

# Veronica Valencia Gonzalez

[veronvg@uci.edu](mailto:veronvg@uci.edu)

[ORCID 0000-0001-6283-6856](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6283-6856)

School of Social Ecology  
University of California - Irvine  
Irvine, CA 92697

## Education

### University of California - Irvine – Irvine, CA

Social Ecology, PhD Candidate (Fall 2017 – Present)

Chicano/Latino Studies Emphasis

Law, Culture & Society Emphasis

Advisor: Dr. Susan B. Coutin

### University of California - Irvine – Irvine, CA

Master of Arts in Social Ecology (Received 2022)

Master Thesis: Conceptions of Recovery and Relapse of Severe Mental Illness from the Perspective of Mental Health Personnel in Mexico City

### University of California - Irvine – Irvine, CA

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & Social Behavior (Received 2017)

Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, Law & Society (Received 2017)

### Allan Hancock Community College – Santa Maria, CA

Associate in Arts in Social & Behavioral Science w/ Honors (Received 2014)

Associate in Arts Mathematics & Science w/ Honors (Received 2014)

## Relevant Coursework

- Research to Practice – Explored how to properly apply research findings to real world situations.
- Program Evaluation - Explored program evaluation techniques and program evaluation design.
- Memory & the Law - Explored issues with memory recall for traumatized survivors of crimes.
- Research Justice Workshop - Learned how to conduct community engaged research.
- Hard to Reach Populations - Explored issue of gaining access and trust of vulnerable populations.

## Honors & Awards

- 2023 LASA Student Section Paper Award, Latin American Studies Association
- 2023 UC Center Sacramento STEM Solutions Finalist
- 2023 Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Award, Western Society of Criminology
- 2022 ASC Division of Critical Criminology & Social Justice Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2022 UC Center Sacramento STEM Solutions Finalist
- 2019 Social Ecology Graduate Poster Award
- 2018 UCI School of Social Ecology Graduate Student Mentoring Award
- Outstanding Contribution to the School of Social Ecology Award, UC - Irvine (May 2017)
- Advanced Field Study Award, UC - Irvine (May 2017)
- Immersive Field Study Award, UC - Irvine (May 2017)
- Dean's Honor List, UC - Irvine (Fall '14, Winter '15, Spring '15, Fall '15, Winter '16, & Spring '16)

## Fellowships, Scholarships, & Grants

- NSF INTERN Supplemental Funding Opportunity at UN Women Mexico (2023)
- 2023 Daniel and Jeannette Stokols Social Ecology Endowed Grant Award
- Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies Grant, University of California – Irvine Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies (2022-2023 & 2023-2024)
- 2023 Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, University of California – Irvine
- 2023 Research and Policy Latin@ Leadership Fellowship, Esperanza United

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- 2023-2024 UC Pre-Professoriate Fellowship, University of California – Irvine
- Center of Psychology & Law Dissertation Award, University of California – Irvine (2022)
- 2022-2023 Public Impact Fellowship, University of California – Irvine
- 2022-2023 Initiative to End Family Violence Graduate Fellowship, University of California – Irvine
- Small Change, Better World Grant, University of California – Irvine Blum Center (2020 & 2022)
- NSF INTERN Supplemental Funding Opportunity at INMUJERES Mexico (2021)
- Newkirk Community-Based Initiative Fellowship (2021-2022; 2020-2021)
- Fulbright Research Semi-Finalist (2021 & 2020)
- The Bernard-Partridge Foundation Fund Grant, The Santa Barbara Scholarship Foundation (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)
- 2019-2020 Initiative to End Family Violence Graduate Fellowship, University of California - Irvine
- 2019 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation
- University of California Firearm Violence Research Small Grant, University of California - Davis Health (February 2019)
- UC MEXUS Small Research Grant, University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States (July 2018)
- The Hispanic Scholarship Fund Award, The Hispanic Scholarship Fund (2017 & 2018)
- Graduate Opportunity Fellowship Award, University of California - Irvine (2017-2021)
- Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship, University of California - Irvine (2014 – 2016)
- Osher Scholarship, University of California - Irvine (September 2014)

## Publications

- Gonzalez, V.V. (in progress). Working through the Emotional Impacts of Ethnographic Research on Sensitive Topics.
- Gonzalez, V.V. (in progress). Sexual Assault Case-Handling Procedures of Law Enforcement and Prosecutors in the United States: An Overview.
- Gonzalez, V.V. (under review). The Role of California's Sanctuary Policies in the Formal Help-seeking of Latina Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence.
- Williams, K., Ragan, K., Magnus, A., & Gonzalez, V. (in press). Death Under Review: Differentiating Lethal and Nonlethal Intimate Partner Violence. In Parker, Karen & Mancik, Ashley *Taking Stock of Homicide: Trends, Emerging Themes, and the Challenges*. Temple University Press
- Gonzalez, V.V., Rios, J.M. (2023) Conceptions of Recovery and Relapse of Severe Mental Illness from the Perspective of Mental Health Personnel in Mexico City. *Int J Ment Health Addiction*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11469-023-01055-5>

## Reports & Public Scholarship

- Gonzalez, V.V. (2023) Non-confrontational Approach to Domestic Disturbance. Proposed California legislation policy brief.
- Gonzalez, V.V. (2022) Survivor Centered Responses to Sexual Assault Reporting. Proposed California legislation policy brief.
- Gonzalez, V.V. (2016) Parents Creating Change: The Impact of Parenting Education on the Parent-child Relationship of Domestic Violence Survivors. Unpublished report for UCI Advanced Field Study Research Program

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- Novaco, R.W., Monjaze, S., Gonzalez, V.V., & Castro, A. (2016) The Parenting Program at the Orange County Family Justice Center: Findings from Three Program Implementations  
Unpublished report for Orange County Family Justice Center

## Presentations

- Gonzalez, V. (2023, June). *Formal Help-Seeking of Latina Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence During a Period of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment*. Presentation at XX International Sociological Association (ISA) World Congress of Sociology.
- Gonzalez, V. (2023, May). *Sexual Assault Case-Handling Practices in the United States*. Presentation at 2023 Law & Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting
- Gonzalez, V. (2022, July). *Formal Help-Seeking of Latina Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence During a Period of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment*. Presentation at 2022 Law & Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting
- Gonzalez, V. (2022, May). *Formal Help-Seeking of Latina Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence During a Period of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment*. Presentation at UCI Law School Initiative to End Family Violence
- Gonzalez, V. (2021, October). *Formal Help-Seeking of Latina Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence During a Period of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment*. Presentation at UCI Socio-Legal Workshop
- Gonzalez, V. (2020, August). *Room for Improvement. Sexual Assault Case-Handling Practices in the United States*. Presentation at RAND Corporation.
- Gonzalez, V. (2019, October). *Help-seeking Behavior of Undocumented Intimate Partner Survivors in the Era of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment*. Presentation at the Conference for Migrant Women's Human Rights, hosted by Michoacán's Secretaria del Migrante, Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico.
- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2019, July). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Panel discussion presented at the Congreso Interamericano de Psicología, Havana, Cuba
- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2019, March). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Poster presented at the 3rd Biennial International Convention of Psychological Science, Paris, France
- Gonzalez, V. (2019, February). *Help-seeking Behavior of Undocumented Intimate Partner Survivors in the Era of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment*. Panel discussion presented at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Western Society of Criminology, Honolulu, HI.
- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2018, October). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Poster presented at the 2018 National Latina/o Psychological Association Conference, San Diego, CA.
- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2018, August). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Poster presented at the 126<sup>th</sup> Annual American Psychological Association Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2018, May). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Poster presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA
- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2018, August). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Poster presented at the Latinx in the US and Beyond: Diverse Perspectives on Latinx Communities, Irvine, CA

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- Gonzalez, V & Mora Rios, EJ. (2018, March). *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*. Poster presented at the 2018 William & Mary Graduate Research Symposium, Williamsburg, VA
- Gonzalez, V. (2018, February). *The Impact of Parenting Education on the Parent-child Relationship of Domestic Violence Survivors*. Poster presented at the Western Society of Criminology 2018 Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA
- Gonzalez, V. (2018, March). *The Impact of Parenting Education on the Parent-child Relationship of Domestic Violence Survivors*. Poster presented at the 2016 Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium, University of California – Irvine, Irvine, CA
- Gonzalez, V. (2018, March). *The Impact of Parenting Education on the Parent-child Relationship of Domestic Violence Survivors*. Poster presented at 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Social Justice Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of California – Irvine, Irvine, CA

## Guest Lecture

**Tecnológico de Monterrey** (2023, April) *Conceptions of Intimate Partner Violence in Michoacán and Perceptions of Resources*

- Lectured to third year psychology students about intimate partner violence and help-seeking behavior about resource usage.

**Instituto Nacional de Psiquiatria Ramon de la Fuente Muñiz**, (2019, August) *Recovery of psychiatric illness from the perspective of mental health personnel in Mexico City*.

- Lectured to first-year psychiatry medical students about mental illness stigma among mental health professionals.

## Research Experience

**Research Intern**, UN Women Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico

- 06/2023 – present
  - Write concepts notes, technical sheets, and reports.
  - Map relevant new and briefing notes.
  - Collect and systematize information and data.
  - Write research material.

**Research Fellow**, Esperanza United,

- 05/2023 – present
  - Conduct a scoping review on the victimization of Latinx farm and domestic workers in the United States.
  - Create presentation to deliver at the end of fellowship.
  - Present research to a multidisciplinary audience.

**Research Intern**, INMUJERES, Mexico City, Mexico

- 04/2022 – 10/2022
  - Create interview guides.
  - Conduct ethnographic observations at workshops on gender-based violence hosted by INMUJERES
  - Collect educational documents on gender-based violence and conduct document analysis.
  - Conduct qualitative data analysis.

**Graduate Student Research Assistant**, Newkirk Center, UC-Irvine, Dr. Connie McGuire & Dr. Victoria Lowerson Bredow

- 03/2021 – 09/2022

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- Collect and store narratives from people impacted by COVID-19 pandemic

**Graduate Student Research Assistant**, Long Beach City Policy Immigration Study, UC-Irvine Dr. Susan Coutin & Dr. William Nicholls

- 10/2020 – 03/2021
  - Find and analyze Long Beach city policies for potential impact to undocumented and immigrant community members.
  - Analyze city council meetings for discussion on immigrants and immigrant issues.
  - Conduct interviews with community members, city council members, and stakeholders on the impact of city ordinances and regulations on immigrant and undocumented community members.

**Summer Associate**, RAND Corporation

- 06/2020 – 12/2020
  - Design and implement study regarding sexual assault case-handling procedures for law enforcement and prosecutors
  - Create and submit IRB
  - Design surveys (Qualtrics) and interview guide
  - Conduct interviews with stakeholders.
  - Analyze data using STATA and Atlas.ti

**Graduate Student Researcher**, The Help-Seeking Behavior of Undocumented Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence During a Period of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment

- 07/2018 – 03/2020
  - Interview survivors of intimate partner violence
  - Transcribe and code interviews
  - Data collection and data entry

**Graduate Student Research Assistant**, YEA - Madres Neighborhood Study, UC-Irvine Dr. Kirk Williams

- 09/2017 – 08/2019
  - Create and translate surveys for neighborhood study.
  - Create and translate recruitment material and consent forms for neighborhood study.
  - Observe and assist in Madres-a- Madres training program.

**Research Assistant**, 2017 MHIRT Latino Mental Health Research Training Program, Mexico (under University of Southern California's Psychology Department)

- 05/2017 – 08/2017
  - Research project took place in the locations of Mexico City in collaboration with El Instituto Nacional de Psiquiatría Ramón de la Fuente Muñiz project focuses on the concept of recovery as defined by mental health personnel and service users.
  - Assist with the development of coding guide for open-ended interview questions.
  - Assist with data analysis.
  - Assist with writing of report and research article.

**Research Assistant**, Dr. Carrie Langner, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo professor of Psychology

- 01/2017 – 05/2017
  - Research focused on development of anti-hate, anti-prejudice, and anti-bullying material for elementary school aged children.
  - Assisted researching and developing age appropriate lesson and curriculum material.
  - Assisted with researching age appropriate impact assessment tools for lessons.
  - Assisted with data collection and assessment.

**Research Assistant**, Social Inequality and Cohesion Lab, UC-Irvine (under Dr, Paul Piff, UCI professor of Psychology & Social Behavior)



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- 03/2015 – 08/2016
  - Research focused on social hierarchies, prosocial behavior, awe, and inequality.
  - Assisted leading participants through experiments.
  - Assisted with data entry and coding.

**Research Assistant, Dr. Raymond Novaco, UC-Irvine professor of Psychology & Social Behavior**

- 05/2015 – 08/2016
  - Research focused on resilience of domestic violence survivors
  - Assisted interviewing participants and gathering survey data.
  - Assisted in data entry and coding of survey responses.
  - Assisted in the development and creation of surveys and questionnaires.
  - Assisted translating survey material into Spanish.

**Research Assistant, Dr. Maria Rendon, UC-Irvine professor of Urban Studies**

- 03/2015 – 08/2016
  - First project focused on Latino immigrants and assimilation into US society
  - Second project consisted of longitudinal study on the educational trajectory of Latino males in urban settings.
  - Assisted with transcription of audio interviews of subjects.
  - Assisted creating case studies of participants based on interview transcriptions.

## Service & Other Experience

**Board Member, American Sociological Association (ASA) Student Forum Advisory Board**

- 2023 - present
  - Organizes programming and social events at the ASA Annual Meeting and throughout the year

**Graduate Student Representative, American Society of Criminology (ASC) Division of Feminist Criminology**

- 2023 - present
  - Assist in creating section newsletter.
  - Develop and organize graduate student section events and workshops.

**Co-Chair, Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Student Section**

- 03/2022 - present
  - Assist in creating section newsletter
  - Develop and organize graduate student section events and workshops

**Graduate Student Representative, American Sociological Association (ASA) Latina/o Sociology Section**

- 07/2021 - present
  - Assist in creating section newsletter
  - Develop and organize graduate student section events and workshops

**Graduate Student Representative, UCI Council on Enrollment Management and Admissions (CEMA)**

- 07/2022 – 06/2023
  - Make recommendations and approve policies on admissions, enrollments, enrollment management, and relations with schools to the administration and to the Academic Senate.
  - Monitor outreach programs directed toward academic enrichment of the campus through a diverse student body.
  - Make suggestions for and approve annual reader training for application readers.
  - Maintains liaison with the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools

**Graduate Student Council Member, UCI Associated Graduate Student (AGS) Council**

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- 07/2022 – 06/2023
  - Council members are elected representatives from each graduate school and are responsible for communicating important issues and events to their constituents.

**Student Editor**, Sociological Perspectives Journal

- 03/2020 – 06/2022
  - Assist in reviewing article manuscripts by giving initial review.
  - Finding potential reviewers for articles.

**DECADE PLUS Leadership Coach**, University of California – Irvine

- 2018-2019, 2019-2020, & 2020-2021
  - Mentor incoming first-generation freshman and transferring undergraduate students in order to increase retention

**CLS Department Graduate Student Representative**, Department of Criminology, Law & Society, University of California – Irvine

- 2019-2020
  - Act as CLS graduate students representative and liaison to CLS administrators and faculty.

**Co-Chair of CLS Community Engagement Committee**, Department of Criminology, Law & Society, University of California – Irvine

- 2018-2019
  - Create community engagement events that bring UCI CLS graduate together with community organizations.
  - Organize community volunteering events.
  - Create and maintain budget and accounting for committee

**Co-Chair of CLS Department Peer Mentor Committee**, Criminology, Law & Society Department, University of California – Irvine

- 2018-2019
  - Assign incoming CLS cohort students' mentors
  - Check in with mentors and mentees and assist with mentoring relationships
  - Plan and hold quarterly events for peer mentors and mentees
  - Create and maintain budget and accounting for committee

**Co-Chair of CLS Department Graduate Student Social Committee**, Criminology, Law & Society Department, University of California – Irvine

- 2018-2019
  - Plan and hold quarterly graduate social events.
  - Create and maintain budget and accounting for committee

**Education Program Facilitator**, Orange County Family Justice Center, Anaheim, CA

- Summer 2016
  - Created curriculum for a summer college prep course aimed at the children of domestic violence survivors and other at-risk youth.
  - Facilitated summer college prep program for a group of 20 high school aged children.
  - Secured guest speakers from a variety of post-secondary institutions (CSU Fullerton; UC - Irvine, Orange Coast College)
  - Secured guest speakers and facilitated a career panel discussion.
  - Responsible for providing breakfast and lunch for the students attending program.
  - Created and maintained budget for the College Prep Program.

**Peer Mentor**, School of Social Ecology ACCESS Program, University of California – Irvine

- Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
  - Mentored 5 new UCI transfer students by providing support and guidance during their first year at UCI.

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- Collaborated in the creation of educational material for workshops.
- Led and facilitated workshops designed to inform students on a variety of educational topics.
- Coordinated and led in the creation of service learning programming.

## **Peer Facilitator**, Cross Cultural Center's REACH Program, University of California – Irvine

- Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
  - Promote awareness of diversity issues on campus.
  - Created and led workshops to on-campus organizations on a variety of diversity topics.
  - Collaborated with the creation of material and events to promote campus diversity.

## **Assistant Program Coordinator/Research Intern**, Social Ecology Advanced Field Study Program at the Orange County Family Justice Center, Anaheim, CA

- Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
  - Assisted with the creation of Parents Creating Change (PCC) Parenting Program curriculum and supplemental material. Consisted of 15 lessons specifically geared towards Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) survivors.
  - Assisted in creating the promotional material for the PCC program.
  - Assisted in recruiting and enrolling parent/participants for the PCC program.
  - Responsible for the development, design, and administration of the PCC program assessment.
  - Culminated with the report on the findings of the assessment presented to the OCFJC and presentation of the findings at UCI's 2016 Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium.

## **Victim Advocate Intern/Researcher**, Blum Immersive Field Study at Orange County Family Justice Center, Anaheim, CA

- Summer 2015
  - Interviewed survivors of IPV and assisted them obtaining restraining orders.
  - Provided referrals to community services and resources including: counseling, shelters, social services, educational programs for themselves and their children.
  - Assisted handling sensitive police report information and data entry.
  - Assisted with community outreach to inform the public of the services offered at the OCFJC.
  - Assisted in the creation of community outreach material.
  - Assisted contacting potential victims of IPV referred by the Anaheim Police Department to inform victims of services.
  - Assisted in interpreting for law enforcement while interviewing witnesses.

## **Other Training/Certification**

### **Inclusive Excellence Certificate**, UCI Office of Inclusive Excellence, University of California – Irvine

- Spring 2020
  - Professional development to bring greater awareness for equity and promote inclusivity in academia and higher education.

### **Program of Cultural Immersion and Volunteering for Students of Mexican Origin**, the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico City, Mexico

- Summer 2019
  - Cultural and educational immersion in Mexico in order to strengthen Mexican-American students' ties to Mexico and encourage cultural bonds of participants.



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**Ethics in the Modern World Certificate**, UCI Graduate Resource Center, University of California – Irvine

- Spring 2019
  - Series designed to assist graduate student develop a personal code of ethical reasoning and conduct in research and academic settings.

**Science in Action Member**, UCI Graduate Resource Center, University of California – Irvine

- 2018-2019
  - Professional development through workshops and one-on-one mentorship and guidance for the enhancement of leadership, mentoring, and communication skills.
  - Culminates with the development of a final project which communicates research findings to a wider non-academic audience.

**Mentoring Excellence Program**, UCI Graduate Resource Center, University of California – Irvine

- Spring 2018
  - Program consists of 6 meetings and includes lessons on mentoring relationship, effective communication, ethical issues, conflict resolution, boundaries, and wellness. Participants gain skills and knowledge of resources to help improve proficiency as a mentor.

**Salud Mental y Bienestar de los Migrantes Mexicanos en EEUU: Retos y Propuestas**

**Binacionales**, Instituto Nacional de Salud Publica, Cuernavaca, Mexico

- Summer 2017
  - Training on overall health with emphasis on mental health issues related specifically to Mexican immigrants residing in the United States.

**40 Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training (DVAT)**, Women’s Transitional Living Center, Anaheim, CA

- March 2015
  - Training meets California requirement for designation as a Domestic Violence (DV) Counselor which allows opportunities to work directly with survivors of DV.
  - Training provides knowledge of resources, procedures, and options available to DV survivors, dynamics of battering, and philosophy of empowerment.

## Membership in Professional Associations

American Psychological Association (APA)  
American Society of Criminology (ASC)  
American Sociological Association (ASA)  
Association of Psychological Science (APS)  
International Sociological Association (ISA)  
Interamerican Society of Psychology (ISP)  
Latin American Studies Association (LASA)  
Law & Society Association (LSA)  
National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA)  
Sociologist for Women in Society (SWS)  
Western Society of Criminology (WSC)

## Languages

- Spanish – Heritage
- English – Native