

JANICE ROBLES FERNÁNDEZ

PhD Student, Department of Psychology

University of Kansas

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EDUCATION

August 2025-
Present

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Social Psychology
University of Kansas
Advisor: Dr. Glenn Adams

August 2020-
May 2025
GPA: **3.97/4.00**

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Minor Concentration: Women and Gender Studies
University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Dean's Honor List.

PAPERS & PUBLICATIONS

Robles Fernández, J. (2024). Understanding Queer Puerto Rican Resistance Strategies Within a Constant Colonial State: A Qualitative Study. *Quest Journal*, Department of Applied Psychology, New York University.

Robles Fernández, J. & Marazzi, C. (under review). Explorando las experiencias y percepciones de la opresión colonial sobre personas LGBTQIA+ en Puerto Rico. *Boletín Diversidad*, Asociación de Psicología de Puerto Rico.

Marazzi, C. & **Robles Fernández, J.** (in prep). The Long Shadow of Historical Repression of Anti-Colonial Resistance in Puerto Rico.

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Robles Fernández, J. & Marazzi, C. (2025, June. 27). *Exploring Intersectional Experiences of Oppression Among Queer Puerto Ricans*. [[Poster Presentation](#)]. SPSSI (Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues) Summer Conference, Portland, OR.

Robles Fernández, J. & Marazzi, C. (2025, April 25). *Experiencias de opresión interseccional de la comunidad cuir en Puerto Rico*. [[Oral presentation](#)]. APPIE (Psychology Association for the Promotion of Student Research) Conference, University of Puerto Rico.

Robles Fernández, J. (2024, November 25). *How to Apply to Summer Internships*. [Student Panel]. APPIE (Psychology Association for the Promotion of Student Research), University of Puerto Rico.

Robles Fernández, J. (2024, July 25). *Understanding Queer Puerto Rican Resistance Strategies Within a Constant Colonial State*. [[Oral presentation of poster](#)]. QUEST Research Symposium, Department of Applied Psychology, New York University.

Robles Fernández, J., Bon Nieves, V., & Dávila Rivera, M. M. (2024, May 3). *Social Construction of Gender Regarding the University Departments of UPRRP*. [Oral presentation]. APPIE (Psychology Association for the Promotion of Student Research) Conference, University of Puerto Rico.

Robles Fernández, J., Bon Nieves, V., & Dávila Rivera, M. M. (2024, May 1). *Social Construction of Gender Regarding the University Departments of UPRRP*. [Poster presentation]. APPIE (Psychology Association for the Promotion of Student Research) Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

August 2024-

Present

Principal Investigator

Queer Identity and Resistance Study.

Co-PI: Carmen Marazzi.

Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Stewart.

Clark University.

Study Objective: Understanding how queer Puerto Ricans make sense of the oppressive structures that they face and what resistance strategies they employ against them. Based on a proposal previously done by this investigator at the QUEST summer research program.

- Recruited qualifying participants through social media advertisements and printed flyers.
- Extensively reviewed literature to create and present a proposal to the Clark IRB.
- Revised and adjusted proposal based on the requests of the IRB.
- Protocol creation and interview script preparation.
- Conducted one-on-one semi-structured interviews with participants.
- Transcribe interview recordings.

August 2024-

August 2025

Research Assistant

NSF Funded Collaborative Research: Investigating an integrative model of colonial-based identities.

Principal Investigators: Dr. Luis M. Rivera & Dr. Teófilo Espada-Brignoni.

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

Study Objective: Further expanding the knowledge of the relation between colonial-based mechanisms and Puerto Ricans' implicit and explicit racial identities, and its downstream effects.

- Guided and supervised human participants through complex experimental procedures.
- Conducted extensive online and library searches of the literature.
- Entered data into statistical software files for analyses.
- Formatted literature citations in manuscripts.

- Community and student participation recruitment in multiple cities.
- Conducted data collection with Qualtrics software.
- Collaborated in editing survey language to provide cultural competency to the study.
- Regular participation in weekly lab meetings.
- Created a website detailing community collaboration and participation opportunities.
- Data cleaning and analysis in SPSS and R Studio.

August 2024-

Digital Humanities Scholars-in-Residence Program

May 2025

Supervisors: Dr. Mirerza González & Dr. Nadjah Ríos Villarini

Scholar in Residence

Mentor: Dr. Jenice M. Vázquez Págan

Caribbean Digital Scholarship Collective, UPR Caribe Digital,
University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

Program Objective: Year-long program to foster research competencies in Digital Humanities among undergraduate students.

- Collaborated with local community group, Kilómetro 0, on a research project regarding the experiences of people that have faced violent police interventions during mental health crisis episodes.
- Conducted interviews with people affected by police violence amidst mental health crises.
- Transcribed individual interview recordings.
- Developed skills related to library science, computer programming, and digital curation.
- Created a Digital Humanities research project throughout the academic year.
- Assisted weekly meetings with mentor and community group.

June 2024-

QUEST Program. Quality Undergraduate Education and

August 2024

Scholarly Training. Intergroup Conflict and Social Change Lab.

Summer Scholar & Research

Mentors: Micaela Varela & Bridget Horta

Assistant

PI's: Dr. Rezarta Bilali & Dr. Michelle Twali

Applied Psychology Department, Steindhardt School of Culture,
Education, and Human Development, New York University.

Program Objective: Full-time summer research program for historically underrepresented students to gain research experience and knowledge in the psychological field.

- Developed and published an original qualitative research proposal: *Understanding Intersectional Queer Puerto Rican Resistance Strategies Within a Constant Colonial State: A Qualitative Study*.
- Created and presented a poster for the QUEST 2024 Research Symposium.
- Attended weekly meetings with the research team in the Intergroup Conflict and Social Change Lab.
- Edited and cleaned focus group interview transcriptions developed by Zoom recordings.

- Attended diversity dialogues & social justice workshops with doctoral students, faculty, and researchers at NYU.
- Created the cover art for the 2024 QUEST Journal.

July 2023-

Colonialism and Implicit Identity Pilot Study.

May 2024

Principal Investigators: Dr. Luis M. Rivera (Rutgers Implicit Social Cognition Lab) & Dr. Eduardo Javier Rivera Pichardo (New York University).

Research Assistant

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

Study Objective: Exploring colonial-based mechanisms underlying Puerto Ricans' implicit and explicit racial identities.

- Community and student participation recruitment in multiple cities.
- Guided and supervised human participants through complex experimental procedures.
- Conducted extensive online and library searches of the literature.
- Formatted literature citations in manuscripts.
- Programed daily appointments slots in the Qualtrics software.
- Gave critical feedback on survey language, questions, and tasks to provide cultural competency to the study.

August 2023-

Social Construction of Gender Regarding the University

May 2024

Departments of UPRRP.

Investigator in a Research

Mentors: Laura D. López Peinado & Dr. Bexaida Díaz Pérez

Methods Course Study

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

Study Objective: Quantitative research with the purpose of analyzing student perceptions of university departments in relation to gender constructs. Its focus was how gender is constructed and symbolized in Puerto-Rican society, and how college faculties are valued, depending on their association with historically gendered words.

- Literature review and manuscript preparation.
- Created and distributed an online survey.
- Recruited participants within the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.
- Quantitative analysis of collected data in Excel.

HONORS & AWARDS

April 2023- May 2025

Honor Merit Scholarship: Scholarship awarded to honor students with the highest GPA scores in their departments. UPRRP

May 2023

General Endowment Fund ("Fondo Dotal") Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies: Scholarship awarded to undergraduate students for the promotion of academic activity. Financed by the National UPR Central Administration.

*August 2020-
Present* Dean's Honor List. UPRRP.

CERTIFICATIONS

September 2024 Intervention and Support: Person in Anxiety Crisis and Person with Panic Attack- UPRRP

September 2024 Responsible Conduct of Research + Human Subjects Research- CITI Certification

February 2024 Introduction to Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 29)- UPRRP

February 2024 Art Therapy and Activities that Integrate art as a Medium- UPRRP

December 2023 Psychological Research Specialization- American Psychological Association (Methods for Quantitative Research in Psychology, Ethics of Psychological Research, & Statistics in Psychological Research)

November 2023 Psychological First Aid- John Hopkins University

March 2023 Research with human beings- CITI Certification

March 2023 Social and Behavioral Human Research- CITI Certification

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY WORK

*May 2024
Volunteer* Collaborative work for the creation of a virtual Newsletter regarding academic activity in the Social Sciences Faculty at UPRRP. Work included reviewing abstracts, aesthetic layouts, and arrangement of visual media.

*January 2023-
March 2023
Volunteer* International Summit of African Descent at UPRRP. Work included taking assistance, greeting panelists and attendees, answering questions, and serving lunch.

EXTRACURRICULARS & STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

October 2024 Harvard PPREP Prospective Ph.D. & RA Event in Psychology Program: Workshop for historically minoritized groups in STEM to refine materials for applications to graduate school, lab manager, and/or research assistant positions. Harvard, Psychology Department.

<i>October 2024</i>	The Ohio State University Annual Graduate and Professional Student Recruitment Initiative: Diversity recruitment program for prospective PhD students to visit campus and meet with faculty and graduate students. The Ohio State University, Department of Psychology.
<i>October 2024</i>	Rutgers University's Diversifying Psychology Day: Event for prospective PhD students from underrepresented backgrounds to learn about graduate school applications from Psychology graduate students and faculty. Rutgers University- New Brunswick, Psychology Department.
<i>August 2022- May 2025</i> Chapter Secretary	Psychological Association for the Promotion of Research (APPIE). UPRRP. Work includes the collection and organization of information from activities, fund-raising, note-taking and detailed summaries of each meeting, tracking and organizing information about active members, active communication between members and board members, and creation and distribution of certificates for all active members.
<i>November 2022- May 2024</i> Board Member	International Amnesty UPRRP Chapter. Work included attending meetings and helping with organizing activities, representative before the university, distribution of flyers regarding critical information on current sociopolitical circumstances.

MEMBERSHIPS

- PSI CHI- The International Honor Society in Psychology.
- ISPP- International Society of Political Psychology.
- SPSP- The Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- SPSSI- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

SKILLS

- R Project for Statistical Computing 4.5.2, MAXQDA, Qualtrics, Microsoft 365, Canva
- Bilingual: Oral and written proficiency in English and Spanish
- Experience with data collection, public speaking and interaction with human participants
- Quantitative and qualitative research design
- Literature searches and reviews
- Manuscript preparation
- Interview transcribing
- Digital media design