

# **Michele Rivas, PhD, LMHC, NCC**

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## **EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)**, (CACREP Accredited). Counseling and Counselor Education, June 2017, Syracuse University, New York

*Dissertation: An Emerging Theory of Perceived Disability Counseling Competence: A Qualitative Investigation of Licensed Professional Counselors*

Certificate of University Teaching, Future Professoriate Program Certificate

**Certificate of Advanced Study (C.A.S)**, Disability Studies, May 2017, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

**Master's of Science (M.S.)**, (CACREP Accredited) Clinical Mental Health Counseling, May 2013, Long Island University, Brentwood, New York

**Bachelor of Science (B.S.)**, Psychology, January 2006, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela

## **PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS**

Licensed Mental Health Counselor, License #008420, New York State

Licensed Mental Health Counselor, License #MH20960, State of Florida

National Certified Counselor, ID 343471, National Board for Certified Counselors

Approved Clinical Supervisor #4694, Center for Credentialing and Education

Licensed Psychologist, License #5905, Venezuelan Psychologists Federation

## **FACULTY EXPERIENCE**

**Assistant Professor of Counseling** (Summer 2022-Present)

Nova Southeastern University, Department of Counseling, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**Assistant Professor of Psychology and Mental Health Counseling** (Fall 2017-May 2022)

Marist College, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Poughkeepsie, New York

**Doctoral Instructor and Co-Instructor** (2014-2017)

Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-reviewed:**

**Rivas, M. & Hill, N. R.** (2023). Disability Counseling Competence: A Grounded Theory of Counselors' Perceptions. *The Journal for Counselor Preparation and Supervision*, 17(1).

- Killian, T. S., **Rivas, M.**, & Sharp, M. (2022). Sexual/Affectional and Religious/Spiritual Identities: Critical Incidents Associated to Self-Perceived Identity Integration. *Counseling and Values, 67*, 138-165.
- Rivas, M.**, Killian, T. S., Rinke, C., & Cole, R. (2021). Female offenders under community supervision: A phenomenological analysis. *Journal of Addictions & Offender Counseling, 42*, 19-34.
- Peters, H. C., Killian, T. S., & **Rivas, M.** (2020). Queer male couples ecological and relational third space. *Journal of LGBT Issues in Counseling, 14*(2), 134-152. doi:10.1080/15538605.2020.1753626
- Rivas, M.** (2020). Disability in Counselor Education in the United States. *International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling, 42*(4), 366-381 doi: 10.1007/s10447-020-09404-y
- Peters, H. C., & **Rivas, M.** (2018). Affirmative Client Care: Reconciling Evidence-Based Practices within Humanistic Engagement. *The Journal of Counselor Preparation and Supervision, 10*(1). Retrieved from <https://repository.wcsu.edu/jcps/vol10/iss1/11>
- Rivas, M.** & Hill, N. R (2018). Counseling Clients with Disabilities: A Phenomenological Study of Trainees' Experiences. *Counselor Education and Supervision, 57*(2), 116-131.
- Peters, H. C., & **Rivas, M.** (2018). The self-model of humanistic supervision. *International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling, 1*-18. doi:10.1007/s10447-018-9323-5
- Lopez (**Rivas**), M. (2015). Developmental disability, sexuality, and counseling: A call for action and ecological implications. *Journal of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association, 14*, 19-27.
- Book Chapters:**
- Conyers A., Fields C.W., Garcia M.L., **Rivas M.**, Hanssen D., Williams S.A.S. (2020) Association Awareness: Pedagogically Reframing Difficult Dialogues. In: Parson L., Ozaki C. (eds.), *Teaching and Learning for Social Justice and Equity in Higher Education*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
- Rivas, M.** (2020). Child Street Labor: Contested Narratives of Mental Health and Disability in Indigenous Ecuador. In C. Figueroa & D. Hernandez-Saca (Eds.), *Centering Dis/ability in Latin America*. Palgrave Mcmillan.
- Vereen, L., Hill, N. R., & Lopez (**Rivas**), M. (2015). African American Athletes and Higher Education. In M. A. Shillingford-Butler & J. Curry (Eds.), *The Journey Unraveled: College & Career Readiness of African American Students*. NY: Lexington Books.
- Lopez (**Rivas**), M. (2015). Combining Feminist Group Supervision with the Foci Areas of the Discrimination Model. In M. Luke & K. M. Goodrich (Eds.). *Group Work Experts Share Their Favorite Activities for Supervision*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Specialists in Group Work.

**In review/In progress:**

**Rivas, M., Yznaga, S., Pulgar, C., Rendon Finnell, Laura, & Lopez, Anna.** (in preparation). Administrators' Experiences in Bilingual Counseling Programs: A Phenomenological Study. *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*

**JURIED PRESENTATIONS****National/International:**

Rivas, M., & Conyers, A. (March, 2023). "Reflections of Justice Involved Women under Community Supervision" (Education session) Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD.

Rivas, M. (October, 2021). "Promoting Anti-Racist and Ant-Ableist Practices in Counselor Education: An Examination of Disability Counseling Competence" (Education session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Atlanta, GA.

Rivas, M., & Lee, A. (October, 2021). "Disability Inclusivity in Counseling Clinical Experiences" (Poster session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Atlanta, GA.

Rivas, M., & Bell, T. (October, 2019). Counseling trainee's clinical experiences: Are we providing inclusive and culturally competent sites for students? (Roundtable) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Seattle, WA.

Rivas, M., Hill, N. R., & Seward, D. (October, 2017). *The Development of Disability Cultural Competence: A Grounded Theory*. (Education session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Chicago, Illinois.

Rivas, M., Hill, N. R., Peters, H. C., & Vereen, L. G. (October, 2017). *Multicultural Training for Counselors: A Qualitative Investigation of Students' Experiences*. (Education session). Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Chicago, Illinois.

Rivas, M., Peters, H., & Lee, A. (June, 2017). *Humanism and the Global South: Expanding the Multicultural Discourse*. (Poster session) Association for Humanistic Counseling Conference, Syracuse, New York.

Peters, H. & Rivas, M. (June, 2017). *The Self-Model of Humanistic Supervision: A Proposed Model* (Educational session) Association for Humanistic Counseling Conference, Syracuse, New York.

Rivas, M. & Vereen, L. (June, 2017). *Creating Synergy between Wellness and Career Readiness for Student-Athletes*. (Educational session) Association for Humanistic Counseling Conference, Syracuse, New York.

Levine, C., Peters, H. C., Rivas, M., Lee, A., Luke, M., & Seward, D. (March, 2016). *Advocacy through Exploration: Group Dialogues for Strengthening Counselor*

- Identity*. (Poster Presentation) American Counseling Association and Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association Conference. Montreal, Canada.
- Hill, N. R., Vereen, L., & Rivas, M. (March, 2016). *Student Athlete Well-Being: Creating Synergy between Wellness and Career Readiness*. (Educational session) American Counseling Association and Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association Conference. Montreal, Canada.
- Rivas, M. (September, 2015) *A Structured and Systemic Model for Literature Reviews: Cultivating Success for Emergent Scholars*. (ACES INFORM session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Lee, A. & Rivas, M. (September, 2015) *Fostering Cultural Conversations through Safety and Engaged Pedagogy*. (Roundtable Session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Rivas, M. (September, 2015) *Cultivating Culturally Relevant Pedagogy: A Phenomenological Study of Counselors' Lived Experiences Counseling Disability*. (Educational session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Rivas, M. & Lee, A. (September, 2015) *Intersectionality in Group Supervision: A Feminist Approach to Engaged and Transformative Pedagogy*. (Roundtable Session) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Hill, N, Kerns, L., Vereen, L., Seward, D., Rivas, M., & Peters, H. (September, 2015) *Privacy, Security, and Encryption: Challenges and Strategies for Ensuring HIPAA Compliance*. (Presentation Panel) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Luke, M. & Goodrich, K. (Editors) and SU Contributors (M. Rivas among others). (September, 2015). *Group Work Experts Share Their Favorite Supervision Activities*. (Book Signing) Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Rivas, M. (June, 2015). *Group work and People with Disabilities, A Critical Examination of the Counseling Literature*. (Poster Presentation) American Mental Health Counseling Association Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Rivas, M. (July, 2014) *Attachment Styles and Clinical Supervision: A research approach and potential practical suggestions for clinical supervisors*. (Educational Session) 10<sup>th</sup> International Interdisciplinary Conference on Clinical Supervision. Adelphi University. Garden City, New York.
- Rivas, M. (March, 2014) International Student Panel. Presented at the American Counseling Association International Conference. Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Regional:**

- Rivas, M. (November 2022). *Counseling Interns' Experiences during Covid-19: A Photovoice Study*. (25 minute express session) Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Baltimore, Maryland.
- Cole, R., Rivas, M., Killian, T. S., & Rinke, C. (September, 2019). *The Lived Experiences of Female Offenders in Correctional Supervision: A Qualitative Study*. Explorations in Social Justice Conference at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- Rivas, M., & Hill, N. R. (November, 2018). *Innovating in Disability Cultural Competence Pedagogy: Implications from Licensed Professional Counselors*. (Roundtable) North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Burlington, VT.
- del Rosario, P., Rivas, M., & Killian, T. (November, 2018). *Multicultural and Social Justice Frameworks in Counselor Supervision: A 10 year review*. (Roundtable) North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Burlington, VT.
- Hiscox, M., & Rivas, M. (April, 2018). *Innovative Conversations Around Ethics: A Review of Literature on Recommendations for Professional Counselors Working with Child Custody Cases*. (Poster Session) New York Mental Health Counseling Association. Albany, NY.
- Rivas, M. & Peters, H. C. (October 2016). *Contested Narratives in Counselor Education: Multicultural Humanism or Humanism in the Global South*. (Poster Session) Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Louisiana, New Orleans.
- Rivas, M. & Hill, N. R. (October 2016). *Disability in Multicultural Training: A Phenomenological Study of Counselors' Lived Experiences*. (Poster Session) Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Louisiana, New Orleans.
- Hill, N. R., Vereen, L. G., & Rivas, M. (October 2016). *Strengthening the Resilience of Student-Athletes: Contributions of Counselor Education Programs*. (Roundtable) Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Louisiana, New Orleans.
- Peters, H. C., Lustica, H., Smith, A., Rivas, M. (September 2016). *Panel for Graduate Student Leadership and Development*. North Atlantic Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Syracuse, New York.
- Rivas, M., Hill, N. R., Peters, H. C., & Vereen, L. G. (September 2016). *Multicultural Training for Counselors: A Qualitative Investigation of Students' Experiences*. (Poster Session). North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Syracuse, New York.

Rivas, M. & McEachern, M. (September, 2014). *Igniting the power of love: A review of the literature in LGBT in people with Disabilities*. North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Providence, Rhode Island.

Thaxton, S., Luke, M. & Rivas, M. (September, 2014). *Consensual Qualitative Research: Analysis of Critical Incidents in Counselor Educators' Research Collaboration*. North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Providence, Rhode Island.

Mariska, M., Rivas, M., & Denicker, A. (September, 2012). *Using Strength based Assessment in Experiential Learning Assignments*. North Atlantic Region Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Niagara Falls, New York.

#### **Local:**

Rivas, M., Killian, T. S., Rinke, C., & Cole, R. (November, 2019). *The lived experiences of female offenders under community supervision: A qualitative study*. New York State Criminal Justice Council.

Rivas, M. (October, 2015). *Indigenous Street Children: Contested Narratives of Mental Health and Disability in Indigenous Ecuador*. 2015 University of Rochester Disabilities Studies Cluster Symposium. Rochester, New York.

Lopez (Rivas), M. & Thaxton, S. (November, 2014). *Empowering the Right to Love: A Call for Professional Collaboration in the Field of People with Developmental Disabilities*. (Educational Session) 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Pennsylvania Counseling Association Conference. State College, Pennsylvania.

Granger, E., Lopez (Rivas), M., & Yu, X. (March, 2013) *Intercultural Communication: Understanding our International Students*. Presented at the Resident Advisor Diversity Drive-In Conference at Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

#### **Invited Lecturer:**

Rivas, M. (October, 2016). *Multicultural Reflexivity*. Department of Psychology and Counseling. Alfred University. Alfred, NY.

Rivas, M. (April, 2016). *Disability and Sexuality in Counseling and Counselor Education*. Plymouth State University Diversity Institute. Plymouth, New Hampshire.

Rivas, M. (Fall, 2015). *Convergence of Professional Counseling, Culture, Ecology, and Ethical practice*. Professional Orientation and Ethics class. Department of Counseling and Human Services. Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

Rivas, M. (Fall, 2015). *Diagnosis and Assessment in Counseling*. Professional Orientation and Ethics class. Department of Counseling and Human Services. Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

Rivas, M. & Lee, A. (Spring, 2015). *Disability and Intersectionality in Multicultural Training*. Social and Cultural Dimensions of Counseling. Department of Counseling and Human Services. Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

Rivas, M. (Spring, 2015). *Projective assessment in Counseling and the Rorschach inkblot test*. General Counseling Methods class. Department of Counseling and Human Services. Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

Rivas, M. (Summer 2014). *Disability in Multicultural Training*. Social and Cultural Dimensions of Counseling. Department of Counseling and Human Services. Syracuse University. Syracuse, New York.

### RESEARCH GRANTS

**Rivas, M. & Conyers, A.** (Summer 2021). Research Grant submitted to the William T. Grant Foundation for the project titled: *Mental Health Inequalities in BIPOC Emerging Adults: A Grounded Theory Investigation*. Requested: \$48,468. Not Funded.

**Rivas, M.**, (Spring 2019) Summer Research Grant. Submitted to Marist College Faculty Committee on Sabbaticals and Research Grants. \$3,500. Funded.

Killian, T. & **Rivas, M.** (2018). The Impact of Religious/Spiritual Critical Incidents on LGB Religious/Spiritual Identity Negotiation. Submitted to Marist College Strategic Plan Projects Advisory Committee. \$4,500.00. Not Funded.

**Rivas, M. & Killian, T.** (2018). The Lived Experiences of Female Offenders: A Qualitative Study to Inform Gender-Based Correctional Services. Submitted to Marist College Strategic Plan Projects Advisory Committee. \$5,000.00. Not Funded.

### SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

CSI Faculty Co-Advisor Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program Nova Southeastern University	Fall 2022- Present
Multicultural Social Justice Research Council Marist College	Spring 2019- May 2022
Clinical Experience Coordinator Marist College Clinical Mental Health Counseling program	Fall 2018 – June 2022
Co-Chair Bilingual ACES Interest Network	Summer 2018-Present
Co-Chair Vendor and Sponsorship Committee. NARACES 2018	Fall 2017 – Fall 2018
Editorial Staff <i>Journal of Counselor Preparation and Supervision</i>	Spring 2017
Committee Member <i>ACES Social Justice and Human Rights Committee</i>	2017 -2018

Committee Member <i>Search Committee for Tenure-Track position in Department of Counseling and Human Services, Syracuse University</i>	Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
Ad Hoc Reviewer, <i>Journal of Specialists in Group Work</i>	Summer 2016
Co-Editor, <i>NARACES Graduate Student Bulletin</i>	Summer 2016
Program Reviewer, <i>2016 NLPA Latino Conference</i>	Fall 2015
Member, <i>Exhibit/Sponsors Committee</i> 2015 Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference	Summer, 2015
Vice-President, <i>Chi Sigma Iota, Sigma Upsilon chapter</i> Chi Sigma Iota International Counseling Honor Society	(2014-2015)
Member, <i>Teaching and Leadership Curriculum Committee</i> Syracuse University, School of Education	(2014-2015)
<i>Family Crisis Counseling Curriculum development for parents of children with developmental disabilities</i> Youth Adult Institute, New York, New York	December 2011- August 2013

### CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

<b><i>Rivas Psychotherapy</i></b> <i>Owner and Clinical Supervisor</i>	October 2023 – present
<b><i>Bilingual Licensed Professional Counselor (LMHC in NY &amp; FL)</i></b> <i>Telehealth Private Practice.</i>	December 2017-present
<b><i>Professional Counselor (MHC-limited permit)</i></b> <i>Brownell Center for Behavioral Health, Syracuse, NY</i>	August 2013-July 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide counseling services for adults, adolescents and families in English and Spanish</li> <li>• Plan and deliver interventions and referrals according to client's needs</li> <li>• Create and implement treatment plans for clients</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Bilingual Crisis Counselor – Family Services</i></b> YAI National Institute for People with Disabilities, Kew Gardens, NY 11415	2011-2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided parents with In-Home behavioral crisis intervention in English and Spanish</li> <li>• Offered psycho-education to parents of children with disabilities to effectively handle misbehaviors and emotional difficulties at home</li> <li>• Connected families with additional services within YAI or other agencies through LINK</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Clinician - Social Security's National Unit for Infantile Psychiatry</i></b> Caracas, Venezuela	January 2005-July 2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performed emotional and neurological assessments and collaborated with multidisciplinary teams in the development of treatment</li> <li>• Provided counseling to adolescents and their families in Spanish</li> <li>• Completed psychological evaluations and designed treatment recommendations</li> </ul>	



- Conducted follow up sessions to evaluate progress and provide referrals for additional services

*Clinician - Mental Health Center*

2004-2005

Central University of Venezuela

- Performed emotional and neurological assessments and prepared treatment plans in conjunction with staff (psychiatrists and psychologists)
- Provided counseling to children, adolescents and adults, and provided informational sessions and counseling to families
- Conducted follow up sessions to evaluate progress and provide referrals for additional services

### **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Outstanding Graduate Student Award,	NARACES (2016)
Emerging Leader,	ACES (2015)
Inductee,	CSI (2015-Present)
Graduate Symbolic Degree Recipient,	LIU (2013)
Emerging Leader,	NARACES (2012)
Aviva Bershaw Award for Dedication and Commitment to the Profession of Counseling,	LIU (2012)

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

CACREP Site Visit Team Member	Fall 2021-Present
CACREP Self Study Training, ACES Chicago	October 2017

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Counseling Association (ACA)  
 Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES)  
 North Atlantic Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NARACES)  
 Chi Sigma Iota International Counseling Honor Society (CSI)

### **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (Native), Fluent in reading, writing, and public speaking  
 English, Fluent in reading, writing, and public speaking