

# Maria Ylcelis Rodriguez, MSW, PhD.

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## Academic Appointments & Affiliations

### CURRENT

<i>Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University at Buffalo, State University of New York</i>	
Principal Research Scientist	2024-present
<i>University at Buffalo, State University of New York</i>	
Graduate Faculty	2020-present
<i>Institute for Gender Studies, University at Buffalo, State University of New York</i>	
Affiliate Faculty	2022-present
<i>Digital Scholarship Studio Network, University at Buffalo, State University of New York</i>	
Affiliate Faculty	2022-present

## Publications

*italics denote students*

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

*Dohler, E., Phillips, J. Wilson, A., Rodriguez, M.* (Accepted) FEMA housing assistance receipt among mobile homeowners after Hurricane Florence. *Risk, Hazards & Crisis in Public Policy*.

**Rodriguez, M**, Goldkind, L., Victor, B., Hiltz, B. & Perron, B. (2024). Introducing Generative Artificial Intelligence Into the MSW Curriculum: A Proposal for the 2029 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards. *Journal of Social Work Education*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10437797.2024.2340931>.

*Vegara, V., Rodriguez, M, Dohler, E., Phillips, J., Villodas, M., Wilson, A., & Joseph, K.* An evaluation framework for predictive models of neighbourhood change with applications to predicting residential sales in Buffalo, NY (2023). *Journal of Urban Studies*. DOI: 10.1177/00420980231189403.

Storer, H. L., Scott, C. F., Eggleston, M., Shulruff, T., & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** (2023). Reimagining Social Work's Digital Future: The Critical Role of Interdisciplinary Tech Partnerships. *Journal of Social Work Education*, 1-16. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10437797.2023.2186994>

Storer, H., Nygeres, E., **Rodriguez, M.** (2023) Technology is a "Blessing and a Curse:" The Perceived Risks and Benefits of Digital Technology Adoption at Teen Dating Violence Organizations. *Journal of Technology and Human Services*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15228835.2023.2179158>

*Windel, F., Than, N., Perkins, K. M., & Rodriguez, M. Y.* (2022). Color-blind and racially suppressive discourses on German-speaking Twitter: A mixed method analysis of the Hanau White nationalist shootings. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1002/casp.2672>

*Chung, G., Rodriguez, M., Lanier, P., & Gibbs, D.* (2022). Text-Mining Open-Ended Survey Responses Using Structural Topic Modeling: A Practical Demonstration to Understand Parents' Coping Methods During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Singapore. *Journal of Technology in Human Services*, 0(0), 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15228835.2022.2036301>

*Than, N., Yoong, D., Rodriguez, M. Y., & Windel, F. M.* (2021). "Welcome to Gab": Exploring Political Discourses in a Non-Moderated Social Media Platform. *IDEAH*. <https://doi.org/10.21428/f1f23564.oe45f983>

**Rodriguez, M.**, Storer, H., & Shelton, J. (2021). Organizing in the digital age: Digital macro practice is here...to stay. *Journal of Community Practice*, 29(3), 199-202. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2021.1984178>

Stuart, P. H., & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** (2021). Eduard C. Lindeman analyzes the farmer's cooperative marketing movement in 1923. *Journal of Community Practice*, 29(3), 203-213. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2021.1982374>

Storer, H. L., Nyerges, E. X., & **Rodriguez, M.** (2021). Community outreach, fundraising, and social transformation: The functions of social media platforms to prevent dating abuse in domestic violence and sexual assault organizations. *Journal of Community Practice*, 29(3), 214-236. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2021.1972377>

Romich, J. & **Rodriguez, M.** (2021) There and Back Again: A Commentary on Social Welfare Policy in the Wake of 2020. *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/713020>

Wilson, A. B., Mahadevan, T., Villodas, M., **Rodriguez, M.**, Bailliard, A., & Cuddeback, G. (2020). Tiny Homes Are Huge for People Living With Serious Mental Illness. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 104973152096144. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049731520961448>

Storer, H. L., & **Rodriguez, M.** (2020). #Mapping a movement: Social media, feminist hashtags, and movement building in the digital age. *Journal of Community Practice*, 28(2), 160-176. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2020.1757541>

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (2020). The National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program (NFMC) and Spanish-Speaking Immigrants: A Case Study. *Journal of Poverty*, 24(5-6), 493-516. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10875549.2020.1731048>

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**, DePanfilis, D. & Lanier, P. (2019). Bridging the Gap: Social Work Insights for Ethical Algorithmic Decision-Making in Human Services. *IBM Journal of Research and Development*. 10.1147/JRD.2019.2934047.

Lanier, P., **Rodriguez, M.**, Verbiest, S., Bryant, K., Guan, T., & Zolotor, A. (2019). Preventing Infant Maltreatment with Predictive Analytics: Applying Ethical Principles to Evidence-Based Child Welfare Policy. *Journal of Family Violence*, 35(1), 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-019-00074-y>

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**, & Storer, H. (2019). A computational social science perspective on qualitative data exploration: Using topic models for the descriptive analysis of social media data. *Journal of*

Technology in Human Services, 1-32. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15228835.2019.1616350>

Storer, H. L., **Rodriguez, M.Y.**, & Franklin, R. (2018). "Leaving Was a Process, Not an Event": The Lived Experience of Dating and Domestic Violence in 140 Characters. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 886260518816325. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260518816325>

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**, Ostrow, L., & Kemp, S. P. (2016). Scaling Up Social Problems: Strategies for Solving Social Work's Grand Challenges. *Research on Social Work Practice*, DOI: 1049731516658352.

#### PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

**Rodriguez, M.**, & Shelton, J. (2019, March 26). Social media. In *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. Last modified 2022, February 24. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.013.1327>

#### PEER-REVIEWED WHITE PAPERS

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**, De Candia, T. & Pree, L.. (2017, December) "Evaluating Predictive Algorithms for Racial Equity: A Case Study of the NYC Administration for Children's Services". White paper for the Workshop on Trustworthy Algorithmic Decision-Making, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA. [Link](#)

#### PEER REVIEWED CHAPTERS/CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

*Sankhe, P., Hall, S. F.*, Sage, M., Rodriguez, M. Y., Chandola, V., & Joseph, K. (2022, September). Mutual Information Scoring: Increasing Interpretability in Categorical Clustering Tasks with Applications to Child Welfare Data. In *Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Modeling: 15th International Conference, SBP-BRiMS 2022, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, September 20–23, 2022, Proceedings* (pp. 165-175). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

#### OTHER PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**Rodriguez, Maria Y.** (2014). "¿Podemos Darnos el Lujo del Sueño Americano? Can we afford the American Dream?" University of Minnesota: Hubert Project. <http://www.hubertproject.org/hubert-material/354/>

#### PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

*italics denote students*

**Rodriguez, M.Y.; Dohler, E.; Phillips, J.; Villodas, M.; Vegara, V.; Joseph, K.; Wilson, A.** "Forecasting "Failure to Pay" Residential Eviction Filing Trends in the Aftermath of COVID-19: Evidence from Bronx County, NY".

**Rodriguez, M., Hall, S., Sankhe,P.,** Sage, M., Chen, W.,Rudra, A., Joseph, K. Operationalizing Justice: Towards the Development of a Principle Based Design Framework for Human Services AI.

## PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

*italics denote students*

**Rodriguez, M.Y.**, Thakur, D., Madrigal-Hankerson, D. Valdovinos, M., Building resilience following targeted disinformation campaigns: Evidence from womxn identified political candidates of color during and after the 2020 election cycle.

## PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

**Rodriguez, M.Y.**, Thakur, D., Madrigal-Hankerson, D. Valdovinos, M., (2022). Disinformation and Women of Color in Politics. Produced for The Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) URL: <https://cdt.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/update-anunrepresentativedemocracy-a11y-102622-1710.pdf> Eds. Thakur, D. & Hankerson, D.

**Rodriguez, M.Y.**, Brower, S.H., Taylor, K.A., Auyeung, A. (2020). Black Women and Online Harms. Exploring Black Women MPs Twitter Experience: A Descriptive Exploration of the 2019 UK Parliamentary Election. Produced for Glitch. URL: <https://glitchcharity.co.uk/>

**Rodriguez, M.Y.** (2015) WA State Foreclosures: Rates, Numbers, and Demographic Characteristics at the Zip Code Level, [Link](#). Produced for the Northwest Justice Project. Dissemination by HUD region IX.

**Rodriguez, M.Y.** (2015) WA State Foreclosures: Rates, Numbers, and Demographic Characteristics at the Neighborhood Level. Produced for the Northwest Justice Project.

## PREPRINTS

*italics denote students*

*Vegara, V., Rodriguez, M., Dohler, E., Phillips, J., Villodas, M., Wilson, A., & Joseph, K.* (2021). Promises and Pitfalls of a New Early Warning System for Gentrification in Buffalo, NY. URL: <https://arXiv:2111.14915>

*Chung, S. K. G., Rodriguez, M., Lanier, P., & Gibbs, D.* (2021). Text-mining open-ended survey responses using structural topic modeling: A practical demonstration to understand parents' coping methods during COVID-19 pandemic in Singapore. OSF Preprints. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/enzst>

## Grants

### GRANTS FUNDED

**Funder:** Sloane Foundation

*Project Title:* Equitable and Inclusive AI Curricular Innovation and Research Initiative

*Role:* Co-Principal Investigator

*Award Number:*

*Amount:* \$78,000

Awarded April 17th, 2025

**Funder:** National Science Foundation (NSF)

*Project Title:* Collaborative Research: SAI-R: Integrative Cyberinfrastructure for Enhancing and Accelerating Online Abuse Research

*Role:* Co-PI

*Amount:* \$375,000

December 2022- December 2025

**Funder:** American Public Health Association/Centers for Disease Control

*Project Title:* Identifying organic bystander interventions in racist social media interactions: An exploratory study

*Role:* Principal Investigator

*Amount:* \$57,691.00

Summer/Fall 2021

**Funder:** Mozilla Foundation

*Project Title:* Teaching Responsible Computing

*Role:* Co-Principal Investigator

*Amount:* \$54,000

June 2021-December 2022

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

*Project Title:* FAI: Building a Fair Recommender System for Foster Care Services within the Constraints of a Sociotechnical System

*Role:* Co-Pi

*Award Number:* 1939579

*Amount:* \$816,000

January 2019-December 2022

**Funder:** The President's Initiative for Faculty Innovations in Teaching and Technology (Hunter College/CUNY)

*Project Title:* Preparing Community Organizing students for their Digital Soapbox

*Role:* Co-Principal Investigator

*Amount:* \$5,300

Summer 2019

**Funder:** Administration for Children's Services (NYC).

*Project Title:* Building capacity to use predictive analytic modeling to inform key child welfare decisions

*Role:* Co-Principal Investigator

*Amount:* \$68,062

2017-2018

**Funder:** Russell Sage Foundation and The Sloane Foundation

*Project Title:* Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS) Partner Site.

*Role:* Site Organizer

*Amount:* \$30,000

Summer 2018, Summer 2019

#### GRANTS UNDER REVIEW

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

*Project Title:* HCC:SMALL: REAL CARE: Relationship-Enhancing Algorithms for involuntary clients in CARE Services

*Role:* Principal Investigator

*Award Number:*

*Amount:* \$499,233

Submitted April 18th, 2025

#### GRANTS IN DEVELOPMENT

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

*Project Title:* Arithmetic Circuits with Curated Uncertainty for Reliable Analyses, Training, and Estimation (ACCURATE)

*Role:* Principal Investigator

Submission Expected: November 2025

#### GRANTS NOT FUNDED

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

*Project Title:* MFAI: Arithmetic Circuits with Curated Uncertainty for Reliable Analyses, Training, and Estimation (ACCURATE)

*Role:* Principal Investigator

*Award Number:*

*Amount:* \$1,420,140

October 2024

**Funder:** National Science Foundation (NSF)

*Project Title:* Collaborative Research: FW-HTF-RL: Empowering and Enabling Workings for an Equitable Future of Child Welfare Work

*Role:* Co-PI

*Amount:* \$1.2 million

March 2023

**Funder:** National Science Foundation (NSF)

*Project Title:* Institute for Trustworthy, Responsible, User-involved, Safe AI Technology (ITRUST)

*Role:* Contributor, Lead for Social Science Branch

*Amount:* \$20 million

September 2023

**Funder:** Social Science Research Council (SSRC) JustTech Fellowship

*Project Title:*

*Role:* Fellow

*Amount:* \$100,000 for two years; \$200,000 total

January 2022

*Funder:* Knight Foundation

*Project Title:* Perceptions of Trustworthy News Sources in Spanish Speaking Communities: A Qualitative Study

*Role:* Principal Investigator

Applied: September 2021

**Funder:** National Science Foundation (NSF)

*Project Title:* NSF AI Institute for Social Good

*Application number:* IIS - 2112629

Applied: December 2020

**Funder:** HudsonUP & Humanity Forward

*Project Title:* HudsonUP universal basic income (UBI) demonstration in Hudson, NY

*Application number:* N/A

Applied: July 2020 (not selected in final round)

**Funder:** Facebook, Inc.

*Project Title:* Multi-platform political communities & disinformation opportunities

*Application number:* N/A

Applied: June 2020

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health (Big Data to Knowledge Program (BD2K))

*Project Title:* #BlackLivesMatter: Understanding the effects of structural racism on health and well-being using Twitter

Application number: 1 SC2 GM127229-01

Applied: April 2017

**Funder:** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

*Project Title:* Ending Teen Dating Violence: Integrating Technology and Infrastructure to Realize a Culture of Health

*Application Number:* 77391

Applied: October 2018

## Presentations

### PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

*italics denote students*

**Rodriguez, M.**, Hall, S., Pranav, Sage, M., Chen, W., Rudra, A., Joseph, K. (Jan 2023). Do the Rules Define the Reality? Linking State Level Child Welfare Policy to Outcomes. Part of the symposium: Working at the (Methodological) Intersection: Linking Methods and Theory to Social Work and Computation to Advance Knowledge of Outcomes in Foster Care. Symposium presented at the Society for Social Work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/SSWR-27th-Annual-Conference-Conference-Agenda.pdf>. Hybrid.

Smith, R. & **Rodriguez, M.** (Jan 2023) . Mixed Methods Research Using R. Invited workshop at the Society for Social Work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/SSWR-27th-Annual-Conference-Conference-Agenda.pdf>. Hybrid.

**Yoong, D., Than, N., & Rodriguez, M. Y.** ( March 2022). Women in Alt-Right Communities: What do we do? [Structured discussion]. Association for Women in Psychology 2022 Convention, Chicago, IL.

**Rodriguez, M.** and Patton, D. ( Jan 2022). Algorithms, Bias, and Fairness. Invited symposium at the Society for Social Work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/2022-conference-home/information-on-in-person-live-streaming-and-virtual-presentations/>. Virtual due to Covid-19.

**Vergara, J.V., Dohler, E., Phillips, J., Villodas, M., Joseph, K., Rodriguez, M., & Wilson, A.** (Accepted, Jan 2022). Forecasting Residential Displacement in Buffalo, NY. Paper presentation at the Society for Social work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/2022-conference-home/information-on-in-person-live-streaming-and-virtual-presentations/>. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

**Rodriguez, M., Dohler, E., Phillips, J., Villodas, M., Vergara, J.V., Joseph, K., & Blank Wilson, A.** (Accepted, Jan 2022). Forecasting the Magnitude of the Eviction Tidal Wave Following COVID-19: A Case Study of the Bronx. Paper presentation at the Society for Social work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/2022-conference-home/information-on-in-person-live-streaming-and-virtual-presentations/>. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

**Phillips, J., Dohler, E., Rodriguez, M., Villodas, M., Vergara, J.V., Joseph, K., and Wilson, A.** (Accepted, Jan 2022). Real-time data and analysis to Advance Racial, Social, and Political

Justice in Social Work Science: Lessons Learned from a Transdisciplinary Collaboration Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/2022-conference-home/information-on-in-person-live-streaming-and-virtual-presentations/>. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

*Dohler, E., Phillips, J., Rodriguez, M., Vegara, J.V., Villodas, M., Joseph, K., & Blank Wilson, A.* (Accepted, Jan 2022). Race, Ethnicity, and Evictions in New York City: Using Publicly Available Data to Identify Disparities in the Rental Housing Market. Paper presentation at the Society for Social work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/2022-conference-home/information-on-in-person-live-streaming-and-virtual-presentations/>. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

*Woojin, J., Rodriguez, M., Cheng, R., and Ziemer, K.* (Accepted, Jan 2022). Social Media As a Source of Data - Lessons Learned and Implications for Utilizing Computational Methods in Social Work Research. Roundtable at the Society for Social work Research and Society. URL: <https://secure.sswr.org/2022-conference-home/information-on-in-person-live-streaming-and-virtual-presentations/>. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

*Benavidez, N., Kuo, R., Rodriguez, M.Y., Savage, S., Madrigal, D.* (September 2021). Independent Media as Counterweight to Online Disinformation Targeted Toward Communities of Color Online? Panel Presentation at 10th Annual Social Media Symposium: "From COVID-19 to the Ballot Box: Social Media and Race-Based Disinformation in 2020 and Beyond", Howard University. URL: <https://newsroom.howard.edu/newsroom/article/15061/howard-university-cathy-hughes-school-communications-hosts-10th-annual-social>

*Patton, D., Cogburn, C.* Rodriguez, M. (Jan 2021). Social Work Research and Technology: Leveraging AI, topic modeling, and community-based methods for research in human services. Invited workshop at the Society for Social work Research and Society. Virtual due to Covid-19. URL: <https://sswr.confex.com/sswr/2021/webprogram/Session12065.html>

*Windel, F., Than, N. & Rodriguez, M.* (August 2020). #Halle and #Hanau: German Public's Responses to White Nationalist Shootings. Poster presentation at 2020 Conference on Stanford Computational Sociology. Virtual due to Covid-19

*Yoong,D., Than, N., & Rodriguez, M.* (July 2020) A Glimpse into the Right: Understanding Gender and Sexuality through Misinformation, Polarization, Misinformation, and Entrenched Group Conflict: Harnessing Political Psychology to Find Solutions to Problems New and Old. Paper presentation at the International Society for Political Psychology (ISPP). Berlin, Germany. Now virtual due to Covid-19. Jul 14 – 17, 2020.

*Rodriguez, M.Y., Than, N., Yoong, D., Windel, F.* (July 2020) Examining the flow of Disinformation in the Alt-Right: Towards intervention development. Paper presentation at the International Society for Political Psychology (ISPP). Berlin, Germany.

*Windel, F., Than, N. & Rodriguez, M.* (July) 2020. #Halle: The German Public's Responses to Halle Synagogue Shooting. Presented at Annual Meeting of International Society of Political Psychology.

*Nga, T., Rodriguez, M.Y., Yoong, D., Windel, F.* (June 2020) Welcome to Gab": Exploring Alt-Right Discourses via Structural Topic Model. Lightening talk presentation at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute. Victoria, BC. (Cancelled due to Covid-19)

*Bates, G., Rodriguez, M.Y., Hoyos-Torres, S.* (April 2020). Examining the Association of Hospital

Proximity and Foreclosed Homes in Bronx County New York on Acute Myocardial Infarction (Heart Attack) Hospital Visits. Poster Presentation accepted at the Population Association of America. Washington, D.C. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

**Rodriguez, M. Y., Bates, G., Hoyos-Torres, S., & Storer, H.** (January 2020) Community Organizing in the Digital Age: An Exploratory Analysis of the 2017 #WomensMarch using Deep Neural Networks (DNNs). Paper Presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, D.C.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (January 2019) "Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency: Decision-Making Algorithms and the Provision of Human Services". Paper Presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, San Francisco, CA.

Shelton, J. & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** (January 2019) "#TrueColorsDay: Analyzing Social Media Participation in a Multi-Platform Advocacy Event". Paper Presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, San Francisco, CA.

**Rodriguez, M. Y., & Shelton, J.** (November 2018) "Incorporating Digital Organizing Tools into the Macro Classroom: A Hands-on Approach". Interactive Workshop at the Council for Social Work Education APM, Orlando, FL.

Chor, B., De Candia, T., DePanfilis, D., **Rodriguez, M.Y.**, Shrof, R., Weiner, D., & Yaroni, A. (January 2018) "Opening the Black Box: Ethically Responsible Use of Big Data". PreConference workshop at the Society for Social Work Research. Washington, D.C.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**, Storer, H., Mienko, J. (January 2018) "The Perils and Promises of Unsupervised Machine Learning in Social Work Research: Comparing Human Coders to Computer-Led Topic Modeling". Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work Research, Washington D.C.

Storer, H., **Rodriguez, M. Y.**, & Bagneris, J. (October 2017) "#WhyIStayed: A Micro-Primer for Understanding the Barriers for Leaving Abusive Relationships". Paper presentation at the Council for Social Work Education APM, Dallas, TX.

**Rodriguez, M.Y.** (April 2017). "A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosure in Washington State: The Importance of Nativity in Understanding the Foreclosure Crisis". Poster presentation at the Population Association of America. Chicago, IL.

Storer-Smith, H., **Rodriguez, M. Y.**, Mienko, J., & Franklin, R. (January 2017) "#WhyIStayed & #WhyILeft; Mapping the Landscape of a Social Movement". Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Baker-Castro, A. & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** (November 2015) From Epistemology to Public Policy: Checks and Balances on the Use of Big Data in Policy Analysis. Paper presentation at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Miami, FL

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (April 2015) Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling in Low-Income Latino Communities: Household Trajectories in Seattle, WA. Paper presentation at the Urban Affairs Association Conference, Miami, FL.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (January 2015) "The National Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007: Using Supervised Machine Learning to Test Policy Process Theory in a Social Welfare Context". Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**(April 2013) "The National Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007: Inter-coalitional Conflict and the use of Evidence in Federal Housing Policy Development". Poster presentation Translating Social Justice through Public Scholarship: Policy and Practice for Social Change Research Symposium, University of Washington School of Social Work Seattle, WA.

#### INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**(May 15th, 2025). "AI in Systems of Care: How do we decide the right thing to Do?". Presented at the University of Washington's Center for the Study of Demography and Ecology 75th Anniversary (and counting) Celebration, as part of the Families and Well Being Panel URL:<https://csde.washington.edu/newsevents/csde-75-counting-anniversary-celebration/>.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**(January 2025). Invited Participant in 2nd International Workshop on AI Governance (AIGOV) at AAAI, panel on AI governance. URL [<https://aigovernance.github.io/#:~:text=We%20are%20excited%20to%20announce,ands%20societal%20dimensions%20of%20AI>].

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**(February 17th, 2022). Mary Funnyé Goldson Lecture at Columbia University School of Social Work. Do the Rules Define the Reality? Linking State Level Child Welfare Policy To Child Welfare Outcomes. URL:<https://socialwork.columbia.edu/events/do-the-rules-define-the-reality-linking-state-level-child-welfare-policy-to-child-welfare-outcomes/>

Norris, K., **Rodriguez, M. Y.**, Woods, T., Debo, D. (November 2021). Inform or Inflame: Impacts of News and Social Media on Mental Health. Invited Facebook webinar for Spectrum Health & Human Services. URL: [https://www.facebook.com/SpectrumHumanServices/videos/878414912868548/?\\_\\_so\\_\\_=channel\\_tab&\\_\\_rv\\_\\_=all\\_videos\\_card](https://www.facebook.com/SpectrumHumanServices/videos/878414912868548/?__so__=channel_tab&__rv__=all_videos_card)

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (November 2021). Social Media Literacy for Social Welfare Practitioners and Scholars. Invited talk at Buffalo Center for Social Research at University at Buffalo School of Social Work. Also available for CEUs.URL: <https://socialwork.columbia.edu/events/do-the-rules-define-the-reality-linking-state-level-child-welfare-policy-to-child-welfare-outcomes/>

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (October 2021). Identifying organic bystander interventions in racist social media interactions. Invited lecture at the Race + Data Science Series, Columbia University, online. URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mw2N8WnUoc&list=PLRXLC-iYknE66vW3tiBHy1O5pfYmhFfEo&index=7>

Rudra, A., Shapiro, B., Behrends, & **Rodriguez, M.Y.**, (August 2021) Panel presentation at Mozilla Responsible Computing Summit. URL: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b\\_QkDwa2oaw&t=10021s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_QkDwa2oaw&t=10021s)

**Rodriguez, M.Y.** (July 2021) Ai4All: Invited Talk on Ai, Career Development and BIPOC. Hosted by Columbia University's Ai4ALL High School Youth Summer Workshop. URL: <https://ai4all.socialwork.columbia.edu/>

Carley, K., Hancock, J. & **Rodriguez, M.Y.** (June 2021). Panel Presentation: Resilience and Vulnerability to Information Influence. Panel presentation at SocialSens' 2021 Workshop of ICSWM (International Conference on Web and Social Media ). URL: <http://socialsens.web.illinois.edu/keynote/index.html>

**Rodriguez, M.Y** (June 2021) Twitch Live stream: Exploratory Twitter Data Analysis in R. Hosted by the Twitter Developer Team. Twitter, INC. URL: <https://mobile.twitter.com/TwitterDev/status/1405586027088007170>

Hankerson-Madrigal, D. & **Rodriguez, M.Y.** (June 2021) The Impacts of Mis and Dis information on Communities of Color. Invited podcast interview on the Center for Democracy and Technology's podcast, Techtalks. URL: <https://cdt.org/insights/tech-talk-the-impacts-of-mis-and-disinformation-on-communities-of-color>

**Rodriguez, M.Y.** (May 2021) The Limitations of Moral Philosophy in Dealing with Algorithmic Bias. Invited talk at the Mechanical Design for Social Good (MD4SG) colloquium series. URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6jQPqSgOCI>

**Rodriguez, M.** (April 2021). The Root of Algorithmic Bias and How to Deal with it. Invited Keynote at USC CAIS symposium on Equity and AI. Virtual due to Coivd-19. URL: <https://sites.google.com/view/symposium-on-equity-and-ai/schedule>

**Rodriguez, M.** (March 2021). The Root of Algorithmic Bias and How to Deal with it. Invited talk at the USC Center for Artifical Intelligence in Society. Virtual due to Covid-19. URL: <https://www.cais.usc.edu/events/the-root-of-algorithmic-bias-and-how-to-deal-with-it>

**Rodriguez, M.Y.** (Nov 2020). The Root of Algorithmic Bias and How to Deal with it. Invited Keynote Address and Panel Discussion. 4th Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH) at the Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) conference. Virtual due to Covid-19. URL: [https://virtual.2020.emnlp.org/workshop\\_WS-17.html](https://virtual.2020.emnlp.org/workshop_WS-17.html)

Firmat, M.R., **Rodriguez, M.**, Nkonde, M., Ufot, N., Johnson, K. (July 2020) Disinformation in 2020: How Breaking News is Being Used to Supress the Online Vote. Invited Panel presentation at the National Association for Black and Hispanic Journalists (NABHJ). Virtual due to Covid-19. URL: <https://bit.ly/34tR7HO>

Akiwovo, S., Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, C., Prabhakaran, V., **Rodriguez, M.**, Sinders, C. Waseem, Z., Vidgen, B. (July 2020) Tackling Online Abuse: Bridging the Gap between Human Rights and Computer Science. Panel presentation at RightsCon. Virtual due to Covid-19. URL: <https://bit.ly/2QjdkzY>

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (February 2020). Invited guest panelist, "Emerging Technologies and the Future of Social Work". Columbia University School of Social Work, New York, NY.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (February 2019). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Descriptive Text Analysis for Demographic Research". Paper presentation at the University of Pennsylvania's Social Impact, Innovation, and Justice Speaker Series, Philadelphia, PA.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (December 2019). "Protective Factors and Service Outcomes: Examining Applications of Machine Learning in Child Welfare". Paper presentation at Applied Math Department, Hunter College, New York, NY.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (2019, November). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Descriptive Text Analysis for Demographic Research". Paper Presentation at Columbia University School of Social Work's Critical Media and Digital Studies Workshop. New York, NY.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (July 2018). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Descriptive Text Analysis for Demographic Research". Paper presentation at Pew Research Center. Washington, D.C.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (May 2018). "Topic Modeling for Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Quantitative Text Analysis for Health Practitioners". Paper presentation at Weill Cornell

Medicine Research Methodology Conference, Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluative Sciences Research. New York, NY.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (April 2018). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: Using Topic Models for the Descriptive Analysis of Text". Paper presentation at the University of North Carolina's School of Social Work "Tate Talks" series. Chapel, Hill, NC.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.**, De Candia, T. & Pree, L. (December 2017). "Evaluating Predictive Algorithms for Racial Equity: A Case Study of the NYC Administration for Children's Services". Paper presentation at the Workshop on Trustworthy Algorithmic Decision-Making, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA. [Peer Reviewed]

Storer, H.L. & **Rodriguez, M.Y.** (November 2017). "The most public discussion I have ever seen about Domestic Violence": The potential, limitations, and utility of Twitter data in Domestic Violence research". Tulane University's School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine's Research Seminar Series. New Orleans, LA.

**Rodriguez, M. Y.** (April 2017). "Why Social Work Needs Big Data". Paper presentation at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice "Control Societies" speaker series. Philadelphia, PA. [link](#)

## Courses Taught

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY), UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO, DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

**Course Title:** Internet, Computing, and Society (CSE 199)

*Course Description:* Required freshman introductory course for all incoming CSE majors. Developed and delivered 3 week module on CSE Ethics. Fairness, Accountability, Transparency, and Ethics (FATE).

Fall 2024

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY), UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

**Course Title:** Social Welfare History & Policy (SW 500)

*Course Description:* Generalist intro course for all 1st year MSW students, review historical development of U.S. Social Policy from English Poor Laws thru PRWORA.

Fall 2021, 2023

**Course Title:** Theories of Organizational Development and Behavior (SW 506)

*Course Description:* Generalist 1st year course. This course focuses on the theories and empirical knowledge of organizational behavior, development and the change exemplified by theories of bureaucracy, conflict theory, human relations theory and decision making theory.

Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

**Course Title:** Theories of Human Behavior and Development (SW 505)

*Course Description:* Generalist 1st year course. This course provides a general introduction to the major theories of human behavior and knowledge about life span development that are the foundation for current social work practice.

Fall 2023

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (CUNY), SILBERMAN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

**Course Title:** Social Welfare Policy & Services (SW 701)

*Course Description:* Generalist intro course for all 1st year MSW students, review historical development of U.S. Social Policy from English Poor Laws thru PRWORA.

Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019

**Course Title:** Community Organizing I (SW 741)

*Course Description:* Substantive intro course for 1st year community organizing students surveying gneneral U.S. community organizing history, major theories, and frameworks. Led major course redesign in Fall 2018.

Fall 2018, Fall 2019

**Course Title:** Community Organizing II (SW 742)

*Course Description:* Substantive course for 1st year community organizing students applying foundational community organizing skills (e.g. Public Speaking, Power Analysis, Digital Organizing). Led major course re-design in Fall 2017.

Spring 2017

## Courses Developed

**Course Title:** CSE 199R "AI for Humans: The Brains Behind the Bots"

*Course Description:* A discussion and experience based course designed to introduce first year undergraduate students to the technical and societal workings of artificial intelligence (AI). Topics include: 1) the history of AI, and 2) introductions to the mathematical concepts needed to develop, implement, and evaluate AI, such as probability, statistics, and gradient descent.

Fall 2025

## Dissertation Exam Committees

Diane Yoong (committee member) Proposal Defense: Passed, November 2021 Dissertation Defense Date: TBD

Frederike Windel (committee member) Proposal Defense: Passed, May 2022 Dissertation Defense date: May 2023

Nga Than (Committee Member) Proposal Defense: Passed, January 2022 Dissertation Defense date: March 2023 Outcome: Passed, PhD

Khudodod Khudodov, MSW (committee member) Proposal Defense date: November 2021 Dissertation Defense date: January 2023 Outcome: Passed, PhD

Sarah Bussey, LCSW (committee member) Dissertation Proposal Defense Date: May 21st, 2019 Status: Passed, ABD

## Professional Experience

### **Cultures of Resistance Web and Outreach Team, (Philadelphia PA):**

Coordinated volunteer opportunities with organizational network members, updated social justice-oriented film screenings on network website 2011 - 2013

### **Training for Change Consultant, (Philadelphia PA):**

Developed and facilitated trainings/workshops with organizations and groups engaging in social justice through direct action and community organizing. Completed 200 hour Super-Training for Social Action Trainers 2010 - 2012

**Women's Community Revitalization Project Community Organizer, (Philadelphia, PA):** Engaged community residents in a grassroots campaign to convert vacant, city-owned land into an affordable community land trust in North Philadelphia, attended community meetings with elected officials, facilitated inter-organizational coalition building 2009 - 2011

### **Episcopal Community Services Vocational Advantage Program Intern, (Philadelphia PA):**

Responsible for implementing grant-funded program utilizing vocational assessment measures and Cognitive Therapy techniques to facilitate gainful employment initiatives with homeless women. 2008 - 2009

**Bethesda Project (Our Brother's Place) Life Skills Counselor, (Philadelphia PA):** Provided ongoing case management for 10-20 men in large, urban homeless shelter for single men. 2007-2009

## Service to Academic Institutions

### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

**Co-Advisor, Society and Computing Club, Url:(<https://buffalo.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/ubsoco>)** 2020-2022

### SCHOOL SERVICE

**Invited Member, Ai + X Department Development Committee, University at Buffalo** 2024-2025

**Member, Doctoral Programs Committee, UB School of Social Work** 2021-2024

**Member, Committee on Students, UB School of Social Work** 2020-2021

**Chair, Faculty Development Committee, Silberman School of Social Work** 2017-2018

**Member, COPD Committee, Silberman School of Social Work** 2016-present

**Member, Policy Faculty Committee, Silberman School of Social Work** 2016-present

**Silberman Representative, NYC Latino Social Work Coalition** 2016-2017

## Professional and Civic Service

<i>Editorial Board Member</i> , Journal of Technology in Human Services	2019-present
<i>Ethics Reviewer</i> , NeurIPS (Neural Information Processing Systems)	2022, 2025
<i>Ethics Reviewer</i> , ICML (International Conference on Machine Learning)	2024
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer</i> , Child and Family Social Work	2024 - 2025
<i>Program Committee Co-Chair</i> , ACM Conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (ACM EAAMO)	2023
<i>Program Committee Member</i> , ACM Conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (ACM EAAMO)	2021-Present
<i>Area Chair</i> , ACM Conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (ACM EAAMO)	2022
<i>Attendee</i> , Conversation with Facebook Privacy and Data Policy Team on Researcher Access to Data, organized by the Center for Democracy and Technology	October 20th, 2022
<i>Area Chair: Data and Evaluation</i> , ACM conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (AC FAcct)	2020
<i>Editorial Board Member</i> , Journal of Community Practice	2018-2022
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer</i> , Housing Policy Debate	2017-present
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer</i> , Journal of the Society for Social Work Research	2017-present
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer</i> , Journal of Community Practice	2015-present
<i>President</i> , Board of Directors, Casino Free Philadelphia	2011-2012
<i>Member</i> , Organizing and Advocacy Committee, Casino Free Philadelphia	2010-2011

## Professional Organization Affiliations

<i>University of Washington's Center for the Study of Demography and Ecology External Affiliate</i>	Fall 2025 - present
<i>Association for Computing Machinery</i>	2025 - present
<i>CUNY Institute for Demographic Research-Faculty Affiliate</i>	2016-2020
<i>Population Association of America</i>	2016-2023
<i>Association for Public Policy and Management</i>	2015-2023
<i>Urban Affairs Association</i>	2015-2023
<i>Society for Social Work and Research</i>	2015-2024
<i>Association for Community Organization and Social Administration</i>	2014-2022

## Honors and Awards

Best Reviewer, EAAMO	October 2021
SUNY ProdiG Fellow	Spring 2020 - Spring 2022
UW Graduate School Presidential Dissertation Fellowship	Spring 2016
UW GO-MAP Dissertation Fellowship	2015-2016
Population Reference Bureau, Policy Communication Fellowship	Summer 2015
Hubert Project Fellowship, University of Minnesota	Spring 2015
Institute of Translational Health Sciences (NIH TL1)	Summer 2014
University of Washington, West Coast Poverty Center Social Policy Research Fellowship	2012-2014
University of Washington, Graduate School Fund for Excellence and Innovation Fellowship	2011-2012

## Education

<i>University of Washington</i> , PhD Social Welfare	August 2016
<b>Dissertation:</b> Foreclosure Counseling with Hispanic Households: Policy Assumptions in a Changing Demographic Landscape	
<b>Chairs:</b> Jennifer Romich, PhD & Lynne Manzo, PhD	
<i>University of Pennsylvania</i> , MSW Macro Social Work Practice	June 2010
<i>Alfred University</i> , B.A. Clinical Counseling and Child Psychology	December 2005

## Past Appointments

<i>Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University at Buffalo, State University of New York</i>	
Adjunct Assistant Professor	2022-2024
<i>School of Social Work, University at Buffalo, State University of New York</i>	
Assistant Professor	2020-2024
<i>Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University</i>	
Faculty Associate	September 2019-August 2023
<i>Twitter Academic Research Advisory Board</i>	
Inaugural Member	January 2020 - 2022
<i>Center for Democracy and Technology</i>	
Faculty Fellow	January 2021 -Dec 2022
<i>Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College, City University of New York</i>	

Assistant Professor	2016-2020
<i>CUNY Graduate Center</i>	
Doctoral Faculty	January 2019-August 2020

### **Specialized Trainings, Certifications, and Licensures**

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science [SICSS] (<https://compsocialscience.github.io/summer-institute/2017/>) Summer 2017

Center for the Study of Ecology and Demography (University of Washington) Demographic Methods Certificate June 2016