ERIKA ARIAS

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Social researcher, reproductive rights advocate, and tech enthusiast who is passionate about the design and development of tools aimed at supporting meaningful interactions and the health and social needs of marginalized communities.

EDUCATION

MS, Information | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor | Expected in May 2025
- **Areas of Focus:** Big Data Analytics and User-Centered Agile Development

PhD, Sociology | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor | Expected in May 2026
- **Specialization:** Social Demography
- **Research Interests:** Online dating markets and relationship formation; social media for marginalized users; FemTech; reproductive intentions and voluntary childlessness; intimate partner violence prevention

BA, Psychology | California State University, Fullerton | January 2016

RELEVANT WORK & PROJECTS

User Experience (UX) Research Intern   **May 2023 – Present**
School of Nursing at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- I am currently working with a team of research scientists and software developers to use the ARCHES (Addressing Reproductive Coercion in Health Settings) intervention to create a digital health tool aimed at reducing intimate partner violence and reproductive coercion.
- I will be conducting user interviews with patients, healthcare providers, and topical experts to improve the design, quality and acceptability of content, and overall functionality of the app.

Graduate Student Researcher   **August 2021 – Present**
Population Studies Center at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- I am currently using population representative data to measure the change in the proportion of voluntarily childless people in the U.S. over time and sociodemographic predictors of voluntary childlessness. This project will additionally examine reciprocal relationships between fertility intentions, health, and relationship experiences.

Research Assistant   **November 2021 – January 2022**
Injury Prevention Center at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- I reviewed interview transcripts and compiled a list of quotes and themes that were used to visually represent transmasculine experiences in a health education comic book on transmasculine binding experiences.
- I also reviewed interview transcripts from first-year undergraduate students on their perceptions of online-based sexual assault prevention programs and assisted with using the findings to design and adapt an online sexual assault prevention program.

Research Assistant   **October 2019 – Sept. 2021**
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- Disaggregated survey data to analyze patterns of social change and family formation over time and assisted with preparing research papers for publication.

Research Associate   **April 2020 – July 2020**
Laura Carroll, Nonfiction Author & Expert on the Childfree Choice
- Analyzed qualitative data using NVivo software for a longitudinal study on childfree women.

Front Office Lead   **March 2018 – May 2019**
Cortica Healthcare Inc., Irvine CA
- Oversaw the front office patient-facing team and scheduled all medical appointments.

Clinical Research Associate   **April 2016 – February 2018**
Sovereign Health Group, San Clemente CA
- Analyzed patient surveys, performed data entry, and managed data spreadsheets to track patient progress.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Survey Tools:** Qualtrics, Survey Monkey
- **Web Development Tools:** HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript
- **Statistical Software:** Stata, Python, R, Excel
- **Qualitative Analysis software:** NVivo
- **Editing Software:** Adobe XD, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Audition, Audacity
- **UX Research Methods:** User and stakeholder interviews, survey design and analysis, heuristic evaluations, comparative analyses, A/B testing and experimental design, usability testing
- **Team Leadership:** Project management, collaborating with diverse teams, research communication
- **Languages**: English and Spanish