

MARCIANA L. POPESCU
Professor
Fordham University, Graduate School of Social Service

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EDUCATION:

JD (2025), Concentration: International Comparative & Foreign Law. Fordham Law School, Fordham University, New York, NY

PhD in Sociology (2000), University of Bucharest, Romania

Masters of Social Work (1997), School of Social Work, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

Masters in Social Policy (1995), School of Sociology, Pedagogy, and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Romania

Bachelor of Social Work (1994), School of Sociology, Pedagogy, and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Romania

WORK EXPERIENCE:

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Fordham University, Graduate School of Social Service, New York, NY (2006 - present)

Professor with Tenure (2007- present); Tenure granted: 2010

Visiting Associate Professor (2006-2007)

Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI (2000-2006)

Associate Professor (2000-2006) – Tenure granted: 2006

Department of Social Work

University of Bucharest, Romania (1995-2000)

Assistant Professor of Social Work (1998-2000)

Instructor (1995-1998)

OTHER APPOINTMENTS (program evaluation and administrative experience)

Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI (2000-2006)

Director of MSA: Community and International Development Program (2001-2006)

Department of Behavioral Sciences

International Development Coordinator (2000-2006)

**National Center for Trauma Social Work Education and Workforce Development (NCTSWED),
Fordham University, New York, NY (2010-2016)**

Director of Evaluation

UNICEF Special Representative Office, Bucharest, Romania (1995-1996; 1998-2000)

Consultant on policies and programs for domestic violence and child abuse

Collaborator in Child Protection and Family Education programs

- Consulting for the training components of the program (1995-1996);
- Coordinator of a study regarding domestic violence in Romania for a legislative and policy reform (1999)
- Consultant and editor of the UNICEF report on child abuse in Romania (2000);
- Trainer of trainers for child and family welfare programs (2000) under a program conducted by the International Federation for Child and Family.

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS:

Endless Curiosity Award for Team Innovation (2026). Fordham University, Office of the President.

Defender of the Dream Award (2026), Feerick Justice Center, Fordham Law School

Immigration Justice Fellow (2023), Feerick Justice Center, Fordham Law School.

Crowley Human Rights Fellow (2022-2023), Leitner Center, Fordham Law School.

Social Innovation Research Fellow, Fordham University (2019-2020). *Innovative Paths to Successful Integration for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in NYC: Bridging the Gaps in Higher Education Institutions.*

Fulbright Specialist (2018-2023) Dr. Popescu was awarded the *Fulbright Specialist* designation for three years (2018-2021) extended to 2023, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In May, 2019, she conducted the first project as Fulbright Specialist in Austria, with the Management Center of Innsbruck.

Andrew Carnegie Senior Fellow Candidate Nomination (2018) Dr. Popescu was nominated by the Fordham's University President, Fr. McShane, as the Senior Fellow Candidate for the Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. Project title: *Creating safe spaces in the migration discourse: The right to employment and the role of entrepreneurship in the effective integration of migrant women.*

Fulbright Senior Scholar (September 2016-February 2017) – Management Center of Innsbruck, Austria. As a Senior Fulbright scholar, Dr. Popescu studied migration policies and their impact on forced migrants in general and on women asylum seekers and refugees in particular, in Europe. Her work included field research in 5 EU countries (Greece, Hungary, Austria, Germany and Italy) focusing on ways in which current migration policies are implemented; and the loss of safety within the migration context/discourse.

Fulbright Junior Scholar (August 1996-December, 1997) – Tulane University, School of Social Work. Topic: *Similarities and Differences between Policies Addressing Domestic Violence: A Comparative Analysis of US, UK, and Romania.*

SCHOLARSHIP/RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

Reports/Web Publications

Kang, H., Kemonto, J., **Popescu, M.**, Nader Bazrafkan, N., and Vegas, S. (2024). Strengthening the Implementation of the Yazidi Female Survivors' Law: Recommendations Based on International and Comparative Best Practices. *Free Yazidi Foundation and the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice, Fordham Law School.* (Published online on June 7, 2024, https://freeyazidi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/FYF_Leitner_YSL_Report.pdf).

Edited journals

Sandu, A., **Popescu, M.**, & Alonzo, D. (eds), (2025) – *International Social Work Practice with Immigrants and Refugees*, Social Sciences, MDPI.

Popescu, M. & Libal, K. (eds.), (2018/Spring)– *Advances in Social Work*, 18 (3) - *Special Issue on Migrants and Refugees.*

Popescu, M. & Libal, K. (2018). Social work with migrants and refugees: Challenges, best practices and future directions (Editorial). *Advances in Social Work*, 18(3), p. i-x.

Popescu, M., & Drumm, R. (eds.). Special Issue: Religion, Faith and Intimate Partner Violence. *Social Work and Christianity*, 36 (4), 2009.

Popescu, M., & Drumm, R. (2009). Religion, faith communities and intimate partner violence (Editorial). *Social Work and Christianity*, 36 (4), 375-378.

Refereed Journal Articles

Popescu, M., & Alonzo, D. (2023). Shattered or strengthened? The impact of extended lockdown on family functioning and quality of relationships during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Global Journal of Health Science*, 15 (3), 43:58.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., & Zubaroglu, P. (2023).** When Will Life Return to Normal? Parental Mental Health Post Quarantine and Extended Lockdown. *European Psychiatry*, 66(S1), S319-S320.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., Zubaroglu, P. (2023).** We are all in it together! Effects of Covid on Interpersonal Relationships. *Global Journal of Psychology Research: New Trends and Issues*, 13(1):63-77.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., & Zubaroglu–Ioannides, P. (2022).** Relieving Pandemic-Related Psychological Distress: Key Protective Factors Against Mental Health Impairment. *J Ment Health Soc Behav*, 4(2), 170.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., Zubaroglu, P. (2022).** Mental health and the COVID-19 pandemic: Long-Term Impact and Implications,” *Global Journal of Psychology Research: New Trends and Issues*, 12(2), 87-100.

Popescu, M., Oren, T., & Tripathy, S. (2022). Countering Unrecognition and Exclusion of Asylum Seekers from Higher Education: A Call to Action. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 26 (2). 165:180.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., & Zubaroglu Ioannides, P. (2022).** Mental health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on parents in high-risk, low income communities. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(3), 575-581.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., & Zubaroglu–Ioannides, P. (2022).** Effects of brief training on mental health provider’s knowledge of working with youth at risk of suicide in Guatemala. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(2), 281-287.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., Zubaroglu, P. (2022).** Long-term impact and implications of the COVID pandemic on mental health. *Global Journal of Psychology Research: New Trends and Issues*; 12(2), 87-100

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., & Zubaroglu-Ioannides, P. (2022).** The current pandemic, a complex emergency? Mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on highly vulnerable communities in Guatemala. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(7), 1382-1393.

Alonzo, D., & **Popescu, M. (2022).** A qualitative examination of the mental health impact of Covid-19 in marginalized communities in Guatemala: The Covid Care Calls survey. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(7), 1435-1444.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M., & Zubaroglu Ioannides, P. (2022).** Mental health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on parents in high-risk, low income communities. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(3), 575-581.

Popescu, M. & Alonzo, D. ((2021). Creating SPACE: A conceptual framework for rights-based international social work and social development. *Advances in Social Work*, 21 (4), 1064:1082. DOI: 10.18060/25090

Libal, K., Harding, S., **Popescu, M., Berthold, M., & Felten, G. (2021).** Human rights of forced migrants in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic: An opportunity for mobilization and solidarity. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*.

- Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.**, & Zubaroglu-Ioanides, P. (2021). Mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on parents in high-risk, low income communities. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*.
- Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.**, & Zubaroglu-Ioanides, P. (2020). Training non-mental health professionals to assess and manage suicide risk: Community level intervention for suicide prevention in Guatemala. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*.
- Alonzo, D. & **Popescu, M.** (2021). Effects of a brief suicide assessment and management training on knowledge, skills, and attitude for mental health professionals working with at-risk youth in Guatemala. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*.
- Alonzo, D. & **Popescu, M.** (2021). Utilizing Social Media Platforms to Promote Mental Health Awareness and Help-Seeking in Underserved Communities during the Covid-19 Pandemic. *J Education and Health Promotion*.
- Popescu, M.**, Zubaroglu-Ioanides, P., and Turin, S. (2020). Whose citizens, what rights? Roles and responsibilities in addressing displacement and forced migration in Haiti. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*, 1:14, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41134-019-00114-z>
- Strand, V. & **Popescu, M.** (2018), An effective pedagogy for child welfare education. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 12 (3).
- Strand, V., **Popescu, M.**, Way, I., and Semanchin Jones, A. (2017) Building Field Agencies' Capacity to Prepare Staff and Social Work Students for Evidence-Based Trauma Treatments. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services*, 98 (1), pp. 45-56.
- Popescu, M.**, Strand, V., Way, I., Williams-Hecksel, C. & Abramovitz, R. (2017). Building a trauma-informed workforce capacity and legacy. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 37 (1), pp. 36-54
- Zubaroglu, P. & **Popescu, M.** (2015). Preparing Social Work Students for International Interdisciplinary Practice: A Teaching Model and its Impact on Self-Efficacy. *Advances in Social Work*, 16 (2), pp. 214-232
- Strand, V., **Popescu, M.**, Abramovitz, R. & Richards, S. (2015): Building Agency Capacity for Trauma-Informed Evidence-Based Practice and Field Instruction, *Journal of Evidence-Informed Social Work*, DOI: [10.1080/23761407.2015.1014124](https://doi.org/10.1080/23761407.2015.1014124)
- Layne, C., Strand, V., **Popescu, M.**, Kaplow, J., Abramowitz, R., Stuber, M., & Amaya-Jackson, L. (2014). Using the Core Curriculum on Childhood Trauma to Strengthen Clinical Knowledge in Evidence-Based Practitioners. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 43 (2), pp. 286-300.
- Luca-Sugawara, C., Hermoso, J.C.R., **Popescu, M.**, & Dichter, T.W. (2013). Strengthening Democracy Through Local Capacity Development: The Case of Moldova. *Social Work Review (Revista de Asistenta Sociala)*, XII (2). 135-147
- Popescu, M.**, Drumm, R., Dewan, S., & Rusu, C. (2010). Childhood Victimization and its Impact on Coping Behaviors for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence. *Journal of Family Violence*, 25 (6), 575:585
- Popescu, M.**, Luca-Sugawara, C., Hernandez, E., & Dewan, S. (2010). Can Government Funding Strengthen the Third Sector? The Impact of a Capacity Building Program on Faith-Based and Community-Based Organizations. *Social Work Review/Revista de Asistenta Sociala*, 4, 83:101
- Popescu, M.**, Drumm, R., Meyer, S., Cooper, L., Foster, T., Seifert, M., Gadd, H., & Dewan, S. (2009). "Because of my beliefs that I had acquired from the church...": Religious Belief-based Barriers for Adventist Women in Domestic Violence Relationships. *Social Work & Christianity*, 36 (4), 394: 414

- Popescu, M.** & Dewan, S. (2009). Esperanza Trabajando: Gains, losses, lessons learned and steps forward. An evaluation report. *International NGO Journal*, 4 (10), 403:420
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.** & Kerstin, R. (2009). Effects of Intimate Partner Violence among Seventh-Day Adventist Church Attendees. *Critical Social Work*, 10 (1), pp. 1-11
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.**, & Riggs, M.L. (2009). Gender Variation in Partner Abuse: Findings from a Conservative Christian Denomination. *Affilia: Journal of Women & Social Work*, 24 (1), 56-68
- Popescu, M.** & Drumm, R. (2008), Spirituality: A Healing Tool or an Aggravating Factor? Domestic Violence in Faith Communities. *Social Work Journal*, 74 (8), Santiago, Chile: Escuela de Trabajo Social, 83-94
- Sandor, S. D. & **Popescu, M.** (2008), Religiosity and Values in Romania. *Transylvanian Review of Administrative Sciences*, 22 (E), 171:180
- Drumm, R., McBride, D., Hopkins, G., Thayer, J., **Popescu, M.**, and Wrenn, J. (2006). Intimate Partner Violence in a Conservative Christian Denomination: Prevalence and Types. *Social Work and Christianity* 33 (3), 233-251.
- Popescu, M.** (1998). Domestic Violence: Perspectives in Social Policy Today. *Social Research Review* (2), 52-64
- Popescu, M.** (1995). Child Protection in the United Kingdom, *ARPAS* (2), 16-19

Books

- Popescu, M. (2026).** *A rights-based approach to international social development: Sustainability, safety, and wellbeing.* Springer (compact books). In progress.
- Munteanu, A., **Popescu, M.**, & Popa, S. (2000). *The Victims of Domestic Violence: Women and Children*, Timisoara: Eurostampa
- Popescu, M. (2000).** *Community Involvement in Educational Processes (Implicarea comunității în procesul de educație)*, Centrul Educația 2000+ Corint, București: Romania.

Chapters in books

- Popescu, M.**, Alonzo, D., Sarantopoulos, C., & Gasso Soller, C. (2024). In the best interest of the child: The compounded protection challenges for children in forced migration contexts (Chapter 15). In *Children Around the World: The Future of our Earth* (Eds. Niels P. Rygaard, Uwe P. Gielen, Elaine P. Congress, and Julia Larock). Information Age Publishing (IAP).
- Popescu, M.**, Alonzo, D., and Adler, A. (2022). Health care for migrants: A shared global responsibility (Chapter 12). In *Behavioral Science in the Global Arena: Global Health Trends and Issues* (Eds. Elaine Congress, Dalton Meister, Shenae Osborn & Harold Takooshian). Information Age Publishing (IAP).
- Popescu, M.**, Brownell, P., and Pyatetskaya, T. (2022). Violence against all women and girls, across the lifespan. In *Behavioral Science and Health in the Global Arena: Global Mental, Spiritual, and Social Health* (Eds. Elaine Congress, Dalton Meister, Shenae Osborn & Harold Takooshian). Information Age Publishing. 149-165.
- Popescu, M. (2019).** Migration Policies in Europe and the US: Securitization, Safety, and the Paradox of Human Rights (Chapter 5). In *Refugees and Asylum-Seekers: Interdisciplinary and Comparative Perspectives.* (Eds. Libal, K., and Berthold, M.), Praeger, 100:127

- Popescu, M.** & Strand, V. (2018). Trauma-Informed Organizational Readiness Assessment (Chapter 15). In *Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Systems* (eds. Strand, V. & Sprang, G.), Springer, Inc.
- Popescu, M.**, & Breen Thomas, C. (2016). International Nonprofit Organizations: Global Standards, Local Practices, Challenges, and the Meaning of Sustainability (Chapter 11). In *Non-Profit Management: A Social Justice Approach* (eds. Congress, E., Lucks, A., & Petit, F.), Springers, Inc.
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.**, and Cooper, L. (2015). "Domestic Violence in the Pews: Equipping the Church to Recognize and Address Spouse Abuse." In *Church and Society: Missiological Challenges for the Seventh-day Adventist Church*, (Ed.: Maier, R.). Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University, Department of World Mission (Andrews University Mission Studies Series), pp. 532-553.
- Hernandez, E.I, Burwell, R., **Popescu, M.**, Pena, M. & Rivera, J.C. (2006). If the Pastor Says "Let's Do It", It Gets Done: Success Stories in Latino Social Ministry. In *Emerging Voices, Urgent Choices. Essays on Latino/a Religious Leadership* (eds. Hernandez, Pena, Kenneth, & Station), Brill Academic Publishing, 153-185
- Matthews, L. & **Popescu, M.** (2006). Foundations of Sociology. In *Many Voices. An Introduction to Social Issues* (eds. Helm, H. & McBride, D.), Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 2-17
- Popescu, M.** (2000). Domestic Violence: The Community Response. In Zamfir, E. (ed.) *Diagnosis of Social Problems*. Bucharest: Expert, 389-417
- Popescu, M.** & Munteanu, A. (2000). Domestic Violence: From an Imported Reality to an Assumed Current Issue. In Mihailescu, I. (ed.), *Situation Analysis. Family and Child Issues in Romania*, Special issue, Bucharest: UNICEF

Dictionary/Encyclopedia articles

- Popescu, M.** (2002) – 13 terms defined (advocacy; empowerment; institutional abuse; child abuse; alternatives to institutionalizations; counseling; de-institutionalization; de-motivation effect/dependency; learned helplessness; homelessness; domestic violence; marital violence; marital rape), all consisting in articles over 500 words – in Pop, L.M. (ed.), *Dictionary of Social Policy*. Bucharest: Expert Publishing Co.

Reports

Peer-reviewed web report (Annie E. Casey Foundation)

- Hernandez, E.I., Burwell, R., **Popescu, M.**, Pena, M., & Rivera, J.C. (2006). Leadership matters: The role of Latino/a religious leadership in social ministry. (Posted on the AEC website in February, 2008)

Evaluation report submitted to the Pew Trusts and the Center for the Study of Latino Religion, University of Notre Dame, IN

- Grenier, G., Burwell, R., Hernandez, E.I., Mata, M., Pena, M., **Popescu, M.**, Ramos, A., Smith, J., & Verhulst, K. (2008). Compassion on the frontlines: An assessment of Latino-serving faith-based organizations

FUNDED RESEARCH

Grants:

- Principal Investigator (July, 2025-July 2027). *Reclaiming Humanity for Asylum Seekers: An Innovative Model for Social Work Practice and Education.* With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). In partnership with Catholic Charities NYC. External funding: New York Community Trust Fund. (Total awarded: \$500,000)

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2024). *Her Migrant Hub (HMH): Capacity Strengthening for Women Asylum Seekers in NYC*. (November 1, 2023-December 31, 2024). With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External Funding: WES Mariam Assefa Fund. (\$20,000)

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2024). *Her Migrant Hub (HMH): A participatory approach to increasing and expanding access to health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC and neighboring counties*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External Funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation (\$160,000)

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2023). *Her Migrant Hub (HMH): A participatory approach to increasing access to health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. (\$160,000)

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2023). *Creating Sanctuary: A Guide by Women Asylum Seekers for Newly Arrived Forced Migrants in NYC*. External Funding: WES Mariam Assefa Fund (\$50,000).

Principal Investigator (September 15, 2022-December 31, 2024). *Future of Social Work: Developing a best practice model for social workers working with asylum seekers and other forced migrants*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). In partnership with Catholic Charities NYC, and Emma's Torch. External funding: New York Community Trust Fund. (Total awarded: \$500,000)

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2022). *Health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC: Innovative paths to increase access and utilization of services (Round 2)*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation (\$125,000)

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2021). *Health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC: Innovative paths to increase access and utilization of services*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation (\$150,000).

Co-Principal Investigator, with Dr. Alonzo (February-July, 2021). *Guatemala Covid Care Calls (CCC) – Follow-up Project: A one-year follow up project focusing on long-term impact of the pandemic and the extended quarantine periods on high risk, low-income communities in Guatemala*. External funding: International Social Work Solutions (ISWS, \$4,000).

Principal Investigator. (March – June, 2021). *The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Highly Vulnerable Communities in Guatemala: A follow-up study*. Internal funding: GSS – Faculty Research Development Fund (\$4,000).

Co-Principal Investigator, with Dr. Alonzo (June – December, 2020). *Guatemala Covid Care Calls Project – An explorative study on the immediate effects of the pandemic on high risk, low-income communities in Guatemala – particularly in regards to mental health and family violence*. External funding: ISWS (\$11,071).

Co-Principal Investigator, with Dr. Alonzo (October 2018-Present). *Community capacity building in highly vulnerable communities in Guatemala*. Main foci: Community and family violence prevention; suicide prevention and intervention models; and mental health education. External funding: ISWS (\$10,600).

Social Innovation Research Fellow (February 2019-February 2020) – *Innovative Paths to Successful Integration for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in NYC: Bridging the Gaps in Higher Education Institutions*. External funding: Private donor/Social Innovation Program (\$7,000).

Principal Investigator (September, 2016-February, 2017). *Migration policies and their impact on women asylum seekers and refugees in the European Space: Identifying Safe Spaces*. External funding: Institute of International Education/Fulbright (\$20,000).

- Principal Investigator (July 2015 – June 2016). *Relocation strategies: Effectiveness and Current needs of border refugees in Haiti*. Community assessment in refugee camps at the Haitian border, mapping relocation strategies. Internal funding: Fordham University, Faculty Research Grant (\$4,800).
- Principal Investigator (March-May, 2015). *Inter-professional Education: Best Practices in International Social Work Education*. Study evaluated a semester course with an applied international component in Haiti, measuring its effectiveness in transferring knowledge, and increasing students' readiness for international social development. Internal funding: GSS Faculty Research Development Fund (\$1,880).
- Principal Investigator (January, 2014). *Inter-professional Education: Best Practices in International Social Work Education*. Study evaluated an interdisciplinary course designed/taught in Peru, measuring its effectiveness in transferring knowledge, and increasing students' readiness for international social work and social development careers. Internal funding: GSS Faculty Research Development Fund (\$4,800).
- Principal Investigator (April – August 2013). *Relocation of Displaced Population Groups in Haiti – A follow-up Study*. Focused on 283 families relocated out of the Pinchinat IDP Camp in Jacmel, Port-Au-Prince. Internal funding: GSS Faculty Research Development Fund (\$4,500). Findings have been presented at the conference organized by Dr. Popescu, in collaboration with the McGannon Lecture, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Haiti: Post-Disaster Reconstruction, Sustainability And Development Conference (November 15-16, 2013).
- Co-Investigator, with Dr. Gatenio-Gabel (August 2010-December 2011). *International Human Rights Certificate for Social Work*. Project funded by the US Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). PI: Dr. Elizabeth Reichert, University of Southern Illinois, at Carbondale; EU Partners: Management Institute of Innsbruck, Austria (Dr. Michael Klassen); and Coburg University, Germany (Dr. Gabrielle Fanger).
- Co-Investigator (January-April, 2011). *Social Protection in Ghana*. Study conducted on the current social protection system in Ghana, and its direct impact on child protection PI: Dr. Gatenio Gabel. External funding: UNICEF.
- Co-Principal Investigator, with Dr. Gatenio-Gabel (June, 2009-June 2010). *Women and Girls Westchester Project*. Internal funding: GSS Faculty Research Development Fund (\$10,000).
- Principal Investigator (2005-2007) for a *qualitative national research study on domestic violence in a conservative denomination* (in-depth interviews with women survivors of domestic violence). External funding: Loma Linda University Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness (\$21,000).
- Principal Investigator (2004-2005) for a *qualitative research study on domestic violence within a conservative denomination and surrounding community* (focus groups with survivors, pastors/clerics, and human services professionals), with Prof. Jan Wrenn. Internal funding: Andrews University, Faculty Development Grant (\$5,000).
- Co-Principal Investigator (2002-2005). *Evaluation of the Hispanic Capacity Project*. PI: Dr. Edwin Hernandez. External funding: U.S. Faith-Based Initiative/DHSS Compassionate Fund (\$159,000).
- Co-Principal Investigator (2002-2005). *Victimization survey on family wellness and domestic violence, within a conservative denomination*. PI: Dr. Rene Drumm. External funding: Winnifred Stevens Foundation (\$45,000).
- Principal Investigator (2002-2004). *Victimization survey on family wellness and domestic violence within a conservative denomination: College campus and surrounding community*. Internal funding, Andrews University, Faculty Development Grant (\$8,000).

Co-Investigator (1998-2000). *Comparative Analysis of Social Services/Social Protection*. A Jointed Project: University of Bucharest, University of Umea/Sweden, and Anglia Polytechnic University, Cambridge, U.K. External Funding: Tempus Program.

Principal Investigator (1999-2000). *The Powerless of Domestic Violence. Legislation and Services: A Victimization Survey*. Under the auspices of UNDAF Gender Group, Romania.

Co-Investigator (1999) - *Social diagnosis and community development* project. External Funding: World Bank, and the Research Institute for the Quality of Life, Bucharest, Romania.

Subcontracts/Funded evaluation research:

Director of evaluation (2010-2016). National Center for Trauma Social Work Education and Workforce Development – Project funded by SAMSHA (for two funding cycles): Principal Investigators – Dr. Virginia Strand (Fordham University/GSSS) and Dr. Robert Abramovitz (Hunter College/Silberman School of Social Work).

Evaluator (March 2008-September 2010), subcontracted for the evaluation of the *Hispanic Capacity Project – Pennsylvania*, focusing on capacity building for Hispanic faith-based and community based organizations for 29 organizations in Pennsylvania. Funded by the Compassion Capital Fund/DHHS. Total funds allocated: \$78,488.

Evaluator (October 2006 – September, 2009) subcontracted for the evaluation of the *Communities United to Empower Youth* project (Philadelphia), focusing on capacity building for Hispanic faith-based organizations providing services on youth gang prevention, youth violence prevention and child abuse. Funded by the Compassion Capital Fund/DHHS. With Dr. Acevedo (as Co-Evaluator). Total funds allocated: \$75,555.

Evaluator (October 2006 - December, 2008) subcontracted for the evaluation of the *Hispanic Capacity Project (Florida)*, focusing on capacity building for Hispanic faith based organizations in the Florida region, and research on best practices. Funded by the Compassion Capital Fund/DHHS - Demonstration Grant. Total funds allocated: \$22,533.

Evaluator (October 2005-December, 2008) subcontracted for the evaluation of the *Esperanza Trabajando*, a Department of Labor funded project conducted by Nueva Esperanza, focusing on building capacity in Hispanic faith-based organizations providing direct services to adjudicated and at-risk youth. Total funds allocated: \$158,586.

Evaluator (May, 2005 – May, 2006). Miami Bethany Social Services – After School/Summer School programs. Funded by Children’s Fund.

Evaluator (June-August, 2000) of the Family Education Program, UNICEF in Romania.

Evaluator (November, 1999 – April, 2000) of the Social Protection System in Romania. Project funded by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, under the coordination of the Research Institute for the Quality of Life, Bucharest, Romania.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations on global topics

May 14, 2026 – Invited Panelist, *Beyond the IMRF: What’s Next for Children In Migration*. UN-NGO Committee on Migration/Monthly Meeting.

May 3, 2026 – Invited Panelist, *Responding to the Challenges of Shifting Migration Policy: Lessons from the US Context and Local Communities*. IMRF Civil Society Preparatory Day.

May 4, 2021 - Invited panelist, *Strategic planning and program evaluation panel*. 2021 Non-Profit Leadership Summit, United Way of Westchester and Putnam, New York.

April 28, 2021 - *Reclaiming the RIGHT to have rights: Status recognition and implications for undocumented migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees*. Invited presentation: Interdisciplinary Research Forum on Immigration and Anti-racism, Fordham Strategic Research Consortium on Global Studies.

April 8, 2021 - *The COVID-19 pandemic: A complex emergency for women with lived experiences of forced migration*. Invited presentation. UN-NGO Committee on Mental Health.

June 19, 2020 - *A complex emergency: Women on the move in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic*. Invited presentation presented at The Time for Gender Equality is NOW! Virtual International Health Awareness Network (IHAN) at the UN Commission on the Status of Women Annual Conference parallel event.

June 10, 2020 - *The silent pandemic: Mental health implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for the forced migrant population*. Webinar presented at the Loyal Donors Event/Organized by Fordham Office of Development

April 30, 2020 - *Forced migration in the context of the Pandemic: Implications for the Rights of Migrants*. UN-NGO Committee on Mental Health (webinar).

November 25, 2019 - *Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration: Implications for Policy and Practice*. Presented at the UN Matters Conference, organized by the Institute of Women and Girls (IWG) at Fordham University & the International Health Awareness Network (IHAN).

March 20, 2018 - *Global Compact on Refugees: Local Implications*. Presented at Saarland University, Center of American Studies, Saarbruecken, Germany.

November 2, 2017 - **Keynote speaker** at the IHAN, IWG, and UN Conference, *Health and the Sustainable Development Goals: The international community's response to challenges facing refugees and forced migrants*.

April 25, 2017 - Presented with Dr. Michael Knipper (Germany), at *Rights-based Advocacy for Migrant and Refugee Health and Well-being in Europe: A View from Engaged Scholars* – Forum, UConn School of Social Work (April 25, 2017)

April 20, 2017 - **Keynote speaker** at Fordham Alumni Association Event – *Migration Policies in Europe and Beyond: Safety, Security, and the Paradoxes of Human Rights*.

January 10, 2017 - **Keynote Speaker** at *Forced Migration and Global Citizenship in Social Care Practice Today*, organized by Anglia Ruskin University

October, 2016-January, 2017 - Series of invited lectures:

- University of Saarland, Saarbruecken, Germany (January 30th);
- Management Center of Innsbruck (January 18th);
- University of Vienna (December 15th);
- Institute of Migration Studies, University of Osnabrueck (November 2nd), and
- TEI, Athens (October 26th).

2015, CSWE 61st APM (Denver, CO), *Preparing Students for International Social Work Careers* (With Dr. Mark Rodgers)

2015 (June 12th), INDOSOW (International Doctorate in Social Work) Program, Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge: *Diversity, Cultural Context, and Human Rights. Implications for Policy and Practice*.

2014, CSWE 60th APM (Tampa, FL.), *Preparing Students for International Social Work Careers* (With Dr. Mark Rodgers)

2013, November 2nd; CSWE 59th APM (Dallas, TX). *Preparing Students for International Social Work Careers* (with Dr. Mark Rodgers).

2013, April 23rd: Georgian Court University – Social Work Day. Presentation: *Immigration – a contributor to violence against women? Implications for international social work practice*

2013, April 7th: Immigration reform: from dreams to reality (organized by Fordham GSS, Continuing Education Department). Presentation: Immigration policies and the treatment of women in immigration detention centers.

2013, March 9th: Eliminating all forms of violence against women of all ages – a parallel event part of the 57th anniversary of the Commission on the Status of Women* – Presentation: *Immigration and Violence Against Women* (*Dr. Popescu was also one of the organizers of the event.)

2012, March 3rd: Women’s Symposium – a parallel event part of the 56th anniversary of the Commission on the Status of Women – Presentation: *Lessons from the Field – Women’s Stories from Victimization to Empowerment; The role of social work in building capacity and creating safe communities for women in rural areas.*

Peer-reviewed Professional Papers Presented

Popescu, M. (2025). *Forced Migration*

Popescu, M., Alonzo, D., Sarantopoulos, C., & Soler, C. (2023). *The Impact of Forced Migration on Indigenous Migrant Children’s Mental Health and Well-being: Narratives of Inequality and Resilience.* Presented at the 20th IMISCOE Annual Conference, Warsaw, Poland, on July 3rd, 2023.

Popescu, M. (2021). *The role of entrepreneurship in the effective integration of migrant women: Innovative leadership in New York City.* Accepted for presentation at the Forward Thinking Summit: The Network for Social Work Management, June 9, 2021

Popescu, M. (2020). *Global Compacts as a Framework for Social Work Practice with Migrants and Refugees.* Accepted for presentation at the Social Work Education and Social Development Conference (June, 2020 - postponed due to pandemic to 2021).

Popescu, M. (2020). *Reconceptualizing Borders: The Role of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Addressing Migration Challenges.* Presented at IMISCOE Annual Conference, July 1st. 2020 (virtual presentation).

Popescu, M., Oren, T., & Tripathy, S. (2020). *Impact of immigration status on students from asylum seeking backgrounds in higher education: A systematic literature review.* Presented at the 24th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, Washington DC (January 16-20)

Popescu, M. (2019). *Increasing Access to Higher Education for Refugees: Complex Initiatives for Sustainable Integration in Germany.* Presented at the 23rd Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work Research, San Francisco, CA (January 16-20)

Popescu, M. (2017). *Forced Migration: Changing Professional Mandates and the Paradox of Human Rights.* Presented at the CSWE 63rd Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, Texas (October 19-22)

Libal, K., Harding, S., **Popescu, M.,** Berthold, S.M., Felten, G., & Zubaroglu, P. (2017). *Refugees and Xenophobia: Social Work Responses in US and Europe.* Presented at the CSWE 63rd Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, Texas (October 19-22)

Libal, K., Harding, S., & **Popescu, M.** (2017). *Voluntarism and Refugee Integration in the Context of Rising Xenophobia and Racism.* Presented at International Metropolis Conference, The Hague, Netherlands, September 18-22.

Popescu, M. (2017), *Forced Migration – From Securitization to Safety: Current Challenges and Best Practices.* Presented at the ICSD Biannual Conference, Zagreb, Croatia (July 7-11).

- Strand, V., **Popescu, M.**, Way, I., & Semanchin-Jones (2016), A. “*Building Agency Capacity to Implement Evidence-based Trauma Treatments.*” Presented at the 29th Annual Research and Policy Conference Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Behavioral Health, Tampa, FL, March 13-16.
- Popescu, M.**, & Strand, V. (2016). “*Factors contributing to organizational readiness for adopting and implementing trauma-informed evidence-based practice*”. Presented at the Society for Social Work and Research 20th Annual Conference, Washington DC, January 13-17
- Popescu, M.**, Strand, V., Way, I. & Abramovitz, R.(2012). “*Teaching competency based trauma education: Evaluation of a course/field model*”. Presented at the 58th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Washington, DC, November 8-12.
- McPherson, J., Berthold, M., Gatenio-Gabel, S., & **Popescu, M.** (2012). “*Teaching Rights-based Practice Models Across the Social Work Curriculum*”. Presented at the 58th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Washington, DC, November 8-12.
- Chase, Y., **Popescu, M.**, Bragin, M., & Hermoso, J.C.R. (2012). “*Indigenization of Social Work Education*”, Presented at the 58th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Washington, DC, November 8-12
- Gatenio-Gabel, S. & **Popescu, M.**,(2011). *An International Collaborative to Integrate Human Rights in Social Work Curriculum*. Presented at the 57th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Atlanta, GA, October 28
- Popescu, M.**, & Kondrat, M. (2010), *It's not just about the whales: Sustainability in a global social work perspective*. Presented at the 56th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Portland, OR, October 16th
- Godenzi, A., **Popescu, M.**, Diaconu, M., Braggin, M., Jellin, J., & Belaurier, A., *Social Work Education Responses to Rebuild Haiti After Earthquake*. Presented at the 56th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Portland, OR, October 16th, 2010
- Popescu, M.** & Drumm, R., *The Impact of Childhood Victimization on Adults Coping with Intimate Partner Violence in a Faith Based Community*. Presented at the 160th ICSD Symposium, Monterrey, Mexico, July 29th, 2009
- Popescu, M.** & Gatenio-Gabel, S., *Developing Faculty and Students' Interests on Global Social Issues*. Presented at the 54th Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education, Philadelphia, October 31st, 2008
- Drumm, R., & **Popescu, M.**, “*I find that hard to believe!*”-*Pastoral reactions to disclosures of domestic violence in a conservative Christian denomination*. Presented at the 13th International Conference on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma, San Diego, September 16th, 2008.
- Popescu, M.**, *The Faith-based Initiative, beyond its political implications: The role of intermediary organizations in capacity building among Hispanic communities*. Presented at the 8th International Conference on Knowledge, Culture, and Change in Organizations. Cambridge, UK, August 6th, 2008.
- Drumm, R., & **Popescu, M.**, *The pastor can't be bothered: Conservative Christian women's perceptions of effective help-seeking efforts*. Presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference. Portsmouth, NH, July 28th, 2008.
- Drumm, R., & **Popescu, M.**, “*I believed that God had rejected me*”: *Spiritual effects among religiously affiliated domestic violence survivors*. Presented at the Third North American Conference on Spirituality and Social Work. Fredericton, NB, Canada. June 27, 2008.

- Popescu, M., & Drumm, R.,** *Women's stories, women's lives: Learning from survivors to improve faith communities' responses to intimate partner violence.* Presented at Strengthening Families for the 21st Century: Health, Wholeness and Faith Conference. Loma Linda, CA. April 28, 2008.
- Popescu, M., & Drumm, R.** *Child abuse in a conservative Christian church: Effects on adult spiritual life.* Presented at the National Association of Christian Social Workers Annual Conference. Orlando, FL, February 8, 2008.
- Popescu, M., & Drumm, R.** *How do women in conservative faith communities survive intimate partner violence.* Presented at the 135th Annual Meeting, American Public Health Association. Washington, DC, November 5, 2007.
- Popescu, M., & Drumm, R.** *Intimate Partner Violence in a Conservative Faith Community: Spirituality, Religion and Coping.* Presented at the 53rd Annual Program Meeting, Council of Social Work Education. San Francisco, CA, October 30, 2007.
- Drumm, R., & **Popescu, M.** *Bad pastors: Clergy response to victims of domestic violence in a conservative Christian denomination.* Presented at the 12th Annual Conference on Violence, Trauma, and Abuse. San Diego, CA: September 12, 2007.
- Drumm, R., & Popescu, M. *Gender differences in help-seeking efforts and needs: Informing the social responsiveness of church organizations.* Presented at the International Conference on Violence Against Women: Diversifying Social Responses. Montreal, Canada, October 23, 2006.
- Popescu, M., & Hernandez, E.** *Effective leadership in Hispanic faith-based organizations.* Presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Portland, OR, October 20, 2006.
- Popescu, M., & Drumm, R.,** *Effective helpseeking for women victims of intimate partner violence in a conservative faith denomination.* Presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Portland, OR, October 20, 2006.
- Popescu, M. & Drumm, R.** *Spirituality: A healing tool or an aggravating factor? Domestic violence in faith communities.* Presented at the 33rd International Congress of the Schools of Social Work. Chile, August 29, 2006.
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.,** Westman, R., & Stevenson, S. *Bringing faith in balance: Promising interventions in domestic violence among religious congregations.* Presented at the Biennial Conference of the International Federation of Social Workers, Munich, Germany, August 1, 2006.
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M., & Kersting, R.** *Protecting every kindred, tongue, and people.* Presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH, July 10, 2006.
- Drumm, R., & **Popescu, M.,** *Pursuing excellence in social ministry: Preferred domestic violence services.* Presented at the Annual Conference of the National Association of Christian Social Workers. Grand Rapids, MI, October 28, 2005.
- Popescu, M.,** Drumm, R., & Wrenn, J., *Religiosity and childhood violence: The impacts on intimate partner abuse.* Presented at the Annual International Conference on Family Violence. San Diego, CA, September 19-21, 2005.
- Popescu, M., & Drumm, R.,** *Domestic violence in a conservative Christian denomination: Challenges and barriers for women of faith.* Presented at the International Social Sciences Annual Conference. Honolulu, Hawaii, June 14, 2005.

- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.**, McBride, D., & Wrenn, J., *Abuse issues in a conservative Christian denomination: How similar are congregants in diverse regions?* Presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Kansas City, October 22-24, 2004.
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.**, & Wrenn, J., *Connecting church and calling: Conducting research on domestic violence in conservative Christian denominations*. Presented at the NACSW Annual Conference, October 21, 2003.
- Wrenn, J., **Popescu, M.**, & Drumm, R., *Working with the faith community to end abuse: A domestic violence needs assessment in a conservative Christian denomination*. Presented at the 8th International Conference on Family Violence. San Diego, CA, September 15-20, 2003.
- Popescu, M.** *Towards a global social work model: Present trends in policy and practice*. Presented at the Conference of the International Association of Schools of Social Work, Montpellier, France, July 15-18, 2002.
- Popescu, M.**, *Social solidarity in post-Communist Romania*. Presented at the International Conference on University Volunteering. Vilnius, Lithuania, June 1999.
- Popescu, M.**, *The role of social work in evaluating child sexual abuse: Designing new community centered strategies on the matter*. Presented at the Regional Social Work Conference, Cluj Napoca, Romania, May 1995.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course development

- 2022: Developed the *Forced Migration and Social Work Policy and Practice* course, together with Dr. Alonzo. The course is currently taught in the MSW program, and it led to the development of multiple training programs for practitioners in the field of forced migration.
- 2018-2019: Developed the *Advanced Integrated Policy Practice* course (2018) and the *International Social Development and Community Building* (2019) for online teaching using the 2U platform. Both courses are active and offered as part of the online MSW program at Fordham University.
- 2017: Developed/taught an intensive course on *Gender and Development: Women's Rights and Social Work Practice*. Taught at MCI, Austria, in December 2017.
- 2015: Developed the course *Social Policy II – Analysis, Advocacy, and Practice* for online teaching, using the Brightspace platform (with the support of Jesuit Net). Course active, and taught to students in the Legacy Online MSW program at Fordham University, GSSS.
- 2014: Adapted the *International Social Development and Community Building* course with a focus on Microcredit and Women – and framed it as an interdisciplinary course, targeting Economics, Business and Social Work graduate students. Taught in Lima, Peru, January 2014.
- 2010: Together with Dr. Gatenio-Gabel, adapted an existing course *Social work from a Human Rights Perspective*, adding a special focus on the rights of women and children. Course was co-taught twice, with Dr. Gatenio-Gabel, as part of the FIPSE grant - *International Human Rights Certificate for Social Workers*.
- 2009: Developed the course *Community Participation in Emergency Response* - at the request of the International Institute for Humanitarian Affairs, Fordham University. The course was approved and became part of the required courses for the Masters in International Humanitarian Affairs.
- 2007: Developed new course: *International Social Development and Community Building in a Global Context* – approved as a pilot course for the spring semester, 2008. Integrated as a regular elective, alternatively taught in both campuses, starting 2008.

2002: Developed new course: *Main Concepts of International Development* – approved as a core required course for the MSA: Community and International Development Program at Andrews University; the course was taught by Dr. Popescu and on-campus from 2002-2006 and remained a core required course for the program; Dr. Popescu also taught this course internationally, to nine cohorts of over 200 international students in total, at sites in Europe (Florence, Italy; and Kiev, Ukraine); Asia (Tokyo, Japan); and East Africa (Eldoret, Kenya).

International Study Tours

Dr Popescu developed a model of immersed international teaching, in connection with the *International Social Development and Community Building in a Global Context* course. To date, over 100 students participated in the program). Organized and conducted seven study tours in Haiti (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018) – focusing on displacement/forced migration; post-disaster relief, participatory reconstruction/capacity building and women’s empowerment; and three additional study tours in the Dominican Republic (Haitian bateyes) – focusing on poverty in the bateyes, birth certificates/stateless population, and the immediate impact on children, as well as long term implications for environment, public health and education (2008-2009). The immersions included participation of students in community-based projects initiated in partnership with local grassroots organizations; and led to several other research and policy initiatives.

Related Projects:

2018: *Women’s Narratives: From Displacement to Sustainable Development* (March 29-April 5th, Jacmel and Port-au-Prince, Haiti). Students recorded women’s narratives, and created a mini-documentary, focusing on women leadership.

2016: *Relocation: immediate impact and sustainability concerns*. A follow-up study in Anse-a-Pitre, Haiti. In collaboration with Dr. Pinar Zubaroglu (Fordham GSSS/2019) and a team of Haitian social work students from Enstitute de Travail Social, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

2015: *Rapid Assessment: Needs of Displaced Populations/Refugees at the Haiti/Dominican Republic border (Anse-a-Pitre)*. Impact of forced migration on women refugees. In collaboration with Serge Turin (Haiti Initiative), and Kara Lightburn (Social Tap)

2013: November 15-16 – *Organized International Conference – Haiti: Post-Disaster Reconstruction, Sustainability and Development*. Over 100 people attended the conference – focusing on the role that universities can play in supporting sustainable development in post-disaster communities.

2013 (April-August): *New project* – follow-up study on relocation of 283 displaced families (in collaboration with IOM office and local partners – Kara Lightburn, Social Tap). Impact of forced migration/displacement on women was explored. Findings were released at the Haiti Conference (see above), and were also presented in a white paper distributed to key stakeholders.

2012: Two projects: Clean cooking fuel project – aiming to empower local communities, and promote sustainable capacity building; and the human trafficking prevention project – initial assessment for pilot project, focusing on women’s empowerment through education and job development. In collaboration with Kara Lightburn/Social Tap.

International Teaching

Management Center of Innsbruck, Austria

Starting with the Fulbright program in Austria (2016-2017), Dr. Popescu was invited to teach yearly at the Management Center of Innsbruck (MCI), during the MCI International Semester. She developed and taught the following courses:

- *Social Change and Social Work (December, 2017-2020)* – 2-week intensive graduate course taught at the Management Center of Innsbruck (Austria)
- *Gender and International Development (2017)* – 1-week intensive undergraduate course taught at the Management Center of Innsbruck (Austria)
- *International Social Development and Capacity Building (December, 2016)*. Special emphasis: Forced migration, development and human rights.

Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya (UARM), Lima, Peru

- Winter Intensive (2014, January 2-20) - *International Social Development and Community Building in a Global Context* course. Special emphasis – Income generating activities, microcredit, and their impact on women’s development in urban, rural and indigenous areas in Peru.

International Institute for Humanitarian Affairs – International Interdisciplinary Teaching

- *Community Participation in Emergency Response* – taught in Barcelona (2014, 2011, 2010), Berlin (2013), and Geneva (2012). Intensive 1-week required course for the Masters in International Humanitarian Affairs, Fordham University. Participants: Humanitarian and international development professionals from around the world.

Summer Course – Fordham London Center

- *International Social Development and Community Building in a Global Context (2012, June 10-30)*. Summer teaching in London (Fordham London Center). Audience: Fordham MSW students.

Andrews University – International Development Program

- *Main concepts of International development (2001-2009)* Intensive 1-week course, taught in Kenya, Italy, Ukraine, Japan, and the United States). Audience: international development workers (Over 200 students participated in this course).

Professional consultations/training and capacity building:

Training of trainers (September 2025). Drs. Popescu and Alonzo developed a training curriculum/certificate for Community Mental Health Educators (CMHE). The training was delivered in person to 15 social work educators, practitioners and refugees at the University of Osijek, Croatia.

Training of trainers, Guatemala (2018-2021). Drs. Popescu and Alonzo developed a training curriculum focusing on family and community violence and suicide – assessment, prevention, and intervention. The curriculum was delivered in person (November, 2018; and October, 2019) and online – with 5 separate workshops delivered between January and September, 2019. A final evaluative training series will be scheduled in 2021.

Training: *Program evaluation and outcome measurement* (October 9, 2009) – for Hispanic faith-based and community-based organizational leaders and clergy, Esperanza Capacity Institute, Philadelphia.

Training: *Coalition building* (October 4-5, 2007) - for Hispanic faith-based and community-based organizational leaders and clergy, Esperanza Capacity Institute, Philadelphia.

Training: *Program evaluation and outcome measurement* (October 16-17, 2006) – for organizational leaders participating in a Department of Labor funded project (*Esperanza Trabajando*), from Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, CA; Tucson, AZ; and Tacoma-Seattle, WA.

Training: *Program evaluation and outcome measurement* (September 22-23, 2006) – for organizational leaders participating in a Department of Labor funded project (*Esperanza Trabajando*), from New York Metropolitan Area; Philadelphia; and Boston.

Grant consultant (May 2005): for Miami Bethany Social Services – in preparing a grant proposal for an afterschool/summer camp program. Proposal accepted and funded (by Children’s Fund).

Research consultant (1999-2000)- for UNICEF studies on child abuse and domestic violence in Romania, under UNDAF Gender Group coordination.

Research consultant (1998): *Equal chances: School integration for Roma children in Romania*. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education; funded by Soros Foundation For an Open Society, Bucharest, Romania.