

## CHRISTIAN A. ADELEKE, LMSW

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UTA Faculty Profile:  
<https://www.uta.edu/academics/faculty/profile?user=christian.adeleke#Teaching>

UTA Student Profile:  
<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/stories/christian-adeleke>

### EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D.</b>	The University of Texas at Arlington, Social Work Faculty Advisor: Dr. Catherine LaBrenz	Expected, 2026
<b>MSW</b>	Florida International University, Social Work Concentration: Advanced Clinical Practice GPA: 3.9	2022
<b>B.S.</b>	Florida State University, Psychology Honors: Cum Laude, Garnet and Gold Scholar Minor: General Business GPA: 3.5	2018

### ACADEMIC PROFILE

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Doctoral researcher in Social Work committed to advancing labor equity, field education reform, and justice-centered pedagogies. Substantive expertise in social work education, workforce equity policy, academic labor rights, social work as a profession, and social welfare history. Experience in research, teaching, supervision, mentorship, and public scholarship.

### HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>Graduate Dean's Research Fellowship Award</b>	2025
Selected from a competitive pool of PhD students demonstrating strong potential to defend within one year; awarded additional funding for dedicated dissertation research.	

<b>Dean's Fellowship, The University of Texas at Arlington</b>	2024 - 2026
Institutional funding initiative introduced by Dean Kirk Foster to increase doctoral stipend levels and promote financial stability for PhD students during their studies.	

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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#### Research Interests

Field education, workforce equity, and economic justice—particularly the impact of unpaid internships on the social work labor pipeline. My work examines academic labor rights, structural inequities, and economic barriers shaping student and professional trajectories. I advocate for

sustainable reforms such as unionization and the recognition of social workers as essential healthcare professionals, drawing on historical and contemporary labor conditions within the field.

### **Graduate Research Assistantships**

2024 - 2025

**The University of Texas at Arlington**, Arlington, TX

*Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. Maryam Rafieifar*

- Conducting a systematic review and network meta-analysis of mental health support and psychosocial support interventions for forcibly displaced youth.
- Using structural equation modeling (SEM) to examine the moderating effect of immigration status on parent practices among immigrants with temporary legal status in the U.S.

### **Independent Research Projects**

**The University of Texas at Arlington**, Arlington, TX

2024

*Principal Investigator*

- Led a robust community needs assessment study evaluating training gaps and opportunities in virtual collegiate peer support mental health services.
- Conducted an innovative qualitative program evaluation of the UTA School of Social Work Clinic, analyzing the clinic's impact on both social work intern learning and client outcomes using an inductive thematic content analysis.

### **Research Methodologies, Designs & Software**

- **Quantitative Methods:** SEM, multi-level modeling (MLM), factor analysis, psychometrics
- **Qualitative Methods:** Content analysis, thematic analysis, interviews, archival research
- **Research Designs:** Survey design, historical, program evaluation, needs assessment
- **Ethics & Data Management:** IRB protocol development and revision, data protection
- **Software:** ATLAS.ti, NVivo, Mplus, Stata, SPSS, Qualtrics, QuestionPro, Microsoft Teams

### **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

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LaBrenz, C., **Adeleke, C.**, Garcia, M. L. T., Pandolfi, A. F., Leal, F. X., & Mattioni, M. (2025). (in press). "This is not normal": The global academy's resistance to authoritarianism and academic capitalism. *Fast Capitalism*. (Forthcoming Fall 2025)

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

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**Adeleke, C.**, & Delgado, I. *Charting decolonized pathways for social justice in social work education*. Target journal: *Global Social Welfare*.

Beaulaurier, R., **Adeleke, C.**, and Rafieifar, M. *Pursuing doctoral study: Factors underlying underrepresented MSW students' perceptions*. Target journal: *Journal of Social Work Education*.

### **PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS**

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**Adeleke, C.** (2025). *Broke, Hungry, and Behind: Psychometric Validation of a Two-Factor Scale of Financial Hardship in Social Work Field Education*. E-Poster presentation at the 2025 UTA School of Social Work (SSW) Celebration of Research and PhD Research Showcase, Arlington, TX, United States.

**Adeleke, C.** (2025). *Who Pays the Price? Unpaid Internships, Disability, and Mental Health—Implications for Social Work Education*. Oral paper presentation at the 2025 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO, United States.

**Adeleke, C.,** Copeland, V., and Reed, D. (2025). *Resisting Ableism: Transforming Social Work Education through Black Radical & Feminist Traditions*. Oral paper presentation at the 2025 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO, United States.

**Adeleke, C.** (2025). *Exploring Financial Hardships in Unpaid Social Work Internships: An Intersectional Perspective*. Oral paper presentation at the 2025 Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, United States.

**Adeleke, C.** and Moss, T. (2024). *Charting Decolonized Pathways for Social Justice in Social Work Education*. Oral paper presentation at the 2024 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Kansas City, MO, United States.

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX** 2025

**SOCW 4335: Aging in American Society (Online)**

**Adjunct Faculty, School of Social Work**

- Taught an asynchronous undergraduate course exploring psychological, sociological, biological, and spiritual theories of aging, with a focus on intersectionality and diverse lived experiences in later life.
- Developed and delivered lectures and assignments on key aging-related topics, including caregiving, long-term care, healthcare policy, gerontechnology, and end-of-life planning.
- Emphasized Competency 1 by promoting ethical practice, professional communication, and reflective analysis of aging-related dilemmas through assignments like the Aging Scrapbook and Living Arrangements presentation.
- Emphasized Competency 2 by fostering student understanding of how identity, power, and systemic inequality shape aging experiences across diverse cultural and global contexts.
- Emphasized Competencies 3 & 4 by guiding students to evaluate aging-related programs and policies critically, and to apply current research and evidence to social work practice with older adults.

**The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX** 2025

**SOCW 3301: Theories of Human Behavior (Face-to-face)**

**Adjunct Faculty, School of Social Work**

- Taught an undergraduate course averaging 30 students per semester, centering the person-in-environment framework while utilizing a strengths-based and empowerment approach.
- Developed and delivered lectures on theories of human behavior, social work ethics, culturally responsive practice, and systems theory.
- Emphasized Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice by fostering student understanding of power, privilege, oppression, and how diversity shapes the human experience.
- Received an average instructor rating of 4.6/5.0, exceeding department (4.4), college (4.4), and university (4.4) averages across all core teaching metrics.
- Applied Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities by integrating theoretical frameworks to analyze and assess client systems at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels of social work practice.

## PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

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### **Clinic Manager & Task Supervisor**

2024

UTA School of Social Work Virtual Clinic, The University of Texas at Arlington

#### **Arlington, TX**

- Managed day-to-day operations of a telehealth-based social work clinic, serving as the primary point of contact for client-facing services and intern coordination.
- Provided weekly task supervision and clinical learning support to a team of five MSW interns, facilitating skill-building, ethical reflection, and integration of theory into practice.
- Participated in weekly curriculum and management meetings to improve service delivery models, student learning outcomes, and clinic infrastructure.
- Served in a field instructor capacity (under faculty supervision) to support intern professional development while aligning with the 2022 CSWE Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS).

### **Clinician**

2023

Camillus House, A Ministry of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God

#### **Miami, FL**

- Provided individual and group psychotherapy to unsheltered individuals, including those with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance misuse in an American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Level 2 (intensive outpatient/partial hospitalization services) residential treatment setting.
- Applied Housing First and harm reduction frameworks to promote client housing stability, self-determination, and sobriety.

### **Assessor**

2022

Banyan Health Systems, Crisis Stabilization Unit

#### **Miami, FL**

- Conducted biopsychosocial assessments in inpatient crisis stabilization and detoxification units.
- Offered provisional DSM-5 diagnoses and collaborated with interdisciplinary teams to determine appropriate levels of care for voluntary self-referred patients and involuntary patients committed under Florida's Baker and Marchman Acts.

### **Program Counselor**

2018 - 2020

Chrysalis Health, Psychosocial Rehabilitation Center

#### **Oakland Park, FL**

- Delivered psychoeducational group therapy services to dually diagnosed clients in an outpatient, community-based "day program" setting.
- Adapted the basic life skills curriculum in order to tailor it to culturally diverse client populations to enhance symptom management and independent living skills.

### **Child Protective Investigator**

2019

Child Protective Investigator, State of Florida

#### **Miami, FL**

- Investigated allegations of child abuse, abandonment, neglect, or trafficking in South Miami-Dade County and the surrounding areas.
- Conducted comprehensive family functioning assessments (FFAs) in collaboration with families referred to the department to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child.

## GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

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**The University of Texas at Arlington**, Arlington, TX  
**SOCW 3306: Social Work Practice III – Macro Practice**  
**Guest Lecturer**, School of Social Work

2025

- Delivered a guest lecture on planning and program development in diverse communities and organizations as part of the community and administrative practice (CAP) specialization.
- Engaged students in discussions on macro-level social work interventions, program planning, and the role of community organizing in advancing social justice using a ‘flipped classroom’ pedagogical approach.
- Highlighted the impact of historical inequities, strengths-based approaches, and evidence-based practices in macro-level interventions.
- Reinforced Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities and Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities.

**Payment for Placements (P4P) National**, United States  
**Creating Change: Working Towards Ending Unpaid Internships**  
**Panelist**, National Week of Action (Virtual)

2025

- Served as the sole researcher on a national panel discussing the impact of unpaid social work internships on students and the profession.
- Presented research findings from the first nationwide survey of social work students completing their degree-required unpaid internships on the economic, educational, and emotional hardships faced by social work students and the structural barriers to paid placements.
- Engaged in a discussion on policy advocacy and systemic reform efforts to promote equity and fair compensation in social work field education.

**New Mexico Highlands University**, Las Vegas, NM  
**Racial Justice: Black Social Work History, Racism and Oppression in Social Work**  
**Panelist**, Social Justice Teach-In

2024

- Engaged in a discussion on the historical and contemporary role of Black social workers in advocating for racial justice and systemic change.
- Examined the impact of racism and White supremacy within the social work profession and education, highlighting barriers to equity and inclusion.
- Explored self-determination, mutual aid, and empowerment frameworks as tools for advancing anti-oppressive social work practice.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

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- Clement, N. (2020). *Protesters in Downtown Miami Demand Change Following Grand Jury Verdict in Breonna Taylor Case*. WLRN/NPR. <https://www.wlrn.org/2020-09-27/protesters-downtown-miami-demand-change-following-grand-jury-verdict-breonna-taylor-case>. (Quoted).
- The Tab Florida State. (2016). *We spoke to Aishah Casseus, Florida State’s new Title IX investigator*. *The Tab Florida State*. <https://archive.thetab.com/us/floridastate/2016/07/27/spoke-aishah-casseus-florida-states-new-title-ix-investigator-2899/>. (Quoted).

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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### **Writing Literature Reviews**, UTA Graduate Writing Center, 2025

Attended graduate writing workshop focused on the structure, synthesis, and rhetorical conventions of literature reviews across disciplines.

### **Mplus Basics**, Day Family Research Lab, UT Arlington, 2025

Participated in hands-on training on introductory Mplus syntax, model specification, and output interpretation for quantitative data analysis.

### **Adjunct Instructor Training**, UTA School of Social Work, 2024

Completed online training on Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) to enhance course design, student engagement, and instructional delivery.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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**Member**, Payment for Placements (P4P) Advocacy Alliance

**Member**, Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)

**Member**, National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

**Member**, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### **Supervision**

#### **Clinic Manager**, UTA School of Social Work Virtual Clinic, 2024

- Managed a team of five master's-level social work interns in the UTA School of Social Work Virtual Clinic, providing weekly check-ins to provide guidance, support, and professional development.
- Served as the field instructor by facilitating weekly clinical supervision to help interns integrate theory into practice while emphasizing ethical decision-making principles.
- Attended weekly management and curriculum development meetings to contribute to the clinic's operational and educational improvements.

### **Mentorship**

#### **Research Mentor**, UTA School of Social Work Virtual Clinic, 2024

- Supervised and mentored a master's-level social work intern in the Virtual Clinic, providing clinical and research oversight support.
  - **Anadja Tamofa**, Fall 2024  
Thesis title: *"Exploring the UTA SSW Virtual Clinic Internship"*

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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### **UTA School of Social Work, Continuing and Professional Education**

#### **Facilitator**, *"A Day in the Life"* Poverty Simulation, Arlington, TX, 2025

Supported immersive interprofessional education (IPE) poverty simulation event, guiding students and community members through interactive case-based learning on economic hardship and systemic barriers.