

Gashaye Melaku Tefera, PhD, MSW, MA

Email: gtefera@fsu.edu

CORE COMPETENCIES

Social work research with a focus on underserved populations (women, immigrants, refugees, indigenous people, and older adults). Research on healthcare access and disparities in disadvantaged communities. Research on decolonization, indigenization, and culturally relevant practice. Teaching social work courses and mentoring students. Program development, coordination, and evaluation. International social work: academic experiences and perspectives connecting three continents (Africa, Europe, and North America).

Characters: Inquirer, lifelong learner, educator, team player, traveler, and music lover

Values: Open-mindedness, genuineness, humility, and family

Languages: English (Fluent, professional), Amharic (native speaker), Kafigna (Elementary proficiency), Geez (Elementary proficiency)

Talent: Poet and Songwriter (in Amharic)

EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2023 | <p>Ph.D. in Social Work, School of Social Work, University of Missouri
 Dissertation Title: Exploring Perceptions, Barriers, and Facilitators of Access to Primary Health Services among African Immigrant Women in the U.S.: A Study of Ethiopian Immigrant Women
 Dissertation chair: Mansoo Yu, Ph.D.</p> |
| 2018 | <p>Global MA in Advanced Development in Social Work, Erasmus Mundus Scholarship, University of Lincoln, UK; Aalborg University, Denmark; University of Lisbon, Portugal, University of Warsaw, Poland and University of Paris Nanterre, France.
 Thesis title: Toward Culturally Relevant Practice: Combating Gender-based Violence among Refugees.
 Thesis Chair: Kjeld Hogsbro, Ph.D.</p> |
| 2010 | <p>Master of Social Work (MSW)
 Addis Ababa University
 Thesis title: Power relation in the family: a Case Study
 Thesis chair: Wassie Kebede, Ph.D.</p> |
| 2006 | <p>BA in Sociology, University of Gondar
 Senior essay title: The role of Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Reducing Divorce: The case of Gondar City
 Advisor: Solomon Abraha, Ph.D.</p> |

SHORT-TERM TRAINING

2022	Online Teaching Certification Seminar: Excellence in Online Teaching
2013	Knowledge Management for Organizational Effectiveness
2013	Leadership Skills
2012	Grant and Financial Management
2012	Microenterprise Selection, Planning, and Management
2011	Mental Health and HIV/AIDS Counseling Training of Trainers
2010	Training of Trainers: Psychosocial Care Workers for People Affected by HIV/AIDS
2008	Distance Education Module Writing
2007	Instructional Skills

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH POSITIONS

2023 - present	Assistant Professor College of Social Work, Florida State University
2019 - 2023	Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant School of Social Work and Center for Eldercare and Rehabilitation Technology, University of Missouri
2015-2016	Trainer and Researcher Reach out: Family Consultancy, Counselling, and Training Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2016 (January – March)	Research Associate, Part-time Evaluation Research: Growth and Transformation Plan, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
2015 (June-December)	Researcher, Part-time YEGNA women empowerment program, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2010-2011	Lecturer Department of Sociology and Social Work, Ambo University, Ambo, Ethiopia
2006-2010	Lecturer Department of Sociology and Social Work, Jimma University, Jimma, Ethiopia

RESEARCH PROJECTS

2021	School of Health Professions, University of Missouri (P# 2049642) PI: Majee Wilson, Ph.D. Co-Is: Gashaye M Tefera, Ifeolu David, Kelechi Onyeaka, Omoshola Kehinde, Nameri Conte <i>COVID-19 pandemic on international higher education: Experiences and perspectives from international students in the Midwest USA</i>
2020	School of Social Work, University of Missouri (p# 20255808) PI: Erin Robinson, Ph.D. Co-Is: Gashaye M Tefera and Geunhye Park <i>Older adult stress, isolation, and adaptation during COVID-19</i>
2020	School of Social Work, University of Missouri (p# 2024988) PI: Erin Robinson, Ph.D.

Co-Is: Gashaye M Tefera and Geunhye Park
Family caregiving stress and adaptation during COVI-19

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020 - present	School of Social Work, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO Theory and practice of social work groups (SW 4760), co-instructor Understanding Personality in a Social Context (SW 3320), sole instructor Human Behavior in the Social Environment (SW 2220)
2010 - 2011	Department of Sociology and Social Work, Ambo University, Ambo, Ethiopia Introduction to Social Work Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Perspectives in Sociological Theory I Social Research I.
2006 - 2010	Department of Sociology and Social Work Social Research I Social Research II Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Social Development Introduction to Social Work Introduction to Sociology Perspectives in Sociological Theory I Perspectives in Sociological Theory II Social Institutions

Training and Workshop Facilitator

2016	Parenting Skills, Reach Out Family Consultancy, Counseling, and Training Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2015	Leadership Skills, GPSDO, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2014	Training of Trainers for Psychosocial Counseling and Support for HIV/AIDS Patients, Gambella, Ethiopia
2007	Social Work Practice with Children, Jimma, Ethiopia

NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018-2019	Operations Fellow United Way Worldwide, Head Quarter, Alexandria, Virginia
2012-2015	Executive Director and CRM officer Guraghe Peoples' Self-help Development Organization (GPSDO), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2012 (February- November)	Executive Director Wegen Aden Association, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2011-2012	Project Officer Ethiopian Society of Sociologists Social Workers and Anthropologists, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

2011 (April-October)	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Lambadina Institute Health and Development Communication, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
-------------------------	--

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

2023	Research Council Grant, University of Missouri, Co-I role
2022 Fall	School of Social Work Doctoral Student Conference Travel Grant
2022-2023	MU Graduate School Gamma Alpha Gamma Dissertation Year Fellowship
2022 Spring	School of Social Work Doctoral Student Conference Travel Grant
2022	SSWR Doctoral Student Travel Award
2022 (January)	School of Social Work Doctoral Student Conference Travel Grant
2019-2024	Graduate Assistantship, School of Social Work, University of Missouri
2018-2019	Atlas Corps Fellowship
2016-2018	Erasmus Mundus Scholarship
2016-17	Chevening Scholarship (Not attended)
2016-2018	Central European University Scholarship (Not attended)
2011-2016	Multiple project grants for non-profits I worked for

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Published

1. **Tefera, G.M.**, Lembani, M, David, I. & Majee W. (2023) COVID-19 and migrant coping strategies: A person in environment perspective on experiences of Malawian migrants living in South Africa, *Journal of Social Service Research*
2. **Tefera, G.M.**, Onyeaka, K., Conteh, N., David, I., Kehinde, O., Harvey, I.S. & Majee, W. (2023). COVID-19 and student life: Experiences and Perceptions of African international students – an Ubuntu and resilience perspective. *Journal of International Students*.
3. **Tefera, G.M.** (2022). "We Feel Powerless": A Social-Ecological Perspective on Challenges Experienced by Social Workers in Addressing GBV in Ethiopian Refugee Settings. *Advances in Social Work*.
4. David, I., Kehinde, O., **Tefera, G.M.**, Onyeaka, K., Harvey, I. & Majee, W. (2022). COVID-19 and higher education: A qualitative study on academic experiences of African international students in the Midwest. *Applied Research in Quality of Life*.
5. **Tefera, G.M.** (2022). Toward culturally relevant practice: Combating gender-based violence among refugees in Ethiopia. *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*. 1-12
6. **Tefera, G.M.** & Yu, M. (2022). Immigrant women's access to healthcare services: A qualitative meta-synthesis. *Journal of Social Service Research*.
7. **Tefera, G.M.** (2022). Decolonizing social work practice: A case from Ethiopian refugee settings. *Journal of Social Service Research*. 1-12.
8. Kim, Y.K., Yu, M., Moon, S.S., Maleku, A., Um, M.Y., **Tefera, G.M.** (2022). Sociodemographic characteristics, preventive behaviors, and the mental health status of social work students in the US during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Social Work in Mental Health*.
9. Kjær-Rasmussen, L. Montes D'Oco, L., Edwards, J. & **Tefera, G.M.** (2019). Towards Indigenous social work practice: Addressing professional challenges in working with

Homeless Greenlanders in Aalborg, Denmark. *Journal of Indigenous Social Development*, 8(1), 19-34.

Under Review/Revise and Resubmit

1. **Tefera, G.M.** (under review). Indigenizing social work education in Africa: A commentary. *Critical and Radical Social Work*.
2. **Tefera, G.M.**, Onyeaka, K., David, I., Kehinde, O., Yu, K. & Majee, W. (under review). Socioeconomic Hardship: A Qualitative Exploration of the Experiences of U.S.-based African International Graduate Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Social Service Review*.
3. Hailemariam, M., Bustos, T., Brown, G. **Tefera, G.M.**, Adaji, R., Taylor, B., Wencheko, H., Barajas, R., Najjar, V. Jackson, C. & Johnson. J. (under review). Evidence-based mental health interventions for justice-involved individuals with mental health needs: A systematic review. *BMC Psychiatry*.
4. **Tefera, G.M.**, Robinson, E. & Park, G. (under review). Social isolation and mental health among older adults during the COVID-19 pandemic: How technology can facilitate connectedness and improve health. *Social Work in Mental Health*
5. **Tefera, G.M.**, Kehinde, O., Yu, M., Florence, M., Adonis, T. & Mpisane (Book Chapter, under review). Khat use and its impacts on quality of life: A theory generating qualitative meta-synthesis.
6. Kehinde, O.B., **Tefera, G.M.**, Yu, M., Florence, M., Adonis, T. & Mispene, N. (Book Chapter, under review). Improving quality of life of Nigerians: Evidence-based practices to reduce substance use problems.
7. Florence, M., Yu, M., Adonis, T., Mispene, N., **Tefera, G.**, Kehinde, O., Nell, J. & Botha, C. (under review). Examining the psychometric properties of the perinatal psychosocial profile in antenatal care facilities in the Cape Metropole, Western Cape, South Africa: Across sectional study. *Frontiers in Psychology*.
8. Park, G., Robinson, E. & **Tefera, G.M.** (in progress) Isolation, Mental Health, and Resilience among Older Adults during the Global Pandemic: Application of Strength and Vulnerability Integration (SAVI) Model. Intended for submission to *The Gerontologist*.
9. David, I.J., Lembani, M., **Tefera, G.M.** & Majee. W. (under review) COVID-19 and immigrant status: A qualitative study of Malawian immigrants living in South Africa. *International Migration Review*.

In progress

1. **Tefera, G.M.**, Yu, M., Robinson, E., Ramseyer Winter, V. & Bloom, T. (in progress). Transition, adjustment, and healthcare avoidance: African immigrant women's experiences and perceptions of navigating primary healthcare in the U.S.

BOOKS, REVIEWS, REPORTS, AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. **Tefera, G. M** (2010) *Understanding Power in the Family*. Lap Publishers.
2. **Tefera, G.M.** (2010). *Shibolet*. A socio-spiritual book in Amharic language. Veronica, Addis Ababa: Ethiopia
3. **Tefera G.M.** (2009) *Impact of the new NGO legislation in development projects*. Addis Ababa University.

Digital Productions

+2000 Amharic songs (various years)

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

1. **Tefera, G.M.**, Kehinde, O., Yu, M., Florence, M., Adonis, T. & Mpisane (2023, January). *Khat use and its impacts on quality of life: A theory generating qualitative meta-synthesis*. SSWR 2023, Phoenix, AZ.
2. **Tefera, G.M.**, Onyeaka, K., Conteh, N., David, I., Kehinde, O., Harvey, I.S. & Majee, W. (2023, January). *Exploring the Experiences and Perceptions of African International University Students on Their Mental and Emotional Well-Being during COVID-19: A Qualitative Study*. SWWR 2023, Phenix, AZ
3. David, I., Kehinde, O., **Tefera, G.M.**, Onyeaka, K., Harvey, I. & Majee, W. (2022, November). *COVID-19 and higher education: A qualitative study on academic experiences of African international students in the Midwest*. APHA 2022, Boston, MA.
4. **Tefera, G.M.**, Robinson, E. & Park, G. (2022, November). *Family caregiving in LTC setting during the COVID-19 pandemic: Communication challenges and leveraging technology*. GSA 2022, Indianapolis, Indiana.
5. Park, G., Robinson, E. & **Tefera, G.M.** (2022, November). *Family Caregiving for Older Adults in Long-Term Care During the Pandemic: Stress, Social Support, and Adaptation*. GSA 2022, Indianapolis, Indiana.
6. Robinson, E., Tefera, GM., Park, G., Skubic, M., Marchal, N., Popescu, M., Keller, J. & Rantz, M. (2022, November). *Deploying in-home sensors to community-dwelling older adults: Adoption of technology and lessons learned*. GSA 2022, Indianapolis, Indiana.
7. Hailemariam, M., Bustos, Montgomery, B., **Tefera, G.M.**, Brown, G., Adaji, R., Taylor, B., Eshetu, H., Barajas, C., Barajas, R., Najjar, V., Jackson, C., Felton, J. & Johnson, J.E. (2022, September). *Evidence-based mental health interventions for justice-involved individuals with serious mental illness: A systematic review*. Society for Implementation Research Collaboration Conference 2022, San Diego, California.
8. Adonis, T., Florence, M.; Yu, M., Mpisane, N.; **Tefera, G.M**; Kehinde, O.; Botha, C. (2022, August). *A photo-voice exercise to assess the quality of life of women who use substances in low-income rural contexts in South Africa*. ISQOLS 2022 Conference, Burlington, Vermont, USA.
9. Adonis, T., Florence, M.; Yu, M., Mpisane, N.; Kehinde, O.; **Tefera, G.M** (2022, August) . *Development of a sustainable intervention to address quality of life of pregnant women using substances in low-income rural communities in the Western Cape, South Africa: Phase 1 A needs assessment*. TUFH 2022 Conference, Vancouver, Canada.
10. **Tefera, G, M.** & Yu, M. (2022, January). *Experiences and perspectives of immigrant women in accessing healthcare services in the United States: A qualitative meta-synthesis*. Society for Social Work and Research, Social Work Science for Racial, Social and Political Justice. Washington DC, USA.
11. **Tefera, G.M.**, Robinson, E.L. & Park, G. (2021, November, Virtual Poster). *Technology Use Among Older Adults to Manage their Health During a Global Pandemic*. GSA 2021 Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, USA.
12. Robinson, E.L., Wu, W., Park, G., **Tefera, G.M.**, Lane, K., Skubic, M., Keller, J. & Popescue, M.

-
- (2021, November). *Comparison of embedded sensor data for long-term care residents pre/post-onset of the COVID-19 pandemic*. GSA 2021 Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, USA.
13. Park, G., Robinson, E.L. & **Tefera, G.M.** (2021, November). *Older Adult Technology Use During a Global Pandemic: A Study of Mental Health, Social Supports, and Resiliency*. GSA 2021 Scientific Meeting, Phoenix, USA.
 14. **Tefera, G.M.**, Robinson, E.L. & Park, G. (2021, October). *Older Adult Technology Use During a Global Pandemic: A Study of Mental Health, Social Supports, and Resiliency*. Extension and Engagement Week: Connecting to Improve Missouri's Economy, Education, and Health. University of Missouri, Columbia, USA.
 15. Skubic, M., Robinson, E. Park, G., **Tefera, G.M.**, Markway, B., Marchal, N. & Hill, A. (2021, July). *USE CASE: Developing a user-centered interface for sensor-based health monitoring of older adults*. Washington DC, USA.
 16. Florence, M.; Yu, M.; Adonis, T. and Mpisane, N.; Kehinde, O.; **Tefera, G.M** (2021) . Do psychosocial factors correlate with cigarette smoking among pregnant women in low-income Cape Town communities? SANCA Addiction 2021 Conference
 17. Florence, M., Yu, M., Adonis, T., Mpisane, N., **Tefera, G.M.** & Kehinde, O. (2021, July). *Psychometric properties of the parental psychosocial scale for a South African sample*. 32nd International Congress of Psychology, Prague, Czech Republic.
 18. Yu, M., Florence, M., **Tefera, G.**, Kehinde, O., Adonis, T. & Mpisane, N. (2021, July). Psychological wellbeing and nicotine use during pregnancy in low-income South African communities. 32nd International Congress of Psychology, Prague, Czech Republic.
 19. **Tefera, G.M.** (2017, May). *Indigenizing social work education in Africa*. International Conference on Education. University of Riverside, Los Angeles, USA.

Invited Scholarly Presentations

1. Park, G., **Tefera, G.M.** & Robinson, E.L. (2021, March). Older adult technology use during a global pandemic: a study of mental health, social supports, and resiliency. Center for Eldercare Rehabilitation and Technology, University of Missouri, Columbia, USA.
2. **Tefera, G.M.** (2018, June) Combatting gender-based violence among refugees. ADVANCES Research Workshop, University of Paris Nanterre, Paris, France.
3. **Tefera, G.M.** (2016, November) Women empowerment through arts. University of Lincoln Social Work Conference, University of Lincoln, UK.

JOURNAL/CONFERENCE REVIEWER

2022 - present	Manuscript Reviewer Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences
2022	Abstract Reviewer Gerontological Society of America, 2022 Annual Conference

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICES

Member

2021 - present	Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)
2021 - present	The Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
2019 - present	Center for Children and Families Across Cultures (CFAC), University of

2019 - present	Missouri
2011- present	African Graduate, and Professional Students Association (AGPSA), University of Missouri Ethiopian Society of Sociologists Social Workers and Anthropologists (ESSWA)
Service	
2022 - present	Mentor for first-year Ph.D. students, School of Social Work, MU
2020 - present	Student representative, Doctoral Program Committee, School of Social Work, University of Missouri
2020 - present	Volunteer, Refugee and Immigration Services, Columbia, Missouri
2019 - present	Student Contributor, Prenatal substance exposure in Western Cape, South Africa: A prospective cohort study
2019 - present	Student contributor, Center for Children and Families Across Cultures (CFAC), University of Missouri
2017	Volunteer, International Conference on Social Work Research, Aalborg, Denmark