



**Lisa Martinez** | [Lisa.Martinez@du.edu](mailto:Lisa.Martinez@du.edu)  
*Associate Professor, Sociology and Criminology*

Lisa's research and teaching interests are in the areas of social inequalities, race and politics, immigration, and Latina/o sociology. Since arriving at DU in 2005, Lisa's work has examined the immigrant rights mobilization of 2006, health disparities in immigrant communities, and the educational trajectories of Latina/o and immigrant youth. She is currently working on a book project on the impact of legal reforms on the mobility pathways of undocumented, Latina/o/x youth and young adults in Colorado.



**Arianna Nowakowski** | [Arianna.Nowakowski@du.edu](mailto:Arianna.Nowakowski@du.edu)  
*Assistant Director, Assistant Teaching Professor, University College Global Community Engagement Program*

Arianna is the Assistant Academic Director and Teaching Assistant Professor for the Global Community Engagement master's program at University College. She received her Ph.D. in International Studies from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver in 2012. Her fields of expertise are international and comparative politics, though her academic interests also include the intersections of gender, culture, and national identity, particularly in the Russian context.



**Cara Marie DiEnno** | [Cara.DiEnno@du.edu](mailto:Cara.DiEnno@du.edu)  
*Associate Director, Center for Community Engagement to Advance Scholarship and Learning*

Cara's background is in social aspects of natural resources with a specific emphasis in environmental communication focused on urban residents' interactions with city greenspaces. Cara supports faculty, staff, and students at DU in their community-engaged work – collaborating with the community through the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity - to live out the university's public good vision.



**Trish Becker-Hafnor** | [Trish.Becker-Hafnor@du.edu](mailto:Trish.Becker-Hafnor@du.edu)  
*Director of Community Engagement, Graduate School of Social Work*

As the Director of Community Engagement, Trish supports the social justice mission of University of Denver's Graduate School of Social Work through the creation of innovative programming and strategic community partnerships. Her background includes working with refugee communities both domestically and abroad, from supporting the Burmese pro-democracy movement and managing a refugee camp-based public health training program, to providing trauma-focused therapy to refugees and asylum-seekers as they resettle in the US. She holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Washington and is passionate about alternative approaches to community, from co-housing to time banking.



**Laura Buhs** | [laura.buhs@du.edu](mailto:laura.buhs@du.edu)  
*Assistant Director, International Student and Scholar Services*

Laura has over 30 years of professional experience in international student and scholar services at several universities, in student and employment-based immigration law and in her professional association, NAFSA: AIE, as a presenter and training corp member. Her community involvement includes parent roles at DPS schools, Academia Sandoval and Denver Center for International Studies; AFS Intercultural Programs; Lazos Education Fund; co-leading two border immersion trips; and volunteering for organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Cooking Matters.



**Anthony Cherwinski** | Anthony.Cherwinski@du.edu  
*Program Manager, Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management*

Anthony has worked with the refugee and immigrant networks of Metro Denver, both on and off campus since 2014.



**David Coppini** | David.Coppini@du.edu  
*Assistant Professor, Media, Film, and Journalism Studies*

David Coppini is an Assistant Professor in the department of Media, Film & Journalism studies. He teaches in media and politics, audience research and strategic communication. His main area of research is in political communication and he's interested in studying public opinion attitudes towards migrants and migration policy.



**Lauren Dorn** | Lauren.Dorn@lfsrm.org  
*Welcoming Communities Coordinator, Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains*

Lauren Dorn is weaver of multiple disciplines threading together her passions for social justice, human rights and human potential. In her work as Welcoming Communities Coordinator, Lauren bridges refugees and receiving communities where they can grow their understanding and empathy for one another. Lauren has led a mission-driven career working in case management, youth development, and community engagement.



**Rebecca Galemba** | Rebecca.Galemba@du.edu  
*Assistant Professor, Co-Director Korbelt Latin America Institute, Joseph Korbelt School of International Studies*

Rebecca is an Assistant Professor at the Josef Korbelt School of International Studies, where she is also Co-Director of the Korbelt Latin America Center. Her research and teaching interests are in Latin America, migration, informal and illicit economies, and labor. Since 2013, she has partnered with local organizations in the Denver area to collaborate on community-based research and service projects related to the immigrant community.



**Karen Gerwitz** | karen.gerwitz@wtcdenver.org  
*President and CEO, World Trade Center Denver*

Karen Gerwitz has 30 years of experience in international business in the private, public and non-profit sectors. Her enthusiastic vision for how Denver can become a more globally-conscious and integrated city is what is driving the organization to its new development in the RiNo neighborhood near downtown. With business development, strategic growth and marketing as her main functional expertise, Karen has served overseas in Ghana and Austria, and in Colorado in multiple sectors including: IT, Aerospace, Lumber, Science, Mining, and Government. Her protocol and international cultural expertise included hosting the official visits of the Emperor and Empress of Japan, and the G8 Summit.



**Jimmy Hessler** | jimmy.hessler46@gmail.com  
*Undergraduate Student, Sociology and Criminology*

Jimmy is a determined student who does his best to impact his community in a positive way. In 2016, he started a summer community soccer camp in Jackson, Wyoming which has now grown to include more than 80 local soccer players. He is interested in and inspired by working to improve education and access to community resources for disadvantaged youth. In Denver, Jimmy is mainly involved in volunteering with Casa de Paz.



**Adrielle Knight** | Adrielle.Knight@du.edu  
*Graduate Student, Graduate School of Social Work*

Adrielle Knight is the refugee-focused fellow with the Center for Community Engagement to advance Scholarship and Learning (CCESL). She is currently in her second year as an MSW student while interning as a school therapist at Place Bridge Academy, the only school in DPS dedicated to refugee and immigrant students. In her free time, Adrielle enjoys climbing mountains and traveling internationally.



**Lisa MacClure** | lisam@acc-den.org  
*Development Coordinator, ECDC African Community Center of Denver*

Originally from St. Louis, MO, Lisa came to Denver in 2006 for her undergrad and loved Colorado so much she decided to stay and now calls it home with her husband and children. Lisa started working with the African Community Center in 2014 after completing an internship with the organization while working on her Master's Degree in Sociology. Lisa has had many roles within the organization, working with the Youth Program, Adult Employment services and currently working in Development, Communications, and Event planning.



**Nicolas Pares** | Nicolas.Pares@du.edu  
*Instructional Support Specialist, Learning Experience Design Team, University College*

Nicolas has been an educator at nonprofits, workforce centers, and school districts for the past five years. A majority of his work has been with immigrants and families in adult education and family literacy programming. Nicolas is a Colorado native and current LIS graduate student as well as a staff member at University College.



**Sarina Phu** | Sarina.Phu@du.edu  
*Undergraduate Student, International Studies and Media Studies*

Sarina is a BA/MA fourth-year studying International Studies and Media Studies, with minors in Spanish and Leadership Studies. She grew up hearing her parents' immigration stories to the U.S., and these stories inspired her to continue studying immigration, refugee, and human trafficking issues at DU. Sarina has worked in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor at the U.S. Department of State, as a research assistant at the Pardee Center for International Futures, and hopes to continue researching and working in the field of migration and refugees.



**Lindsey Tryba** | [Lindsey.Tryba@du.edu](mailto:Lindsey.Tryba@du.edu)

*Undergraduate Student, International Studies and Public Policy*

Lindsay is a second-year undergraduate student at DU double majoring in international studies and public policy and double minoring in leadership studies and Spanish. Following graduation, she hopes to obtain her Masters of Arts in International Security and pursue a career working to promote human security for the US government abroad.



**Alison Turner** | [Alison.nmn.turner@gmail.com](mailto:Alison.nmn.turner@gmail.com)

*PhD Student, Literary Studies*

Allison grew up in the mountains of Colorado and loves to spend large amounts of time outside. Allison completed an MA in Comparative Literature from the University of Alberta, and she is currently interested in immigrant literature depicting manual labor.



**Manda Wittebort** | [Manda.Wittebort@du.edu](mailto:Manda.Wittebort@du.edu)

*Graduate Student, Higher Education & Program Assistant, International School & Scholar Services*

Manda believes that we, as humans, are all searching for, and deserve, a sense of purpose and belonging. Manda has lived in different states and communities alongside passionate youth and change-makers. She hopes to pursue a career in higher education's community engagement field, in order to support students and surrounding communities in living meaningful lives, as part of one global community.