

# School of Social Work Presents:

## *“Beyond Safety and Permanency: Assessing Flourishing Among Systems-Involved Children & Families”*

A Colloquium by

**Amanda Cruce, MSW**

PhD candidate in Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh and  
MSW from the University of Texas at Arlington

Assistant/Associate Professor Candidate

Amanda Cruce, MSW, is a clinician–researcher with more than 20 years of experience in medical social work and mental health therapy. A foster and adoptive parent and national foster parent leader, she centers lived experience in all phases of her work. Amanda is a PhD candidate in Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh (expected April 2026) and holds an MSW from the University of Texas at Arlington (2005). Her research program blends community-based participatory research, human-centered design, and implementation science with quantitative work (longitudinal, psychometric validation, and linked administrative/EHR data) to advance behavioral health equity for youth and families, with a focus on flourishing for minority populations. An experienced educator, she has taught at all levels of social work and in public health programs and mentors students in a student-centered, trauma-informed way grounded in professional ethics and evidence-based practice. Across scholarship, teaching, and service, Amanda’s throughline is translating evidence into practical tools and policy that improve access, engagement, and outcomes in real-world systems.

Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

3:00-4:00pm

MHC 1442

[MS Teams Link](#)



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