

# Ericka Vargas

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## PERSONAL PROFILE

**Gallup Top Strengths:** Context, Communication, Input, Connectedness and Restorative

- Worked with at-risk and minority populations for sexual health, and literacy via outreach and client services
- Fluent in Spanish and French with international and personal experience and interest in Francophone culture
- Proven flexibility, resourcefulness, and dependability to work with minimal supervision
- Interested in mental health phenomenon occurring in cross cultural and/or multicultural platforms

## EDUCATION

**Bachelor of Science in Psychology University of Florida, Gainesville FL**

May 2016

Minors: Francophone studies, Women's studies, and Health Disparities

Merit: 100% financed education with Machen Florida Opportunity Scholarship; Hillsborough Education Foundation 4 Year scholarship; Medallion Scholars Bright Futures scholarship

Programs: International Scholars Program

GPA: 3.88/4.00

**Institute of American Universities, Aix-en-Provence, France**

January-May 2015

Merit: UF International Semester Scholarship; IAU Academic Scholarship

Relevant Courses: Wine regions and economics, Multicultural psychology, French society and French language

**University of Florida in Paris: Language and Culture in Context**

June-July 2013

Relevant Courses: Contemporary art and French sociolinguistics

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Practicum in WellFlorida's High Impact Prevention Program, Gainesville FL**

August-December 2015

- Recruited prospects for HIV testing at non-clinical settings during outreach programs
- Conducted personal HIV testing events and safer sex programs in Gainesville, Florida.
- Promoted safer sex and HIV awareness in community events through safer sex kits distribution, etc.

**Intern at Centro de Orientacion e Investigacion Integral, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic**

July 2015

- Conducted Pre and Post counseling sessions for Sexually Transmitted Infections in a clinical setting and in outreach programs for rapid HIV tests in low income settings
- Partook in individual and shared counseling sessions reinforcing adherence for HIV and STI positive clients
- Transcribed a Trans-inclusive workshop titled "Trans people and HIV" for Transgender community workers at the center

**Intern at Inlingua-Provence, Aix-en-Provence, France**

March-May 2015

- Assisted in adult English language learning sessions for 3 adults
- Structured a pilot annual afterschool support program for low-income French elementary schools
- Taught after-school animating classes in English and French in a low-income zone school for a 4<sup>th</sup> grade class in Marseille

**Volunteer and Shadowing at CESIC, UNIBE, Dominican Republic**

June-August 2014

- Observed therapies and helped with post-therapy analysis of client and critique of therapy
- Conducted therapy for children with speech and learning disabilities or anomalies
- Observed, planned and deconstructed therapies for 1 younger adult and 1 adult client
- Assisted psychologists and staff to conduct psychological and medical exams to 15 young girls at a reformation institute

## COLLEGIATE LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

**Resident Assistant, University of Florida Housing Department, Gainesville FL**

August 2013-present

- Monitored and carried-out crisis interventions in residence halls
- Planned and carry-out community building, diversity, and social programs for 48 residents
- Provided customer service for residents and guests at the main area desk of residence hall
- Acted as a peer support to residents and visitors of the residence hall for extracurriculars, resources, and personal situations

**Research Assistant for Psychology Sexuality lab, Gainesville FL**

August 2013-January 2015

- Inputted data of study surveys and questionnaires for RIB approved studies
- Recruited participants for sexuality study comparing placebo erotic book to academic self-help book written by faculty
- Completed literature research for articles and media to be used in study preparations and revised IRB proposal

## TRAININGS

### **Understanding sexual orientations and gender identities: A healthcare perspective**

*March, 2016*

- Participated in dialogue, conversations and poster presentations dealing with LGBT inclusion and health issues
- Received 6 continuing education hours of presentations of various topics dealing about health of the LGBT community
- Networked with individuals that work in the health care setting expressing their issues of difference and marginalization

### **Yes Means Yes Positive Sexuality Seminar, University of Florida**

*March, 2016*

- Interacted in workshops offering comprehensive sessions with speakers and peers regarding several sexuality topics
- Engaged in dialogues about my own experiences, prejudices, and knowledge about sexuality

### **HIV 501 Certification**

*June 2015*

- Engaged in a 2-day training to do oral testing for HIV
- Learned the risks, modes of transmission, and opportunistic diseases related to HIV and AIDS
- Roleplayed to do oral testing for HIV, and completed form DH1628

## INVOLVEMENT

• WellFlorida Council High Impact Prevention program volunteer	<i>August 2015-present</i>
• Café 3C volunteer, Aix en Provence, France	<i>January 2015-May 2015</i>
• Reading Pals volunteer, United Way of Central Florida, Gainesville	<i>August 2014-December 2014</i>
• Foreign Language Partner, UF English Institute, Gainesville, FL.	<i>August 2013-2014</i>
• UF psychology club Public Relations officer	<i>August 2012-2013</i>
• President of French National Honor Society, Leto High School, Tampa, FL	<i>August 2011-2012</i>
• Secretary of the National Honor Society, Leto High School, Tampa, FL	<i>August 2011-2012</i>

## SKILLS

- Fluent in English and Spanish; advanced speaking and writing in French
- Microsoft Office Suite certified
- CPR certified

*Open to travel and/or relocation 100%*

*Committed to furthering Industry related designations*