

# Carla C. Mayorga

## Education

- 08/2003-09/2008** UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, Miami, Florida Class of 2008  
School of Education, Counseling Psychology Ph.D.  
Dissertation Study: *Evaluating self-reported and observed therapist cultural competence and therapeutic alliance in family therapy* (January 2006 to September 2008).  
Dissertation Chairperson: Blaine Fowers, Ph.D.  
Dissertation proposal defense: 08/2007; Dissertation defense: 09/2008
- PROVIDENCE COLLEGE, Providence, Rhode Island Class of 2002  
Senior Independent Study: *The effects of family structure on high school academic achievement*  
**Cumulative GPA:** 3.6 – Magna Cum Laude

## Clinical Training

- 09/2008-08/2009** YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Department of Psychiatry, Connecticut Mental Health Center, Hispanic Clinic and Hispanic Services, Postdoctoral Associate. Conduct supervised therapeutic interventions tailored for Latinos diagnosed with mental illness and substance abuse.
- 09/2007-08/2008** BOSTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER, Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology (CMTP), Psychology Intern. Conduct supervised therapeutic services at an inpatient setting (20 hours/week) and an outpatient setting (20 hours/week) and participate in weekly seminars (10 hours/week).  
*Lemuel Shattuck Hospital:* conduct individual therapy with severely impaired forensic inpatients with disorders including Schizophrenia, Bipolar I Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, and Substance Abuse, facilitate therapeutic group for Spanish speaking forensic inpatients, co-facilitate therapeutic group for inpatients carrying dual diagnoses, complete 8 forensic evaluations and 6 integrated psychological reports.  
*Martha Eliot Health Center:* conduct individual and family therapy with children, adolescents, adults and seniors with presentations including a wide range of mood and anxiety disorders, including posttraumatic stress as a result of immigration, sexual trauma, and neighborhood violence.  
*CMTP Training:* weekly seminar in cross-cultural psychotherapy, bi-monthly seminars in family therapy, Exner's Rorschach system and Professional Development, and monthly seminar in Neuropsychological and Cognitive testing.
- 08/2006-06/07** EARLY INTERVENTION DEVELOPMENT CENTER, Miami-Dade County Department of Human Services, Psychological Services Division, Advanced Practicum Student Clinician. Provide supervised intensive therapeutic services to elementary school students with severe emotional disturbance (SED); co-facilitate three groups of low functioning SED elementary school students with disorders including pervasive developmental disorders, borderline IQ, learning disabilities, disruptive behavior disorders, mood and anxiety disorders, and psychosis; conduct regularly scheduled family therapy in the homes of two child clients; provide parent training; consult with children's psychiatrist, teachers and parents.
- 08/2005-05/06** CHILDREN'S PSYCHIATRIC CENTER, Ruth Owens Krusé Educational Center, Practicum Student Clinician. Provide supervised intensive therapeutic services to middle and high school students with disorders including pervasive developmental disorders, extremely low IQ (MR), learning disabilities, disruptive behavior disorders, mood and anxiety disorders, and psychosis; co-facilitated a group of low functioning SED middle school students; conducted supervised psychological evaluation; presented case conceptualization at in-service.

- 05/2005-08/05** U OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Dept. of Family Medicine and Community Health, Practicum Student. Co-facilitate group therapy sessions for patients suffering from diabetes and depression at Jefferson Reaves Sr. Health Center; conduct brief therapeutic interventions with patients admitted to Jackson Memorial Hospital; treated patients with HIV, cancer, and tuberculosis.
- 08/2004-05/05** UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI Institute for Individual and Family Counseling, Practicum Student, Staff Therapist. Provide supervised therapeutic services to ethnic minority adult individuals and couples.

### Research Interests

- Family systems: Effective family therapy interventions for Latinos and African Americans; community-level interventions
- Process research: Examining ways in which cultural competence is a mechanism for building therapeutic alliance

### Research Experience

- 09/2008-present** YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Program for Recovery and Community Health, Department of Psychiatry. Collaborate on community participatory research project, conduct qualitative analyses on data collected from focus groups examining clients' experience of culturally competent mental health care in their communities.  
**Supervisor:** Miriam Delphin, Ph.D.
- 08/2003-08/07** U OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Center for Family Studies, Graduate Research Assistant. Conduct clinical research: Observe and rate therapist moment by moment in-session behavior; learn different systems for rating therapy process; help to develop Therapist Adherence Manual for Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT); identify therapist behaviors including Joining with family members, Reframing cognitions and Restructuring systems; U of Miami Internal Review Board (IRB) approved Spanish translator; Regulatory Research Assistant.  
**Supervisor:** Michael S. Robbins, Ph.D.
- 05/2002-08/03** U OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Center for Family Studies, Research Associate  
Conducted full-time clinical research on the field of family psychology and co-authored book chapters with Michael S. Robbins, Ph.D., supervisor.
- 05/2001-08/01** U OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Center for Family Studies, Research Assistant  
Co-facilitate parenting groups for Baypoint School in Homestead, FL.; identify and code therapist and family member in-session behaviors during conjoint therapy.  
**Supervisor:** Michael S. Robbins, Ph.D.

### Teaching Interests

- Introduction to Psychology, Research Methodology, History and Systems.
- Cross-cultural psychotherapy, Well-being and treatment of children, adolescents, and families.

### Teaching Experience

- 01/2007-05/07** UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, Mental Health Counseling and Marriage & Family Therapy Master's programs, EPS 514: Psychological Bases of Social and Cultural Development, Dr. Debbiesiu Lee, Instructor. Co-teach course with Dr. Lee: plan and co-facilitate class activities and material, help develop assessments; help evaluate students.
- 05/07 & 03/06** EARLY INTERVENTION DEVELOPMENT CENTER & CHILDREN'S PSYCHIATRIC CENTER, Presenter at interactive seminar on the gender continuum and gender identity issues for adolescents to clinical staff; process reactions.

- 11/2004** UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, Presenter at in-service session for student clinicians currently working at a practicum placement, *Working with Haitian Clients: Implications for Good Practice*.
- 03/2004** UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, Guest lecturer in undergraduate course in the Family and Human Services minor. *Women in the workplace: History and current trends*. Upon request for her feedback, department chairperson evaluated my teaching and provided positive feedback.

### Awards and Funding

- Recipient of the Katy Dean Research Support Award in the amount of \$1,020 for dissertation research proposal; granted by the Graduate Scholarship Committee and the University of Miami School of Education (Miami, FL., February 2008).
- Recipient of the 2007 Carolyn S. Garwood Award for Service from the University of Miami School of Education (Miami, FL., May 2007).
- Recipient of funding (\$500) from University of Miami Graduate School to attend the Compact for Faculty Diversity 2006 Institute on Teaching and Mentoring; training for minority students planning to enter academia (Miami, FL., October 2006).
- Nominated by Department Chair, Dr. Blaine Fowers, and chosen to receive funding (\$800) from University of Miami Graduate School to attend Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) Summer Institute sponsored by Howard University and the University of Texas at El Paso; training for minority students preparing to enter academia (Washington, D.C., June 2006).
- Recipient of Gormley Student Research Fellowship (University of Miami, \$300) to present in a panel at the annual Association for Women in Psychology Conference; funds were awarded to help offset travel costs and encourage productivity and networking (Ypsilanti, MI., March 2006).
- Recipient of University of Miami Graduate Activity Fee Allocation Committee (GAFAC, \$450) for travel expenses to present a poster at the National Latina/o Psychological Association Conference (Scottsdale, AZ., November 2004).

### Professional Affiliations

- **American Psychological Association**, Student Affiliate (2003-present); APA Divisions 17—Society of Counseling Psychology, 35—Psychology of Women, and 45—Ethnic Minority Issues, Student Affiliate; APAGS Campus Representative for UM Counseling Psychology Program (04/2006-09/06).
- **National Latina/o Psychological Association (NLPA)**, Student member 2006-2007, 2005-2006, 2004-2005; volunteer translator for *El Boletín* (2004), translated articles for the quarterly NLPA newsletter.
- **National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse**, Graduate Student Member since spring 2007.

### Conference Presentations

Blanco, S., **Mayorga, C.**, Saltzburg, N., & Gormley, B. (2006, March). *Blending unheard voices: Building community from the bottom up*. In J. Yoder (Chair), Political activism from a feminist perspective. Panel presented at the annual conference of the Association for Women in Psychology, Ypsilanti, MI.

**Mayorga, C.C.** & Robbins, M.S. (2004, November). *Clinical implications of strategically addressing interactions in the adolescent's social ecology when working with Hispanic families with adolescents who abuse drugs*. Poster presented at the National Latina/o Psychological Association Conference. One of the three Outstanding Student Poster awards by the Arizona Psychological Association, Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee. Scottsdale, AZ.

Coatsworth, J.D., Robbins, M.S., **Mayorga, C.**, & Gonzalez-Soldevilla, A. (2003). *Investigating intervention process in Familias Unidas: Challenges and results*. Symposium Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research: "Research to Policy." Washington, D.C.

## **Bibliography**

### *Peer-Reviewed Publications*

1. Robbins, M. S., Mayorga, C. C., Mitrani, V. B., Szapocznik, J., Turner, C. W., & Alexander, J. F. (2008). Adolescent and parent alliances with therapists in brief strategic family therapy with drug-using Hispanic adolescents. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, 34*(3), 316-328.
2. Robbins, M.S., Szapocznik, J., **Mayorga, C.C.**, Dillon, F.R., Burns, M., & Feaster, D. (2007). The impact of family functioning on family racial socialization processes. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology, 13*(4), 313-320.
3. Alvarez, R.A., Vasquez, E., **Mayorga, C.C.**, Feaster, D.J., & Mitrani, V.B. (2006). Increasing minority research participation through community organization outreach. *Western Journal of Nursing Research, 28*(5), 541-560.

### *Chapters in Books*

1. Horigian, V.E., Suarez-Morales, L., Robbins, M.S., Zarate, M., **Mayorga, C.C.**, Mitrani, V.B., & Szapocznik, J. (2005). Brief Strategic Family Therapy for adolescents with behavior problems. In J.L. Lebow (Ed.) *Handbook of clinical family therapy* (pp.73-102). Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley.
2. Robbins, M.S., **Mayorga, C.**, & Szapocznik, J. (2003). The ecosystemic lens to understanding family functioning (pp. 21-36). In T.L. Sexton, G. Weeks, and M.S. Robbins (Eds.), *Handbook of Family Therapy*. New York, NY: Brunner Routledge.
3. Sexton, T.L., Robbins, M.S., Holliman, A.S., Mease, A., & **Mayorga, C.** (2003). Efficacy, effectiveness, and change mechanisms in couple and family therapy (pp. 229-262). In T.L. Sexton, G. Weeks, and M.S. Robbins (Eds.), *Handbook of Family Therapy*. New York, NY: Brunner Routledge.