropology Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (Award # 1918769; \$23,064)

2018 Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (\$19,828)

2017 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholar (\$120,000)

2014 Family Medicine Education Consortium Medical Student Travel Scholarship

2014-2020	National Institutes of Health Medical Scientist Training Program Grant (T32GM007205; Yale MD/PhD Program)
2012	Ford Foundation Student Travel Scholarship
	<b><i>Internally Funded</i></b>
2021	Alan H. Smith Fund Dissertation Research Award, Yale University (\$3,000) For animation accompanying dissertation research: <a href="https://youtu.be/Y1rnjxUACNo">https://youtu.be/Y1rnjxUACNo</a> (English), <a href="https://youtu.be/2AXH663Xn1Y">https://youtu.be/2AXH663Xn1Y</a> (Spanish)
2015	MacMillan Center Pre-Dissertation Grant, Yale University (\$4,600)
2015	Tinker Foundation Field Research Grant, Yale University (\$1,000)
2015	Office of International Medical Student Education Travel Scholarship, Yale School of Medicine
2013	Office of Undergraduate Research Award, Washington University in St. Louis
2012	Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$4,000), Washington University in St. Louis

## HONORS & AWARDS

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2022	<b>Society for Medical Anthropology Charles Hughes Graduate Student Paper Prize (\$250)</b> Unanimously selected by the judging committee for an outstanding paper in medical anthropology written by a graduate student.
2022-present	<b>Pisacano Scholar (\$28,000)</b> Named by the Leadership Foundation of the American Board of Family Medicine, Inc. as a future leader for superlative performance in medical school and devotion to family medicine.
2022	<b>Sam Dubal Memorial Award for Anti-Colonialism and Racial Justice in Anthropology (\$1,000)</b> Honoring a deep commitment to anti-colonialism and racial justice work following the legacy of the late anthropologist, activist, medical doctor, and professor, Dr. Sam Dubal, MD, PhD.
2022	<b>P.E.O. Scholar Award (\$20,000)</b> One of 100 women selected from 744 international nominees for a merit-based award honoring high level of academic achievement and potential for having a positive impact on society.
2022-present	<b>American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Foundation Emerging Leader</b> Selected as emerging leader in family medicine for historical aptitude for leadership and strong potential for future leadership in the profession.
2022-present	<b>Edward A. Bouchet National Graduate Honor Society Member</b> Recognized for excellence in scholarship, leadership, character, and advocacy.
2018	<b>Outstanding Policy Memo</b> Distinguished among Scholar peers for clarity, scholarly grounding, and feasibility of policy memo on migrant mental health at the Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Research Scholars Summer Institute.
2015	<b>Marguerite-Rush Lerner Creative Writing Award</b> Granted \$500 prize for poem "The Bird Inside"
2014	<b>Victor H. Farwell Student Leadership Award</b> Awarded to one graduating undergraduate student at Washington University in St. Louis for excellence in leadership.
2013	<b>Sigma Iota Rho, International Studies Honor Society</b> Inducted for academic excellence in the field of international studies.
2010-2014	<b>Annika Rodriguez Scholarship</b> Endowed full-tuition scholarship and stipend in recognition of academic excellence, leadership, community service, and commitment to bringing diverse groups together.
2010-2014	<b>University Scholar in Medicine</b>

Granted dual admission to Washington University and Washington University School of Medicine for extraordinary potential for a career in medicine.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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### Book

1. **Cerdeña JP.** (2023). *Pressing Onward: The Imperative Resilience of Latina Migrant Mothers.* University of California Press: Oakland, CA.  
<https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520394018/pressing-onward>

### Journal Articles

28. Vo AK, **Cerdeña JP**, Loree JM, Cairns BE, Conklin AI, Kasewater K, Chondoma L, Cragg JJ, Kramer JLK. (2023). Race-based reporting and participation of Black individuals in registered pain clinical trials, United States, 2000 to 2019. *Pain.* (ePub ahead of print).  
<https://doi.org/10.1097/j.pain.0000000000002893>
27. Black C, **Cerdeña JP**, Spearman-McCarthy EV. (2023). “I am not your minority.” *The Lancet Regional Health – Americas.* 19:100464. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lana.2023.100464>
26. **Cerdeña JP**, Grubbs V, Non AL. (2022). “Racialising genetic risk: assumptions, realities, and recommendations.” *The Lancet.* 400(10368): 2147-2154.  
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)02040-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)02040-2)
25. Caceres BA, Huang Y, Barcelona V, Wang Z, Newhall KP, **Cerdeña JP**, Crusto CA, Sun YV, Taylor JY. (2022). “The Interaction of Trauma Exposure and DNA Methylation on Blood Pressure Among Black Women in the InterGEN Study.” *Epigenetics Insights.* 2022(15): 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1177/25168657221138510>
24. **Cerdeña JP**, Asabor EN, Rendell S, Akolo T, Lett E. (2022). “Re-Sculpting Professionalism for Equity and Accountability.” *The Annals of Family Medicine.* 20(60): 573-577. <https://doi.org/10.1370/afm.2892>
23. **Cerdeña JP.** (2022). “Epigenetic Citizenship and Political Claims-Making: The Ethics of Molecularizing Structural Racism” *BioSocieties.* (ePub ahead of print).  
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41292-022-00286-4>
22. Espinoza-Kulick MV, **Cerdeña JP.** (2022). “‘We Need Health for All’: Mental Health and Barriers to Care among Latinxs in California and Connecticut.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.* 19(19): 1-21.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph191912817>
21. **Cerdeña JP**, Asabor EN, Plaisime MV, Hardeman RR. (2022). “Race-based medicine in the point-of-care clinical resource UpToDate: A systematic content analysis.” *eClinicalMedicine.* 52(101581): 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2022.101581>
20. **Cerdeña JP**, Asabor EN, Plaisime MV, Hardeman RR. (2022). “Race-based medicine in the point-of-care clinical resource UpToDate: A systematic content analysis.” *eClinicalMedicine.* 52(101581): 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2022.101581>
19. Heffron A, Khazanchi R, Nkinsi N, Bervell J, **Cerdeña J**, Diao J, Eisenstein L, Gillepsie N, Hongsermeier-Graves N, Kane M, Karampreet K, Seija L, Tsai J, Vyas D, Zhang A. (2022). “Trainee Perspectives on Race, Antiracism, and the Path toward Justice in Kidney Care.” *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology.* 17(8): 1251-1254.  
<https://doi.org/10.2215/CJN.02500222>
18. **Cerdeña JP**, Grubbs V, Non AL. (2022). “Genomic supremacy: the harm of conflating genetic ancestry and race.” *Human Genomics.* 16(18):1-5. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40246-022-00391-2>
17. Grubbs V, **Cerdeña JP**, Non AL. (2022). “The misuse of race in the search for disease-causing alleles.” *The Lancet.* 399(10330): 1110-1111. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)00488-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)00488-3)
16. Tsai JW, **Cerdeña JP**, Goedel WC, Asch WS, Grubbs V, Mendu ML, Kaufman JS. (2021). “Evaluating the Impact and Rationale of Race-Specific Estimations of Kidney

- Function: Estimations from U.S. NHANES, 2015-2018.” *EClinicalMedicine*. 42(101197): 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2021.101197>
15. Blanks Jones JL, **Cerdeña JP**, Coleman-King C, Shaw Bonds MD. (2021). “Coping Through Kinship during COVID-19: Lessons From Women of Color.” *Snapshots of History: Portraits of the 21st Century Pandemic* (2021 Special Edition of the *American Educational History Journal*): 51-58.
  14. Lim SR, **Cerdeña JP**, Azim KA, Wagner K. (2021). “Motherscholars With Disabilities: Surmounting Structural Adversity During COVID-19.” *Snapshots of History: Portraits of the 21st Century Pandemic* (2021 Special Edition of the *American Educational History Journal*): 133-140.
  13. Plaisime MV, **Cerdeña JP**. (2021). “Re: Blackface in White Space: Using Admissions to Address Racism in Medical Education.” *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 36(4):1117-1118. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-021-06606-x>
  12. **Cerdeña JP**, Plaisime MV, Tsai J. (2021). “Race-conscious medicine: a response to critique.” *The Internal Medicine Journal*. 51(8):1369-1370. <https://doi.org/10.1111/imj.15460>
  11. Silverman-Lloyd L, Bishop N, **Cerdeña JP**. (2021). “Race is not a risk factor: reframing discourse on racial health inequities in CVD prevention.” *The American Journal of Preventive Cardiology*. 6:100185. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajpc.2021.100185>
  10. **Cerdeña JP**, Jaswaney R, Plaisime MV. (2021). “Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Status in a Medical Licensing Educational Resource: A Systematic, Mixed-Methods Analysis.” *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 37(5): 1045-1051. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-021-06843-0>.
  9. Cerdeña I, Holloway T, **Cerdeña JP**, Wing A, Wasser T, Fortunati F, Rohrbaugh R, Li L. (2021). “Racial and Ethnic Differences in Psychiatry Resident Prescribing: A Quality Improvement Education Intervention to Address Health Equity.” *Academic Psychiatry*. 45(1): 13-22. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40596-021-01397-z>
  8. **Cerdeña JP**. (2021). “Race-Conscious Bioethics: The Call to Reject Contemporary Scientific Racism.” *The American Journal of Bioethics*. 21(2): 48-53. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15265161.2020.1861383>
  7. **Cerdeña JP**, Tsai J, Grubbs V. (2021). “*APOL1*, Black Race, and Kidney Disease: Turning Attention to Structural Racism.” *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*. 77(6): 857-860. <https://doi.org/10.1053/j.ajkd.2020.11.029>
  6. **Cerdeña JP**, Jaswaney R, Plaisime MV, Braun L. “Assessment of Skin Phenotype Representation in a Popular Medical Licensing Educational Resource.” *JAMA Network Open*. 4(1):e2033164. <http://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.33164>
  5. **Cerdeña JP\***, Rivera LM\*, Spak JM. (2021). “Intergenerational trauma in Latinxs: a scoping review.” *Social Science & Medicine*. 270(113662): 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2020.113662>
  4. **Cerdeña JP\***, Plaisime MV\*, Tsai J\*. (2020). “From race-based to race-conscious medicine: how anti-racist uprisings call us to act.” *The Lancet*. 396(10257): 1125-1128. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32076-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32076-6)
  3. Tsai J, **Cerdeña JP**, Khazanchi R, Lindo E, Marcelin JR, Rajagopalan A, Sandoval RS, Westby A, Gravlee CC. (2020). “There is no ‘African American Physiology’: the fallacy of racial essentialism.” *Journal of Internal Medicine*. 2020(288): 368-370. <https://doi.org/10.1111/joim.13153>
  2. Jaswaney R\*, **Cerdeña JP\***. (2020). “COVID-19 School Closures: Implications for Pediatric Diabetes Management - A Commentary.” *Health Behavior and Policy Review*. 7(4): 325-328. <https://doi.org/10.14485/HBPR.7.4.5>
  1. **Cerdeña JP**, Rehman T, Hardeman RR. (2020). “Why Bias in Medicine Matters: Qualitative Insights from Anonymous, Online Reports.” *Journal of the National Medical Association*. 112(1): 6-14. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnma.2019.10.004>

\* denotes shared first authorship

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

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- 2023
- “Pressing Onward: The Imperative Resilience of Latina Migrant Mothers.”
- Research Theme in Health Equity & Translational Social Science (HETSS) and the Rangell Social Medicine Grand Rounds Series. University of California at Los Angeles Center for Social Medicine and Humanities, David Geffen School of Medicine (virtual). 4/14/2023.
  - Kempf Award, Yale Global Mental Health Speaker Series. Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA. 3/14/2023.
- “Racialization of Genetic Risk: Common Pitfalls and Race-Conscious Alternatives.” Kennedy Krieger Institute Grand Rounds. Johns Hopkins Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA. 4/6/2023.
- “Race-Conscious Medicine and Data Equity.” HIV Working Group Seminar. Department of Biostatistics, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA, USA. 3/24/2023.
- “Racialization of Latina Reproduction.” Politics of Reproduction (ANTH 324) Guest Lecture, Instructor: Manon Lefèvre. Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, USA. 2/23/2023.
- “Racial Trauma: A Case Conference” (*with Terrell Holloway, MD and Angela Haeny, PhD*). Yale Psychiatry Residency Program. New Haven, CT, USA. 2/14/2023.
- 2022
- “Dismantling Racial Essentialism through Race-Conscious Approaches” (*with Marie V. Plaisime, PhD, MPH, Rohan Khasanji, MD, MPH, and Jennifer Tsai, MD, Med*). Satcher Health Leadership Institute Medical Justice in Advocacy Fellowship, American Medical Association (virtual). 11/18/2022.
- “Racialization of genetic risk: common pitfalls and race-conscious alternatives.” Research in Progress Meeting, Section of General Internal Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Yale School of Medicine. New Haven, CT. 11/17/2022.
- “Race-Conscious Data Science.” Talking Data Equity. We All Count and Dataassist, Inc. Toronto, Canada (virtual). 10/21/22.
- “Motherhood, Immigration, and Race: A Panel Discussion” (*with Alyshia Gálvez, PhD*). Gender and Sexuality in Everyday Life (WGSS 1105). University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT, USA (virtual). 10/12/22.
- “Onward: An Ethnography of Latina Migrant Motherhood During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Hispanic Clinic Clinical Rounds, Connecticut Mental Health Center. New Haven, CT, USA. 3/1/22.
- 2021
- “Onward: An Ethnography of Latina Migrant Motherhood During the COVID-19 Pandemic.”
- All Clinicians Meeting, Fair Haven Community Health Care. New Haven, CT, USA. 10/13/21.
  - Women, Infants, and Children Peer Counseling and Breastfeeding, Heritage, and Pride Programs Meeting, New Haven Primary Care Consortium, New Haven, CT, USA. 9/29/21.
- All Staff Meeting, Women’s Center, Yale-New Haven Health, New Haven, CT, USA. 9/9/21.
- “Race-Conscious Medicine: A Reality Check.”
- Stamford Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Residency Programs. Stamford, CT, USA. 11/9/21.
  - Department of Biology, Western Washington University. Bellingham, WA, USA (virtual). 11/3/21. <https://youtu.be/cVT9IncOkQU>
  - (*co-presented with Marie V. Plaisime*) Program in Medical Education for the Urban Underserved (PRIME-US) Capstone. University of California San Francisco School of Medicine. San Francisco, CA, USA (virtual). 10/18/21.

- Yale Internal Medicine Residency Program, Yale-New Haven Health. New Haven, CT, USA (virtual). 8/27/21 and 9/10/21.
  - Medical Anthropology (ANTH 379) Guest Lecture, Instructor: Hatice Nilay Erten, Ph.D. University of Illinois. Urbana, IL, USA (virtual). 9/9/21.
  - Medical Sociology (SYO 4400) Guest Lecture, Instructor: Harvey L. Nicholson Jr., Ph.D. University of Florida. Gainesville, FL, USA (virtual). 4/1/21.
  - “Intergenerational Trauma in Latinxs: Healing and Resistance.” Uprootedness and Hybridity: Intergenerational Trauma in Central and Latin America through Art and Anthropology. Counterpoint Arts. Berlin, Germany (virtual). 10/14/21.  
[https://youtu.be/CCmuwuR\\_bv8](https://youtu.be/CCmuwuR_bv8)
- 2020 “Migration Enforcement and the Embodiment of Trauma.” Health Equity Clinical Precede. Yale School of Medicine. New Haven, CT, USA (virtual). 5/1/21.
- 2020 “From race-based to race-conscious medicine: how anti-racist uprisings call us to act.” Anti-Racist Anthropology Reading Group. Department of Anthropology, Yale University. New Haven, CT, USA (virtual). 12/7/20.
- 2020 “Race-Conscious Medicine: A Reality Check.” (*co-presented with Marie V. Plaisime and Jennifer Tsai.*) Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds. Advocate Christ Medical Center. Chicago, IL, USA (virtual). 11/25/20.
- 2020 “Advocacy and Activism in the Latinx Community.” (*panel with Dr. Esperanza Diaz and Bruni Pizarro.*) Yale Student National Medical Association and Latino Medical Student Association. New Haven, CT, USA (virtual). 10/9/20.
- 2020 “Health Impacts of Immigration Enforcement.” Latino Medical Student Association Latinx Health and Identity Series. Pritzker School of Medicine at the University of Chicago. Chicago, IL, USA (virtual). 9/4/20.
- 2017 “Overcoming Burnout: A CBT-Based Approach.” (*co-facilitated with Ignacio Cerdeña and Abigail S. Greene.*) “Mental Health and Resilience in Medicine: Combating burnout by being honest with ourselves.” Psych Student Interest Group Network (PsychSIGN) Regional Conference. New Haven, CT, USA. 9/23/17.
- 2014 “Mixed Magic: Syncretism of Biomedicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine in Treatment of Female Infertility in Shanghai, China.” Ford Foundation Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Anthropology and Public Health. Washington University, St. Louis, MO, USA. 3/14/14.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & ABSTRACTS

- 2022 **Cerdeña JP.** “*Adelante*: How Latina Migrant Mothers Press Onward during COVID-19.” Panel: Shifting Landscapes on Pregnancy, Birthing, and Motherhood. The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA, USA.
- 2022 **Cerdeña JP.** “Biosocial Significance: A Proposal for Bioethnographic Analysis.” Panel: Unsettling Landscapes of Biocultural Variation: Where Methods, Mechanisms, and Theory Collide. The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA, USA.
- 2022 **Cerdeña JP.** “*Adelante*: How Latina Migrant Mothers Press Onward during COVID-19.” The National Conference for Physician-Scholars in the Social Sciences and Humanities. University of California, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, CA, USA.
- 2021 Rehman T, **Cerdeña JP.** “Why Bias Matters in Medicine: Qualitative Insights from Anonymous, Online Reports.” Beyond Flexner Alliance National Conference (virtual).  
\*2<sup>nd</sup> place, outstanding poster presentation.
- 2020 **Cerdeña JP,** Espinoza-Kulick MV, Rivera LM, Amézua-Rocha S, Talavera-Brown S. “Reforming mental health services for Indigenous communities.” *Raising Our Voices.* American Anthropological Association (virtual workshop).

- 2019 **Cerdeña JP.** “Racial discrimination in eastern Ecuador: varying effects on biomarkers of chronic inflammation and cell-mediated immunity.” Human Biology Association Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH, USA.  
Fuehrlein B, **Cerdeña J**, Chiang V, Chekijian S, Fernando DA, Franco K, Hildebrand B, Martin A, Silva M, Smith D, Watts B, Caruso D, Sernyak M. “Training Medical School Admissions Committee Members to use Behaviorally-Anchored Questions Using Standardized Applicants.” Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry Annual Meeting. Portland, ME, USA.
- 2018 **Cerdeña J**, Hardy R, Neely A, Salas-Hernández L. “‘Your Trauma Is Not Your Own’: Research and Perspectives on Intergenerational Trauma and Mental Health among Underserved Youth.” Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences. National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, USA.
- 2017 **Minor J.** “Health Disparities Research in Latinx Populations: Current Challenges and Recommendations.” National Conference for Physician Scholars in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA.  
**Minor J.** “Intergenerational, Epigenetic Embodiment of Trauma in Latina Migrant Women and their Infants.” Harvard-Yale Biological Anthropology Colloquium. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA.  
Razdan S, **Minor J.** “Bringing the Conversation of Bias in Medicine Beyond Closed Doors: One Story at a Time.” National South Asian Summit. Washington, DC, USA.
- 2016 **Minor J**, Rehman T, Stearns V. “Bringing the Conversation of Bias in Medicine Beyond Closed Doors: One Story at a Time.” Partnering with Patients in Decision-Making, Baltimore, MD, USA.
- 2015 Rehman T, **Minor J.** “Bringing the Conversation of Bias in Medicine Beyond Closed Doors: One Story at a Time.” National Physicians Alliance National Conference, Washington, D.C., USA.  
Lampugnale B, **Minor J**, Mitson-Salazar A, Iezzi S, DeRose C, Talwalkar J, Assis D, Britto C, Koff J. “A Quality Improvement Project to Improve Influenza Vaccination Rates in an Adult Cystic Fibrosis Program.” North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Phoenix, AZ, USA.
- 2014 **Minor J.** “Syncretism of Biomedicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine in Treatment of Female Infertility in Shanghai, China.” St. Louis Area Undergraduate Research Symposium, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, USA.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2019-2021 Doctoral Student Researcher, **Yale University Department of Anthropology**  
New Haven, CT  
*Mentor: Marcia C. Inhorn, PhD, MPH*  
Examined resistance to structural oppression among Latin American migrant mothers living through the Trump administration and the COVID-19 pandemic. Conducted in-person ethnographic semi-structured and oral history interviews in addition to phone interviews due to pandemic restrictions.
- 2015 Pre-Doctoral Student Researcher, **Yale University Department of Anthropology**  
Sucúa, Ecuador  
*Mentor: Richard G. Bribiescas, PhD*  
Assessed biomarkers for psychosocial stress due to phenotypic (skin color) discrimination in a multiethnic community using ethnographic interviews and dried blood spots.
- 2013 Undergraduate Student Researcher, **Washington University in St. Louis (at Fudan University)**  
Shanghai, China  
*Mentors: Carolyn Sargent, PhD, Jianfeng Zhu, PhD*

Investigated experiences, attitudes, and beliefs surrounding female infertility treatment through biomedicine and traditional Chinese medicine at clinics and pharmacies using ethnographic interviews and media analysis.

2011-2012 Undergraduate Research Assistant, **Washington University in St. Louis Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology**  
 St. Louis, MO  
*Mentor: Kelle Moley, MD*  
 Assessed mechanisms of female infertility using mouse models and human endometrial tissue.

## POPULAR MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

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- 2023 **Cerdeña J.** 4/11/2023. “Beyond Resilience: A Call to Action for the Needs of Undocumented Migrants.” *Equity Research Institute Blog*. <https://dornsife.usc.edu/eri/blog-beyond-resilience/>
- 2020 **Cerdeña J.** 10/1/2020. “Research for Social Change: Mobilizing My Work for Migrant Rights.” *Yale News*. <https://medicine.yale.edu/news-article/research-for-social-change-mobilizing-my-work-for-migrant-rights/>
- 2016 **Minor J,** Rehman T. 4/12/2016. “Student Protests Reveal a Systemic Disease.” *The Huffington Post*. [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/student-protests-reveal-a\\_b\\_9664558](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/student-protests-reveal-a_b_9664558)
- 2015 **Minor J.** 7/26/2015. “When Medicine Makes ‘Miracles.’” *in-Training Magazine*. <https://in-training.org/medicine-makes-miracles-9570>
- Minor J.** 7/6/2015. “It’s Not Just the Confederate Flag: The Example of New Haven.” *The Huffington Post*. [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/its-not-just-the-confeder\\_b\\_7719112](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/its-not-just-the-confeder_b_7719112)
- Minor J.** 6/7/2015. “What Emma’s Mattress Means for Medicine.” *The Huffington Post* (republished in *in-Training Magazine*). [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/what-emma-mattress-means-for-medicine\\_b\\_7511140](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/what-emma-mattress-means-for-medicine_b_7511140)
- Minor J.** 5/3/2015. “When You Come to Me (Baltimore 2015).” *in-Training Magazine*. <https://in-training.org/come-baltimore-2015-9084>
- Minor J.** 4/8/2015. “My White Coat Costume.” *in-Training Magazine*. <https://in-training.org/white-coat-costume-8652>
- 2013 **Minor J.** 3/27/2013. “Life, Health, Purity, and Survival: The Maleku of Costa Rica Struggle to Regain Lost Lands.” *Cultural Survival*. <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/news/life-health-purity-and-survival-maleku-costa-rica-struggle-regain-lost-lands>

## MEDIA APPEARANCES

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- 2023 “Q&A with Jessica P. Cerdeña, author of *Pressing Onward*.” 4/11/2023. *University of California Press Blog*. <https://www.ucpress.edu/blog/62222/qa-with-jessica-p-cerdena-author-of-pressing-onward/>
- 2023 “Yale experts chart course for move away from race-based medicine.” 2/26/2023. Anjali Mangla. *Yale Daily News*. <https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2023/02/26/yale-experts-chart-course-for-move-away-from-race-based-medicine/>
- 2022 “Uprooting Race-based Medicine in a Frequent Reference Source.” 10/11/2022. Crystal Gwizdala. *Yale News*. <https://medicine.yale.edu/news-article/uprooting-race-based-medicine-in-a-frequent-reference-source/>
- “Abandoning a Race-biased Tool for Kidney Diagnosis.” 10/10/2022. Crystal Gwizdala. *Yale News*.



- 2021 “Correcting medicine's use of race in clinical algorithms.” 5/2021. Stacey Butterfield. *ACP Internist*. <https://acpinternist.org/archives/2021/05/correcting-medicines-use-of-race-in-clinical-algorithms.htm>
- “Vaccine hesitancy isn’t the whole story.” 10/14/21. Marie Sanford. *Yale Daily News*. <http://features.yaledailynews.com/blog/2021/03/14/vaccine-hesitancy-isnt-the-whole-story/>
- 2020 “Living and Working Conditions Explain Racial Disparities in COVID-19 Deaths.” 12/21/20. Caroline Tien. *Verywell Health*. <https://www.verywellhealth.com/living-and-working-conditions-not-race-explain-the-racial-disparity-in-covid-deaths-5092900>
- “Members of medical community call for shift from race-based to race-conscious medicine.” 10/28/20. Anjali Mangla. *Yale Daily News*. <https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2020/10/28/members-of-medical-community-call-for-shift-from-race-based-to-race-conscious-medicine/>
- “Advocating for a Shift From Race-based to Race-conscious Medicine.” 10/8/20. Abigail Roth. *Yale News*. <https://medicine.yale.edu/news-article/advocating-for-a-shift-from-race-based-to-race-conscious-medicine/>
- “Disparities in Mental Healthcare.” *BioConnect* Podcast (hosted by Saanvi Juneja). 6/15/20. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2VEzHcigQ1G9tg1Xzp7X8S>

## POLICY ADVOCACY

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- 2023 H.B. No. 6659 “An Act Concerning The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2025, And Making Appropriations Therefor.” Written testimony provided in partnership with HUSKY for Immigrants.
- H.B. No. 6616 (*in favor*) “An Act Concerning Expansion Of Husky Health Benefits To Those Ineligible Due To Immigration Status.” Written testimony provided in partnership with HUSKY for Immigrants.
- 2022 Student Delegate, Connecticut Academy of Family Physicians. American Academy of Family Physicians Annual Meeting. Kansas City, KS, USA. 7/28-30/2022.
- S.B. No. 284 (*in favor*), “An Act Increasing the Age from Eight to Eighteen Years for an Income-Eligible Person to Obtain Medical Assistance Regardless of Immigration Status.” Oral testimony as medical student and medical anthropologist. 3/10/22.
- 2021 S.B. No. 956 (*in favor*), “An Act Providing Medical Assistance to Certain Individuals Regardless of Immigration Status.” Written testimony provided in partnership with HUSKY for Immigrants.
- NKF-ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases (*advocated for removing race from eGFR*). Oral testimony as healthcare trainee. 1/16/21.
- “COVID-19 vaccination for hard-to-reach populations.” Policy memo submitted to Dr. Marcella Nuñez-Smith, Director of the Presidential COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force in partnership with HAVEN Free Clinic. 1/13/21.
- 2020 Racism as a Public Health Issue Public Hearing (*advocated for decriminalization, economic equity, and healthcare expansion*). City of New Haven Board of Alders Racism as a Public Health Issue Task Force. Oral testimony as medical anthropologist and community member, in partnership with interlocutor. 10/15/20.
- “An Executive Order to Affirm New Haven a Welcoming City” (*in favor*). Oral expert testimony as scholar on migration and health in partnership with Unidad Latina en Acción. 7/23/20.

## CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

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2015 Student National Medical Association Region VII Annual Conference  
New Haven, CT  
“From ‘Do No Harm’ to ‘Do What’s Right’: Rethinking Social Justice in Medicine”

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### ***Instructor***

Fall 2022 Medical Anthropology (ANT 364)  
Eastern Connecticut State University  
*Department Chair: Ricardo Pérez, PhD*

### ***Teaching Fellowship***

Spring 2018 Anthropology of War (ANTH 233)  
Yale University  
*Professors: William Honeychurch, PhD, David Watts, PhD, and Louisa Lombard, PhD*

Fall 2017 Intro to Medical Anthropology (ANTH 114)  
Yale University  
*Professor: Jess Newman, PhD*

### ***Other Teaching***

2020, 2022 Introduction to the Profession (iPro) Session on Antiracism, Small Group Facilitator  
Yale School of Medicine

2017-2019 Yale Advanced Skills-based Spanish Elective (¡YA SÉ!), Co-Creator and Facilitator

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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### ***Committees***

2022-2023 Student Member, **Health Equity Thread Advisory Group**  
Yale University

2021-2022 Student Member, **Inclusive Language Committee**  
Yale University

2016-2021 Student Member, **Committee for Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (CDISJ)**  
Yale University

2018-2021 Member, **Admissions Strategic Planning Committee**  
Yale University

2016-2019 Member, **Yale School of Medicine Admissions Committee**  
Yale University

2018-2019 Student Member, **Medical School Performance Evaluation (MSPE) Task Force**  
Yale University

2017 Student Member, **Director of Diversity Search Committee**  
Yale University

2016-2019 Student Coordinator, **MD/PhD Clinical Reasoning Workshops**  
Yale University

2015-2016 Student Coordinator for the Writers’ Workshops, **Program for the Humanities in Medicine**  
Yale University

### ***Journal Service (Ad Hoc Reviewer)***

2017-present *Annals of Internal Medicine (2), American Journal of Human Biology, American Journal of Psychiatry, American Journal of Public Health, Annals of Family Medicine, Bioethics, BJPsych Open, BMC Public Health, BMJ Open, The BMJ, EClinicalMedicine, The International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (2), Journal of Clinical Oncology, Journal of General Internal Medicine, Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved (2), The Journal of Pediatrics, Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities (2), The Lancet, SSM – Population Health, The Lancet Regional Health – Europe*

## LEADERSHIP AND ACTIVISM

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2020, 2015 **Co-Founder and Lead Organizer, NextYSM** (<https://bit.ly/nextysm>)  
 Advocated for equity and justice at Yale School of Medicine through demands for anti-oppression signed by 686 individuals and 8 organizations.

2020 **Connecticut State Leader, ContraCOVID**  
 Coordinated and maintained information on COVID-19 and resources for social assistance on ContraCovid.com.

2015-2020 **Co-Founder, Systemic Disease**  
 Created an online platform for medical community members to share experiences with discrimination to promote awareness of pervasive bias and injustice.

2015-2016 **Co-President, Yale Student National Medical Association/ Latino Medical Student Association**  
 Spearheaded initiatives relating to student recruitment and support, social and racial justice in medicine, and health professional pipeline programs.

2014-2015 **Lead Organizer, New Haven Health & Wellness Block Party**  
 Directed a team of 19 interprofessional students in the planning of a community health fair attended by 150 residents of the Dixwell neighborhood, a predominantly low-income Black community.

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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2018-2019 **Primary Care Provider, Wednesday Evening Clinic**  
 New Haven, CT  
 Served as the primary care provider for a panel of low-income, mostly Spanish-speaking patients at a safety net clinic.

2017-2018 **Clinical Advisor, HAVEN Free Clinic**  
 New Haven, CT  
 Supervised clinical and quality assurance teams to optimize delivery of free care to uninsured New Haven residents.

2015-2018 **Behavioral Health Psychoeducator, HAVEN Free Clinic**  
 New Haven, CT  
 Facilitated psychoeducation sessions in Spanish focusing on resilience and skill-building for undocumented Latinx immigrants with mild to moderate depression.

2015 **Visiting Medical Student, Yale-INTEC Social Medicine Exchange**  
 Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
 Provided care at a student-run free clinic and observed care teams at hospitals affiliated with the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo as part of a medical student exchange.

2014-2015 **Spanish Medical Interpreter, HAVEN Free Clinic**  
 New Haven, CT  
 Interpreted in Spanish for patients at medical, reproductive health, and social service appointments at Yale student-run free clinic.

- 2010-2014 **Field Director, Assistant Field Director, & EMT, Washington University Emergency Support Team**  
St. Louis, MO  
Supervised a team of 60 undergraduate EMTs and coordinated training activities including CPR refresher courses and disaster drills.
- 2008-2010 **Emergency Medical Technician, Mahwah Ambulance Corps**  
Mahwah, NJ  
Responded to medical emergencies, including accidental injuries and cardiac events, in southern Mahwah, NJ, and provided transport to local hospitals.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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- 2022-present **Volunteer Intern, Community Services Administration of New Haven**  
New Haven, CT  
Research evidence-based policy solutions and conduct mixed-methods needs assessments for emergent health concerns including low COVID-19 vaccine uptake among pediatric populations and opportunities for outreach through library social services.
- 2021-2022 **Health Equity Clinical Faculty Consultant, Sketchy Medical**  
Produced and reviewed content on health equity topics for popular, animated medical education videos.
- 2011-14 **Personal Care Attendant, Self-Employed**  
St. Louis, MO  
Provided personal care services including bathing, dressing, and assisting with restroom use for a student with muscular dystrophy.
- 2002-08 **Professional Actor, Former Member Actor's Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA**  
New York, NY  
Performed on Broadway, National Tour, TV, radio, and in local theater productions.

## **CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING**

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- 2022 **The Op-Ed Project: Write to Change the World**  
Enhanced skills in establishing credibility, persuasion, writing effectiveness, and reaching broad audiences as part of a select, global cohort preparing socially responsible op-eds.
- 2017-2021 **Health Policy Research Scholar**  
Trained in building a Culture of Health through health policy and health equity through the Health Policy Research Scholars Program, a national leadership program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, administered by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The program included mentorship, career and leadership coaching, and opportunities to apply learnings by writing policy memos and op-eds, communicating research during visits with policymakers, and an interdisciplinary case experience.
- 2019 **Research Trainee, Columbia University Epigenetics Bootcamp**  
Enhanced knowledge of environmental epigenetics through two-day conceptual, methodological, and analytical training with leading experts.
- 2018 **Advanced Health Sciences Research Fellow, Yale Clinical Scholars Program**  
Engaged in community-partnered research training involving theoretical didactics, community research design and development, neighborhood walking tours, meetings with community leaders, and partnered dissemination.
- 2017 **Certified Fluency in Spanish Language, Yale-New Haven Hospital Language Services**  
Qualified as a bilingual healthcare provider in Spanish and English.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Anthropological Association  
Society for Medical Anthropology  
American Medical Association

Connecticut Academy of Family Physicians  
Latino Medical Student Association  
Student National Medical Association

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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**English** bilingual proficiency

**Spanish** bilingual proficiency

## **HOBBIES**

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plant-based cooking, reading novels & political non-fiction, crossword puzzles, bilingual parenting, mentoring