

Beren Crim Sabuncu

Doctoral Student

Address Tallahassee, FL, 32304

WWW <https://zety.com/profile/berencrimsabuncu/475>

Phone 347.722.0668

E-mail bs21p@my.fsu.edu

Motivated student currently working towards a Doctorate of Social Work degree. Detail-oriented graduate research assistant with hands-on experience performing academic work to advance research goals in social work, psychology, and English. Knowledgeable about a diverse range of social work research areas and study procedures. Adept in conducting interviews, literature reviews and data synthesis and analysis.

Education

2021-08 -

Ph.D.: Social Work

Current

Florida State University - Tallahassee, FL

- Received Citrus Health Network Scholarship for Graduate Students (2022-2023)
- Received Christopher D. Hefren Child Welfare Endowed Doctoral Scholarship (2021-2022; 2022-2023)
- Elected to President for Doctoral Student Organization in 2022-2023

2019-08 - 2021-

Master of Social Work

05

New York University Silver School of Social Work - New York, NY

- Member of Phi Alpha Honor Society
- Received Merit-Based Scholarship
- Received Child Welfare Scholarship
- Received Wasserman Internship Grant
- Selected for the Adaptive Leadership for Human Services Fellowship Program

2015-01 - 2019-

Bachelor of Arts: Psychology and English Literature

05

College of Staten Island, CUNY - Staten Island, NY

- Minored in Women and Gender Studies
- Graduated cum laude
- Graduated with 3.71/4.0 GPA
- Dean's List Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018
- Member of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars
- Invitation to join Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society and Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society
- English Literature thesis, "Saving Eurydice: A Critical Feminist Analysis", received High Honors.

Work History

2022-05 -

Current

Graduate Research Assistant

Center for Population Sciences for Health Equity, Tallassee, FL

- Worked on a NIH- funded (R21TW011759-01A1) project on minority stress and HIV-related trauma experiences of Vietnamese LGBT+ identified men.
- Serving as part of a cohort of researchers who are working on a NIH-funded (3R01MD01350) dataset, titled "Unpacking Mechanisms of Disparities for HIV-related Hypertension in African American and Asian Pacific American Men who Have Sex with Men". Within this cohort, leading a manuscript reviewing the impact of trauma experiences and maladaptive health behaviors on HIV health outcomes (such as viral loads or medication adherence).
- Contributed to a study, funded by the Lesbian Health Fund, that examines orientation-specific intimate partner violence (IPV) stressors of bisexual individuals.

2021-11 -

Current

Research Assistant

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Working with Dr. Amy Ai on diverse range of studies on health inequity, cardiovascular disease, media use, and post traumatic growth. Have co-authored one book chapter and 2 journal articles.
- Prepared materials for reports, presentations and submission to peer-reviewed journal publications. Submitted applications for 7 presentations and 1 symposium.

2021-09 -

Current

Research Assistant

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Working with Dr. Melissa Radey on studies focusing on the Child Welfare system.
- I have experience with a diverse range of systems. I have created and edited Qualtrics surveyflow using complex functions, used qualitative coding software such as NVivo to analyze data, and have experience with the FEAS system.
- Experience with conducting a literature review and charting literature if necessary for the study, and have worked as a co-author on a paper.

2020-06 -

Current

Media Intern

Dignified Children International, Remote, Kenya, Nairobi

- Designed initiative called DCI Ambassadors Program which aims to invite high profile Kenyan industry Leaders to represent DCI on their social media as well as invite followers and, in some cases, fans to contribute to campaigns.
- Facilitated abovementioned initiative with institutional support from mentor Phoebe Maina, founder of Dignified Children International and recipient of UNFPA I AM 2.0 Grant.
- Helped develop website portals and social media pages to promote businesses.

2020-08 - 2022-

09

Crisis Counselor

Crisis Text Line, Remote

- Demonstrated professional aptitude for crisis counseling after which 30 hours of training modules on a wide range of subjects including but not limited to crisis counseling in cases of sexual assault, suicide ideation, anxiety, depression, and related resources.
- Providing crisis counseling to those in need at a rate of 4 hours per week, and with a commitment of at least 200 hours of total service.
- Evaluated risk to client or others by gathering information and conducting assessments, and documented risk to each client and context of concerns.

2019-01 - 2021-12

Rape Survivor Advocate

Safe Horizon Staten Island Community Program, Staten Island, NY

- Redesigned the Rape Survivor Advocate (RSA) Training Manuals by examining said manuals for any theoretical and grammatical errors and modifying its modules with necessary changes.
- Corresponded with clients regarding annual and publicized events such as the Candle Vigil and Denim Day. Signal boosted said events on social media to increase awareness and participation.
- Co-facilitated psycho-education events regarding sexual violence, different forms of intimate partner violence (IPV), and campus safety at our partner colleges (College of Staten Island, Wagner College, St. John's University).
- Launched school-wide social media campaigns to inform students of these trainings as well as to start conversations around DV, IPV, and sexual violence.
- As an RSA, worked closely with affiliated hospital staff to optimize SICP services for survivors.

2020-08 - 2021-05

Research Assistant

New York University Stern School Of Business, New York, NY

- Examined the nuances of charitable giving under the guidance of Dr. Joshua Lewis, focusing specifically on how framing overhead costs incentivizes donations.
- Compiled multiple information manuals of organizational cost framing habits, contact information for future research alliances, and overviews of expenditures.
- Received training in systems such as Qualtrics to develop competency in composing a multi layered research survey.
- Summarized search results by preparing written reports, graphs, fact sheets and tables.
- Produced survey materials for post-study Appendix.
- Wrote and edited data collection forms and questionnaires.

2020-08 - 2021-05

School Success Coordinator

International Rescue Committee, New York, NY

- Advocated for clients' rights within NYC Education System by coordinating weekly Zoom meetings with clients from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Worked closely with a caseload of 23 distinct families with diverse and unique needs regarding topics such as immigration law, housing insecurity, domestic violence, systemic barriers to education, and language assistance (in French).

- Attended weekly sessions of individual and group supervision to promote professional growth and enforce self-care in practice.
- Provided comprehensive support services encompassing career and personal goals of student.

2019-09 - 2020-05

Graduate Social Work Intern

William T. Davis School, Department of Education, Staten Island, NY

- Served eight individual therapy clients and facilitated two groups of six students respectively pertaining to complex psychosocial issues using an intersectional approach.
- Identified at-risk students, created detailed plans for specialized education and behavioral skills and communicated plans with parents and school staff.
- Developed and facilitated goal-oriented psycho-education and therapy groups to improve students' quality of life during which important topics such as gender and sexual orientation, mindfulness, and identity construction were discussed.
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary teams of school psychologists, teachers and administrators to implement Individualized Education Plans.

2019-01 - 2019-05

Research Assistant

College of Staten Island, Staten Island, NY

- Conducted research for contributions to Dr. Lauren Rogers-Sirin's book on the oversimplification of mental health problems in self-help books which included penning literature reviews, analyzing the current self-help market and assessing self-help book archetypes.
- Compiled an extensive list of self-help books published in the last 5 years which have claims of emotional and psychological problem eradication through one-size-fits-all psychosocial treatments.
- Summarized search results by preparing written reports.

2016-05 - 2019-01

Vice President | Board Member

New York Public Interest Research Group, NYPIRG, Staten Island, NY

- Organized 30+ events with partnering organizations including Project Hospitality, CHASI, and Ali Forney focusing on community issues such as hunger and homelessness, equitable access to education, and environmental awareness.
- Represented NYPIRG at the State Senate as Team Leader to lobby for CUNY-wide program funding with elected officials.

2018-08 - 2018-12

Intern

Bertha Harris Women's Center, Staten Island, NY

- Collaborated on organizing 15 events for approximately 175 people ranging from donation drives to outreach demonstrations.
- Designed and developed a concept for a Bertha Harris Women's Center funded event on the College of Staten Island campus pertaining to different facets of menstruation paying special attention to adopting a gender identity affirming approach.

- Co-facilitated a campus-wide panel on LGBTQ+ Identities.

2016-09 - 2017-05

Research Assistant

College of Staten Island, Staten Island, NY

- Authored a thesis under the guidance of Professor Ashley Dawson titled, "Modern Heroism in the Face of Archaic Adversity: The Life and Works of Abdelrahman Munif" on the parallels between Munif's petro-fictional dystopian society and a Marxist society.

Publications and Presentations

Completed Presentations

- Ai, A., Sabuncu, B. (2022). *Existential Crises, Human Strengths, and Racial Justice in Diverse Populations: Multifaceted Outcomes of Deadly Hurricanes*. Symposium. International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. Atlanta, GA, United States.
- Ai, A., Sabuncu, B. (2022). *Gender and Age Effects on PTG Explained by Psychological Factors in Cardiac Patients*. Poster Presentation. Gerontological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Ai, A., Sabuncu, B. (2022). *Age Differences in Depression and Anxiety Levels of Open-Heart Surgery Patients*. Poster Presentation. Gerontological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN, United States.
- Li, W., Sabuncu, B., Ai, A. (2022). *Post-hurricane Outcomes: Complicated Roles of Negative Coping, Situational Indicators, and Dispositional Factor*. Society of Behavioral Medicine. Baltimore, MD, United States.
- Ai, A., Sabuncu, B. (2022) *Cardiac Depression: Influences of Gender, Quality of Life, and Optimism* [Poster Presentation] Div. 35 Society for the Psychology of Women. American Psychological Association Conference, Minneapolis, MN, United States.
- Sabuncu, B., Ai, A. (2022) *Preoperative Dispositional Optimism and Postoperative Anxiety in Open Heart Surgery Patients* [Poster Presentation] Div. 38 Society for Health Psychology. American Psychological Association Conference, Minneapolis, MN, United States.
- Sabuncu, B., Eng, W., Samuels, E., Rotondo, L. (2018, September). *Mental Health in Underprivileged Communities* [Panel Discussion]. College of Staten Island, NY, United States.
- Sabuncu, B. (2018, March). *Student Fee and Rights of Student Body* [Panel Presentation]. Town Hall on Student Activity Fee Allocation, Brooklyn College, NY, United States.
- Sabuncu, B. (2017, May 27) *Modern Heroism in the Face of Archaic Adversity: The Life and Works of Abdelrahman Munif* [Conference Presentation] Undergraduate Conference on Research, Scholarship, and Performance, College of Staten Island, NY, United States.
- Sabuncu, B. (2017, April 13) *Multi-prism Approach to Sexual Identity* [Conference Presentation]. Social Justice Seder, College of Staten Island, NY, United States.

Publications

- Ai, A. & Sabuncu, B. C. (in press). 2022. Posttraumatic growth in patients with cardiovascular disease. In R. Berger, Ed. *The Routledge international handbook on posttraumatic growth* (pp.TBD). Routledge.
- Ai, A., & Sabuncu, C. (2022). Gender and age effects on PTG explained by psychological factors in cardiac patients. *Innovation in Aging*, 6 (Suppl 1), 850. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igac059.3046>
- Radey, M., Wilke, D. J., Stanley, L. H. K., & Sabuncu, B. C. (2023). Independent and combined effects of workplace harassment among child welfare workers. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926771.2022.2164536>
- Sabuncu, C., & Ai, A. (2022). Age differences in depression and anxiety levels of open-heart surgery patients. *Innovation in Aging*, 6 (Suppl 1), 851–852. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igac059.3050>

- Sabuncu, B.C.; Li, W.; Ai, A.L. (2023). Better to Not Be Alone: Relationships between Hurricane Related Trauma, Spiritual Support, and Social Support. *OBM Integrative and Complementary Medicine*; 8(2): 017; doi:10.21926/obm.icm.2302017.
- Sabuncu, B. C. (2023). Book Review: Research Methods in Social Work. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 33(3), 350–351. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10497315221131927>
- Sabuncu, B.C. (in review). Review: Is imagery rehearsal therapy an effective treatment for post-traumatic nightmares? *Traumatology*.
- Staff Writer, Banner (2016-2018)- Compilation of Select Work: <https://rb.gy/dqzsd5>

Accomplishments

- Received Citrus Health Network Scholarship for Graduate Students (\$1000) (2022-2023)
- Christopher D. Hefren Child Welfare Endowed Doctoral Scholarship (\$1000) (2021-2022; 2022-2023)
- Point Foundation Semifinalist
- Wasserman Internship Grant (\$1000)
- Chameleon John Scholarship Recipient (\$500)
- Creator Institute Student Author
- Adaptive Leadership for Human Services Fellow (\$1500)
- Merit-Based Scholarship Recipient (\$21000)
- Child Welfare Scholarship Recipient (\$5000)
- Malave Leadership Academy Student Leader Award
- Malave Leadership Academy Mentorship Award
- NYPIRG Willowbrook Award

Certifications

2019-03	Thrive NYC Mental Health First Aid Training
2020-12	SARET Modules I-VI
2021-09	FSU Faculty, Staff and Students-Social/Behavioral Training Module, CITI Program

Professional Memberships

- American Psychological Association
- Gerontological Society of America

Languages

Turkish, English

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Excellent

French

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Very Good