

LINDA THERON



Profile

Linda Theron, D.Ed., is an educational psychologist by profession (HPCSA registration: PS0063622).

She is a full professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, University of Pretoria, South Africa, and an extraordinary professor in Optentia Research Focus Area, North-West University, South Africa. She has a clinical and research interest in child and adolescent resilience.

Website: Lindatheron.org

Academic CV Summary

South African National Research Foundation rating	Internationally acclaimed researcher (B1; 2023-2028)
Number of publications (since 2004; excluding in press)	150+
Keynotes & plenary papers	18
Invited conference symposia, papers & workshops	30+
Other national & international conference papers	90
Completed doctoral students	18
Completed master's students	44
Current research grant leadership (Principal investigator)	▪ Protecting African youth who are NEET against depression [Wellcome-funded discovery grant; 2024-2029]
Current action associate editorships	▪ <i>Journal of Adolescent Research</i> ▪ <i>Adversity and Resilience Science</i>
H-Index:	▪ 50 (Google Scholar) ▪ 29 (Web of Science) ▪ 29 (Scopus)
ASSAf member	

DETAILED RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Peer-reviewed Journal Publications

2025

1. Bredekamp, J., & **Theron, L.** (2025). The benefits of sharing house-tree-fire-water-person drawings with parents when their anxious child is in sandplay therapy. *Psychology and Psychotherapy: Theory, Research and Practice*, 98(3), 701-725. <https://doi.org/10.1111/papt.12586>
2. Gaxo, E., Salie, M., Bloom, J., Lachman, A., Davids, E. L., **Theron, L.**, Pillay, J., ... & Seedat, S. (2025). COVID-19 pandemic stress and anxiety among South African parents and their children. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 34, 932-945. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-025-03050-x>
3. **Theron, L.**, Bergamini, M., Chambers, C., Choi, K., Fawole, O. I., Fyneface, D., ... & Ungar, M. (2025). Multisystemic resilience and its impact on youth mental health: Reflections on codesigning a multi-disciplinary, participatory study. *Frontiers in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 4, 1489950. <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/child-and-adolescent-psychiatry/articles/10.3389/frch.2025.1489950/full>
4. **Theron, L.C.**, Cockcroft, K., N. Annalakshmi, N., Rodgers, J. G., Akinduyo, T. E., & Fouché, A. (2025). Emerging adult resilience to the early stages of the COVID-Pandemic: A systematic scoping review. *Child Psychiatry & Human Development*, 56, 793-808. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10578-023-01585-y>
5. **Theron, L.**, Stekel, D.J., Höltge, J., Fawole, O.I., Levine, D.T., Mai Bornu, Z., Maksudi, K., Olaniyan, O., Wright, C.Y., & Ungar, M. (2025). Factors that affect the resilience of young adults to depression: a systematic review. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 12(5), 377 - 383. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366\(25\)00044-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(25)00044-6)
6. **Theron, L.C.**, & Van Breda, A. D. (2025). The multisystemic roots of South African child and youth resilience: A scoping review. *PLoS ONE*, 20(11), e0336716. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0336716>
7. Wright, C. Y., Norval, M., Bulani, M., Naidoo, N., Coovadia, A., & **Theron, L.** (2025). The impact of rising ambient temperatures on the mental and physical health of children. *Hygiene and Environmental Health Advances*, 15, 100137. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heha.2025.100137>

2024

8. Akinduyo, T. E., & **Theron, L.C.** (2024). Factors contributing to the resilience of African widows: A scoping review. *OMEGA – Journal of Death and Dying*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0030222824125285>
9. Cockcroft, K., Fouche, A., Greyling M., Ungar, M., & **Theron, L.C.** (2023). South African emerging adults' capacity for resilience in the face of COVID-19 stressors. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 29(6):522-533. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13591053231208620>
10. Fouche, A., Cockcroft, K., & **Theron, L.** (2024). The Covid-19 resilience journey of vulnerable young South Africans. *Current Psychology*, 43(3), 26701-26711. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-024-06018-0>
11. Goodman, M., **Theron, L.**, McPherson, H., Seidel, S., Raimer-Goodman, L., Munene, K., & Gatwiri, C. (2024). Multisystemic factors predicting street migration of children in Kenya: A multilevel longitudinal study of families and villages. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 154, 106897. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chab.2024.106897>
12. Haffejee, S., **Theron, L.**, & Moretti, M. (2024). Critical reflections on the usefulness of eConnect to a sample of child and youth care workers in South Africa. *Residential Treatment for Children & Youth*, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0886571X.2024.2338761>

13. Levine, D. T., **Theron, L.**, Haffejee, S., & Ungar, M. (2024). Resilience to depression among emerging adults in South Africa: Insights from digital diaries. *Emerging Adulthood*, 12(5), 694-709. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21676968241273319>
14. Ncube, B., **Theron, L.**, & Haffejee, S. (2024). Resilience to structural violence: an exploration of the multisystemic resources that enable youth hope. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 54(3) 331-347. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00812463241266337>
15. **Theron, L.C.**, Levine, D. T., & Haffejee, S. (2024). NEET and resilient: The lived experiences of a sample of South African emerging adults. *International Journal of Psychology*, 59 (6), 911-919. <http://doi.org/10.1002/ijop.13219>
16. Weidman, S., Levine, D. T., Louwagie, F., Blackmore, K., **Theron, L. C.**, & Stekel, D. J. (2023). The role of multisystemic resilience in fostering critical agency: UK adolescents during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Current Psychology*, 43, 16833-16847. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-023-04578-1>
17. Wright, C. Y., Millar, D. A., Kapwata, T., Rodgers, G., Batini, C., & **Theron, L.** (2024). Social-ecological-resilience enablers among youth residing in the air polluted Highveld Priority Area of South Africa. *International Journal of Adolescence and Youth*, 29(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/02673843.2024.2322569>

2023

18. Freeland, L., Haffejee, S., Getanda, E., **Theron, L.**, & Vostanis, P. (2023). Children's perspectives of psychosocial help-seeking in Kenya. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*, 18(2), 207-217. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17450128.2022.2124338>
19. Gama, N., & **Theron, L.** (2023). The resilience of emerging adults in a stressed industrialised environment in Eswatini. *Emerging Adulthood*, 11(5), 1131-1146. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21676968231165815>
20. Goodman, M., **Theron, L.**, Seidel, S., Elliott, A., Raimer-Goodman, L., Keiser, P., Gitari, S., & Gatwiri, C. (2023). Flourishing communities: A new model to promote sustainable community leadership and transformation in semi-rural Kenya. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 33(3), 756- 772. <https://doi.org/10.1002/casp.2665>
21. Somefun, O. D., **Theron, L.**, Höltge, J., & Ungar, M. Resilience to depression: The role of benevolent childhood experiences in a South African sample. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14, 1209504. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1209504>
22. Somefun, O., **Theron, L.**, & Ungar, M. (2023). The association between family adversity and youth mental health outcomes. *Journal of Adolescence*, 95(7), 1333-1347. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jad.12205>
23. **Theron, L.C.** (2023). Resilience of sub-Saharan children and adolescents: A scoping review. *Transcultural Psychiatry*, 60(6) 1017-1039. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1363461520938916>
24. **Theron, L.**, Höltge, J., & Ungar, M. (2023). Multisystemic supports and adolescent resilience to depression over time: A South African mixed methods study. *Development and Psychopathology*, 35, 2365-2383. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579423000494>
25. **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M., Cockcroft, K., & Fouché, A. (2023). Multisystemic resources matter for resilience to depression: Learning from a sample of young South African adults. *Qualitative Health Research*, 33(10), 828-841. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10497323231182906>
26. **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M., & Höltge, J. (2023). Student resilience to COVID-19-related school disruptions: The value of historic school engagement. *School Psychology International*, 44(2), 190-213. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01430343221138785>
27. Ungar, M., **Theron, L.**, & Höltge, J. (2023). Multisystemic approaches to researching young people's resilience: Discovering culturally and contextually sensitive accounts of thriving under adversity. *Development & Psychopathology*, 35, 2199-2213 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579423000469>

28. Wakefield, S. E., & **Theron, L.** (2023). Exploring adolescent resilience during COVID-19 in a South African Township context. *National Youth Advocacy and Resilience Journal*, 6(2). <https://doi.org/10.20429/nyarj.2023.060203>

2022

29. Cameranesi, M., **Theron, L.**, Höltge, J., Jefferies, P., & Ungar, M. (2022). Understanding the mechanisms through which family risk affects adolescent mental health: A model of multisystemic resilience in context. *Children*, 9, 546. <https://doi.org/10.3390/children9040546>

30. Haffejee, S., **Theron, L.**, Hassan, S., & Vostanis, P. (2022). Juxtaposing disadvantaged children's insights on psychosocial help-seeking with those of service providers: Lessons from South Africa and Pakistan. *Child & Youth Services*, 1-25. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0145935X.2022.2101445>

31. Höltge, J., **Theron, L.**, & Ungar, M. (2022). A multisystemic perspective on the temporal interplay between adolescent depression and resilience-supporting individual and social resources. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 297, 225—232. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2021.10.030>

32. Levine, D., & **Theron, L.** (2022). Digital storytelling with South African youth: A critical reflection. *Qualitative Research Journal*, 22(4), 528—547. <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/QRJ-03-2022-0037/full/html>

33. Rother, H., Etzel, R. A., Shelton, M., Paulson, J. A., Hayward, R. A., & **Theron, L.C.** (2021). Impact of extreme weather events on Sub-Saharan African child and adolescent mental health: The implications of a systematic review of sparse research findings. *The Journal of Climate Change and Health*, 5, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joclim.2021.100087>

34. **Theron, L. C.**, Abreu-Villaça, Y., Augusto-Oliveira, M., Brennan, C. H., Crespo-Lopez, M. E., de Paula Arrifano, G., ... & Hadfield, K. (2022). A systematic review of the mental health risks and resilience among pollution-exposed adolescents. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, 146, 55—66. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2021.12.012>

35. **Theron, L. C.**, Levine, D. T., & Ungar, M. (2022). The inhibitors and enablers of emerging adult COVID-19 mitigation compliance in a township context. *South African Journal of Science*, 118(5-6), 1-8. <http://dx.doi.org/10.17159/sajs.2022/13173>

36. **Theron, L.C.**, Murphy, K., & Ungar, M. (2022). Multisystemic resilience: Learning from youth in stressed environments. *Youth & Society*, 54(6), 1000-1022. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X211017335>

37. **Theron, L.**, Rothmann, S., Höltge, J., & Ungar, M. (2022). Differential adaptation to adversity: A latent profile analysis of youth engagement with resilience-enabling cultural resources and mental health outcomes in a stressed Canadian and South African community. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 53(3-4) 403–425. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/00220221221077353>

38. **Theron, L.**, Rothmann, S., Makhnach, A., & Ungar, M. (2022). Adolescent mental health resilience and combinations of caregiver monitoring and warmth: A person-centred perspective. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 31, 2860–2870. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-022-02287-0>

39. **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M., & Höltge, J. (2022). Pathways of resilience: Predicting school engagement trajectories for South African adolescents living in a stressed environment. *Contemporary Educational Psychology*, 69, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cedpsych.2022.102062>

40. Wright, C. Y., Wernecke, B., Kapwata, T., Kunene, Z., Mathee, A., Vande Hey, J., & **Theron, L.** (2022). Perceptions of thermal comfort and coping mechanisms related to indoor and outdoor temperatures among participants living in rural villages in Limpopo province, South Africa. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 52(4), 449-459. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00812463221129363>

2021

41. Höltge, J., **Theron, L.**, Cowden, R.G., Govender, K., A., van Rensburg, & Ungar, M. (2021). Exploring the interrelations between systems of support in 13- to 18-year-old adolescents: A network analysis

of resilience promoting systems in a high and middle-income country. *Child Development*, 92(2), 586-599. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.13483>

42. Höltge, J., **Theron, L.**, Cowden, R.G., Govender, K., Maximo, S., Carranza, J.S., Kapoor, B., Tomar, A., van Rensburg, A., Lu, S., Hu, H., Cavioni, V., Agliati, A., Grazzani, I., Smedema, Y., Kaur, G., Hurlington, K.G., Sanders, J., Munford, R., Colomeischi, A., Panter-Brick, C., Sarathamani, S., Boratne, A.V., Avudaiappan, S., Patil, R., Borualogo, I., Katisi, M., Jefferies, P., & Ungar, M. (2021). A cross-country network analysis of adolescent resilience. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 68, 580—588. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2020.07.010>

43. Höltge, J., **Theron, L.**, Jefferies, P., & Ungar, M. (2021). Family resilience in a resource-cursed community dependent on the oil and gas industry. *Family Process*, 60(4), 1453-1469. <https://doi.org/10.1111/famp.12641>

44. Höltge, J., Ungar, M., & **Theron, L.** (2021). The differential interplay of home routines and comforting beliefs on adolescent mental health in situations of severe parental conflict. *Adversity and Resilience Science*, 2, 5-17. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42844-021-00029-7>

45. Mahdiani, H., Höltge, J., **Theron, L.**, & Ungar, M. (2021). Resilience in times of economic boom and bust: A narrative study of a rural population dependent upon the oil and gas industry. *Journal of Adult Development*, 28, 149-161. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10804-020-09363-z>

46. Murphy, K., Strand, L., **Theron, L.**, & Ungar, M. (2021). "I just gotta have tough skin": Women's experiences working in the oil and gas industry in Canada. *The Extractive Industries and Society*, 8 (2), 100882. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exis.2021.02.002>

47. **Theron, L. C.**, Abreu-Villaça, Y., Augusto-Oliveira, M., Brennan, C. H., Crespo-Lopez, M. E., de Paula Arifano, G., ... & Hadfield, K. (2021). Effects of pollution on adolescent mental health: A systematic review protocol. *Systematic Reviews*, 10(1), 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13643-021-01639-z>

48. **Theron, L.C.**, Levine, D., & Ungar, M. (2021). African emerging adult resilience: Insights from a sample of township youth. *Emerging Adulthood*, 9(4) 360-371. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2167696820940077>

49. **Theron, L.**, Levine, D., & Ungar, M. (2021). Resilience to COVID-19-related stressors: Insights from emerging adults in a South African township. *Plos One*, 16(12), e0260613. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0260613>

50. **Theron, L.C.**, & Van Breda, A. (2021). Multisystemic enablers of sub-Saharan child and youth resilience to maltreatment. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 119(2), 1—11. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chabu.2021.105083>

51. Ungar, M., **Theron, L.**, Murphy, K., & Jefferies, P. (2021). Researching multisystemic resilience: A sample methodology. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 3808. <https://doi/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.607994>

2020

52. Bemath, N., Cockroft, K., & **Theron, L.C.** (2020). Working memory and psychological resilience in South African emerging adults. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 50(4) 493–506. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0081246320920868>

53. Fouché, A., Fouché, F.D., & **Theron, L.C.** (2020). Child protection and resilience in the face of COVID-19 in South Africa: A rapid review of C-19 legislation. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 110, 104710. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chabu.2020.104710>

54. Hadfield, K., Ungar, M., Emond, A., Foster, K., Gatt, J. M., Mason-Jones, A., Reid, S., **Theron, L.**, Woulde, T. A., & Wu, Q. (2018). Challenges of developing and conducting an international study of resilience in migrant adolescents. *International Social Work*, 63(2), 232-237. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020872818796147>

55. Hart, A., Biggs, S., Scott-Bottoms, S., Buttery, L., Dennis, S., Duncan, S., Ebersöhn, L., Flegg, M., Kelso, C., Khaile, N.M., Mampane, M.R., Mampane, N.S., Nash, D., Ngoma, R., & **Theron, L.C.** (2020). Negotiating leadership in interdisciplinary co-productive research: A case study of an international community-based project between collaborators from South Africa and the United

Kingdom. SAGE Open, 10(4), https://econpapers.repec.org/article/saesagope/v_3a10_3ay_3a2020_3ai_3a4_3ap_3a2158244020971598.htm

56. Rother, H., Etzel, R. A., Shelton, M., Paulson, J. A., Hayward, R. A., & **Theron, L.C.** (2020). Impact of extreme weather events on Sub-Saharan African child and adolescent mental health: A protocol for a systematic review. *Atmosphere*, 11, 493; <https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4433/11/5/493>

57. **Theron, L.C.** (2020). Adolescent versus adult explanations of resilience enablers: A South African study. *Youth & Society*, 52(1) 78–98. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0044118X17731032>

58. **Theron, L.C.**, Mampane, M.R., Ebersohn, L., & Hart, A. (2020). Youth resilience to drought: Learning from a group of South African adolescents. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(21), 7896. <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/17/21/7896>

59. **Theron, L.C.** & van Rensburg, A. (2020). Parent-figures and adolescent resilience: An African perspective. *International Journal of School & Educational Psychology*, 8(2), 90-103. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21683603.2019.1657994>

60. Twum-Antwi, A., Jefferies, P., **Theron, L.**, Schnurr, M., & Ungar, M. (2020). Young people's perceptions of identities in a rural oil and gas town experiencing boom-bust economic cycles. *Journal of Applied Youth Studies*, 3, 275–292. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43151-020-00020-6>

61. Ungar, M., & **Theron, L.** (2020). Resilience and mental health: How multisystemic processes contribute to positive outcomes. *Lancet Psychiatry*, 7, 441–48. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366\(19\)30434-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(19)30434-1)

62. Ungar, M., McRuer, J., Liu, X., **Theron, L.**, Blais, D., & Schnurr, M.A. (2020). Social-ecological resilience through a biocultural lens: A participatory methodology to support global targets and local priorities. *Ecology and Society*, 25(3), 8. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-11621-250308>

2019

63. Gatt, J., Alexander, R., Emond, A., Foster, K., Hadfield, K., Mason-Jones, A.J., Reid, S., **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M., Woudles, T., & Wu, Q. (2019). Trauma, resilience and mental health in migrant and non-migrant youth: An international cross-sectional study across six countries. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 10, 997. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00997>

64. Govender, K., Bhana, A., McMurray, K., Kelly, J., **Theron, L.**, Meyer-Weitz, A., ... & Tomlinson, M. (2019). A systematic review of the South African work on the well-being of young people (2000–2016). *South African Journal of Psychology*, 49(1), 52-69. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0081246318757932>

65. Haffejee, S. & **Theron, L.C.** (2019). "The power of me": The role of agency in the resilience processes of adolescent African girls who have been sexually abused. *Journal of Adolescent Research*, 34(6), 683–712. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0743558419833332>

66. **Theron, L.C.** (2019). Championing the resilience of sub-Saharan adolescents: Pointers for psychologists. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 49(3), 325–336. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0081246318801749>

67. Ungar, M., Connelly, G., Liebenberg, L., & **Theron, L.** (2019). How schools enhance the development of young people's resilience. *Social Indicators Research*, 145, 615–627. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-017-1728-8>

68. Van Rensburg, A. C., **Theron, L.C.**, & Ungar, M. (2019). Using the CYRM-28 with South African young people: A factor structure analysis. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 29(1), 93-102. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049731517710326>

2018

69. Bezuidenhout, C., **Theron, L.C.**, & Fritz, E. (2018). Positive adjustment to first grade despite divorce: Lessons for school psychologists. *School Psychology International*, 39(5), 490-509. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0143034318791332>

70. Jefferis, T., & **Theron, L.C.** (2018). Explanations of resilience in women and girls: How applicable to black South African girls. *Womens Studies International Forum*, 69, 195-211. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wsif.2018.03.006>

71. Haffejee, S., & **Theron, L.C.** (2018). Visual methods in resilience research: Reflections on its utility. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 19(1), 20-43. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14780887.2018.1545063>

72. Pretorius, T., & **Theron, L.** (2018). 'A pillar of strength': Empowering women and the resilience of township-dwelling adolescents. *Young*, 27(4), 373-394. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1103308818795081>

73. **Theron, L.C.**, & Van Rensburg, A. (2018). Learning from school-attending adolescents living in conditions of structural inequality. *Journal of Adolescence*, 67, 167-178. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2018.06.012>

74. Truter, E., **Theron, L.C.**, & Fouché, A. (2018). No strangers to adversity: Resilience-promoting practices among South African women child protection social workers. *Qualitative Social Work*, 17(5), 712-731. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325016688370>

75. Van Breda, A. D., & **Theron, L.C.** (2018). A critical review of South African child and youth resilience studies, 2009-2017. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 91, 237-247. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2018.06.022>

76. Van Rensburg, A., **Theron, L.C.**, & Rothmann, S. (2018). Adolescent perceptions of resilience-promoting resources: The South African Pathways to Resilience Study. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 48(1), 73-85. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0081246317700757>

77. Wu, Q., Ge, T., Emond, A., Foster, K., Gatt, J.M., Hadfield, K., Mason-Jones, A., Reid, S., **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M., & Woulde, T.A. (2018). Acculturation, resilience, and the mental health of migrant youth: A cross-country comparative study. *Public Health*, 162, 63-70. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhe.2018.05.006>

2017

78. Haffejee, S., & **Theron, L.C.** (2017). Resilience processes in sexually abused adolescent girls: A scoping review of the literature. *South African Journal of Science*, 113(9/10), 1-9. <http://dx.doi.org/10.17159/sajs.2017/20160318>

79. Jefferis, T., & **Theron, L.C.** (2017). Promoting resilience among Sesotho-speaking adolescent girls: Lessons for South African teachers. *South African Journal of Education*, 37(3), 1-13. <https://hdl.handle.net/10520/EJC-9d2678fb9>

80. Schwartz, K.D., **Theron, L.C.**, & Scales, P.C. (2017). Seeking and finding positive youth development among Zulu youth in South African townships. *Child Development*, 88(4), 1079-1086. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12869>

81. **Theron, L.C.**, Cockroft, K., & Wood, L. (2017). The resilience-enabling value of African folktales: The Read-Me-to-Resilience Intervention. *School Psychology International*, 38(5), 491-506. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0143034317719941>

82. Truter, E., Fouché, A., & **Theron, L.C.** (2017). The resilience of child protection social workers: Are they at risk and if so, how do they adjust? A systematic meta-synthesis. *British Journal of Social Work*, 47(3), 846-863. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcw048>

2016

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2. **Theron, L.C.**, Mitchell, C., Stuart, J., & Smith, A. (Eds.). (2011). *Picturing research: Drawings as visual methodology*. Rotterdam, the Netherlands: Sense Publishers.

Research Reports

1. Harley, K., de Lange, N., Donald, D., Mitchell, C., Moletsane R., Stuart, J., **Theron, L.**, Welch, T., & Wood, L. (2009). *Piloting of HIV module in teacher education faculties in the higher education institutions in South Africa*. HEAIDS.
2. Guoxiu, T., Restrepo Henao, A., **Theron, L.**, & Vanderplaat, M. (2015)¹. *Pathways to resilience: Formal service and informal support use patterns among youth in challenging social ecologies*. Final technical report, IDRC. Retrieved from <http://idl-bnc.idrc.ca/dspace/handle/10625/53853>
3. **Theron, L.C.**, Redelinghuys, K., & Khaile, M. N. (2019). 2017-2018 RYSE results and recommended pathways for social investment initiatives. Available at www.ryseproject.org

Professorial Inaugural Lecture

Theron, L.C. (2011). Vulnerable, but invincible? Ecosystemic pathways to South African youths' resilience. NWU.

<https://repository.nwu.ac.za/bitstream/handle/10394/8039/Prof%20Theron.pdf?sequence=1>

Invited Presentations

[completed]

Invited keynotes and plenary addresses

1. **Theron, L.C.** (2025, October). Resilience to depression is not a DIY job. Invited plenary paper presented at the 2nd South African Mental Health Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa
2. **Theron, L.C.** (2024, November). *Global crises & youth mental health: Multisystemic resilience as a pathway forward*. Invited keynote presented at XIII Brazilian Congress of Developmental Psychology, Fortaleza, Brazil.
3. **Theron, L.C.** (2024, October). *Multisystemic resilience: The foundation of youth wellbeing in sub-Saharan Africa*. Invited keynote presented at the 1st Regional ISQOLS Conference – Africa. Irene, South Africa.
4. **Theron, L.C.** (2023, May). *Resilience to child maltreatment: What are the differentially impactful protective mechanisms?* Invited keynote presented at The Third Haruv International Conference: Child Maltreatment in Context, Jerusalem, Israel.
5. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, October). *Everyday resilience: Fact or fiction for young people in significantly stressed African ecologies?* Invited keynote presented at the Centre for Resilient and Inclusive Societies (CRIS) International Conference: Understanding Everyday Resilience, Melbourne, Australia (Virtual presentation).
6. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, September). *Reimagining student resilience: A multisystemic approach to positive adaptation*. Invited keynote presented at the South African Association for Counselling and Development in Higher Education (SAACHDE) Conference, 2021, Bloemfontein, South Africa (Virtual presentation).
7. **Theron, L.C.** (2020, March). *Resilience pathways to health and wellbeing: Learning from African young people*. Invited plenary address presented at 2020 Resilience Conference: Equity in Gender, Health & Water. Hamilton, Canada.
8. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, August). *Towards human flourishing-under-stress: What can psychologists learn from innovations in resilience theory and practice?* Invited keynote presented at (new Zealand Psychological Society (NZPsS) Annual Conference, Rotorua, New Zealand.
9. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, March). *Innovations in the theory and practice of psychological resilience*. Invited keynote presented at Interrogating Resilience in Different Contexts; Resilience Think Tank co-hosted by African Climate and Development Initiative and the Centre for Complex Systems in Transition, Cape Town, South Africa.
10. **Theron, L.C.** (2018, August). *From vulnerability to resilience*. Invited keynote presented at the 1st International Child Protection Conference, Nairobi, Kenya.
11. **Theron, L.C.** (2018, April). *Adolescent pathways of resilience*. Invited keynote presented at the 1st African Positive Psychology Conference, Potchefstroom, South Africa.
12. **Theron, L.C.** (2017, November). *What can South African adolescents teach service providers about championing youth resilience?* Invited keynote presented at the 5th Annual Street Child Consortium Research Conference, London, UK.
13. **Theron, L.C.** (2017, September). *In search of resilience in adolescence*. Invited keynote presented at the 19th Congress of the South African Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
14. Ungar, M., & **Theron, L.C.** (2017, June). *Innovations in Resilience*. Keynote presented at the Pathways to Resilience Conference IV, Cape Town, South Africa.
15. **Theron, L.C.** (2016, August). *African pathways of resilience: What do culture and context have to do with beating the odds?* Invited plenary address, 3rd World Congress of Resilience, Trois-Rivières, Quebec, Canada.

16. **Theron, L.C.**, Bhana, A., Bottrell, D., Hart, A., McCubbin, L., Mphande, C., & Reid, S. (2015, June). Case studies of "waithood" and resilience-supporting responses from African and other inequitable contexts. Invited concurrent plenary panel, Pathways to Resilience III: Beyond Nature vs. Nurture, Resilience Research Centre, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada.
17. **Theron, L.C.** (2011, April). South African youth are not wimps. Invited plenary address at the SA Positive Social Sciences Symposium 2011: Optimising Individual, Social and Institutional Potential, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.
18. **Theron, L.C.** (2011, September). *Positive adaptation to poverty: Black South African students' tales of resilience*. Invited plenary address, Third International Conference on Coping with Stress: Resilience and Engagement, Pretoria, South Africa.

Invited symposium, panel, or individual papers

1. **Theron, L.C.** (2025, June). Resilience and mental health: Learning from South African youth in stressed communities. Invited address, delivered at Weathering the Storm: Climate and Mental Health Resilience in South Africa - A Global Mental Health Seminar, University of Leicester, DClinPsy (Virtual presentation)
2. **Theron, L.C.** (2024, September). Resilience building for learners. Invited address, delivered at South African Principals Association 2024 National Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa
3. **Theron, L.C.** (2022, June). *The biopsychosocial-ecological enablers of youth resilience in the context of South Africa*. Invited paper, Panel 1, presented at Why social ecologies matter: Thinking about conflict-related sexual violence and transitional justice through a resilience lens, Birmingham University (Virtual presentation).
4. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, October). Multisystemic pathways of resilience: Insights from Africa. Invited address presented at the 4th International Research and Practice Conference, The Herzen University Conference on Psychology in Education, St. Petersburg, Russia (Virtual presentation).
5. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, June). Child and adolescent resilience in a digital world: Lessons from Africa. Invited plenary paper presented at International Psychological Forum (Virtual).
6. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, September). Beating the odds of being an adolescent in Africa: Propositions for psychology. Invited address presented at PsySSA 25th Anniversary Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa.
7. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, July). *Resilient youth in stressed SA environments*. Invited paper presented at The Global Challenge of Urbanisation and Mental Health symposium. Queen Mary University of London, London, UK.
8. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, March). *Environmental challenges and positive adolescent health/wellbeing outcomes*. In K. Thornber (Chair), Medical humanities perspectives on young people and health in sub-Saharan Africa. Invited plenary panel paper presented at Africa-Asia Partnerships in Health and Healthcare Delivery for Women and Youth, Johannesburg, South Africa.
9. **Theron, L.C.** (2016, March). "I know how to handle my problems in life because of school and teachers" -- Mobile SA young people's perspectives on how education is protective. Invited World Education Research Association symposium paper, 25th Congress of the German Educational Research Association (GERA/ DGfE), Kassel, Germany.
10. **Theron, L.C.** (Chair) (2012, July). *Promoting resilience processes for youth with complex needs: Cross-cultural experiences of service use*. Invited symposium, IACCP 21st International Congress, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
11. **Theron, L.C.** (Chair) (2012, July). *Pathways to resilience: Lessons of positive adaptation from a five-country study*. Invited symposium, 30th International Congress of Psychology, Cape Town, South Africa

Invited guest/public lectures

1. **Theron, L. C.** (2024, August 2). A multisystemic approach to human resilience: Implications for research and practice. Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, School of Psychology, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.
2. **Theron, L.C.** (2023, September 11). Promoting resilience. The Summer School in Positive Psychology, Università di Bologna, Italy.
3. **Theron, L.C.** (2023, June 6). *Youth resilience to structural violence is not a DIY job.* 2023 Loren Leclezio Lecture, UCT, Cape Town, South Africa.
4. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, October 19). *The power (and pitfalls) of human resilience.* Invited lecture, Pretoria High School for Girls, Pretoria, South Africa.
5. **Theron, L.C.** & Ungar, M. (2019, February 28). *Resilience in youth.* Invited public lecture, Leicester Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Leicester, UK.
6. **Theron, L.C.** (2014, February). *Stories of South African youth: Doing well in challenging contexts.* Invited public lecture, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.
7. **Theron, L.C.** (2012, September). *Researching resilience: Methodological and theoretical reflections.* Invited guest lecture, School of Psychology of Education, Unisa, Pretoria, South Africa.
8. **Theron, L.C.** (2011, November). Vulnerable, but invincible? Ecosystemic pathways to South African youths' resilience. Professorial Inaugural Lecture, Faculty of Humanities, North-West University, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.

Invited workshops/seminars

1. **Theron, L.C.** (2023, August 23). Youth resilience: It takes a village and then some. Invited speaker, Engaged Scholarship Seminar, UFS, Qwaqwa Campus
2. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, October 20). Championing resilience: Pointers for social workers. Invited workshop facilitated for Centurion Social Work Forum, Pretoria, South Africa.
3. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, July 27). Championing youth resilience: Pointers for child and adolescent mental health professionals. Invited workshop facilitated for 21st Congress of the South African Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (Virtual).
4. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, August 4, 10, 18 & September 1). Bouncing back? Bouncing forward? Tips for co-facilitating learner resilience. Care & Support Services, Department of Basic Education.
5. **Theron, L.C.** (2020, July 10). Leveraging resilience theory to support clients to beat (or change) the odds. Invited workshop facilitated for Centurion Psychology Forum, Pretoria, South Africa.
6. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, August 28). Supporting clients to beat (or change) the odds. Invited workshop facilitated for New Zealand Psychological Society, Rotorua, New Zealand.
7. **Theron, L.C.** (2019, February 27). 'Stop calling me resilient!' Invited workshop for researchers and educators facilitated for Leicester Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Leicester, UK.
8. **Theron, L.C.**, & Liebenberg, L. (2015, June). *Arts-based approaches to understanding youth resilience in culturally sensitive ways.* Invited conference workshop, Pathways to Resilience III: Beyond Nature vs. Nurture, Resilience Research Centre, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada.
9. **Theron, L.C.** (2014, January). *Researching resilience: Drawing as visual methodology.* Invited workshop, University of Helsinki, Finland.
10. **Theron, L.C.** (2014, February). *Research with young people: Dealing with cultural differences.* Invited workshop, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

Invited webinars

1. Levine, D.T. & **Theron, L.C.** (2024, May 14). Research reflections. Invited speakers, Leicester Institute for Advanced Studies.
2. **Theron, L.C.** (2024, April 27). Multisystemic resilience: A brief introduction for mental health counsellors. Invited speaker, SADAG Counsellor Webinar.
3. **Theron, L.C.** (2023, March 16). Resource composites matter for resilience. Invited address, Resilience Research and Practice Community, University of Calgary.
4. **Theron, L.C.** (2022, March 3). Resilience: A multisystemic, contextually responsive process. Invited address, School of Psychology Research Seminar Series , Trinity College Dublin.
5. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, May 27). Resilience & Student Mental Health. Invited paper presented at PsySSA webinar on student mental health.
6. **Theron, L.C.** (2021, April 22). Multisystemic resilience: Learning from African and Canadian youth. Invited address, Resilio (the international association for the promotion and dissemination of research on resilience).
7. **Theron, L.C.** (2020, October 28). Multisystemic understandings of human resilience: Lessons from Africa. Invited webinar, Positive Psychology Association of Kenya.

Invited podcasts

1. **Theron, L.C.** (2020, May 20). Championing child and adolescent resilience to COVID-19. Invited podcast, Psychological Society of South Africa.

Media brief/interviews

2022

1. <https://www.enca.com/analysis/young-people-have-grit-need-services-support-study>
2. https://www.up.ac.za/news/post_3075510-the-mental-health-of-youth-is-sustained-by-the-people-places-and-spaces-around-them-up-dalhousie-resilience-study-finds

Research Grants & Incentive Funding

Current Grants

Campostrini, S (co-ordinator), with co-applicants: Alves, A.L., Aunan, K., Bertarelli, G., Blesic, S., Chaher, E., Gligoric, N., Kapwata, T., Kopsinis, I., Maia, C., Palmer, J., Quinn, P., Samaniego, L., San Martin, D., Selhorst, T., **Theron, L.**, Urosevic, V., Valencak, T., Van Langevelde, F., & Wright, C. (Start date: 1 December 2023). *Translating science to policy and practice: A multisectoral approach to mitigation of adverse effects of vector-borne diseases and environmental pollution on planetary health.* [Short title: Planet4Health]. European Commission. Value: EUR5,925,130.00 over 48 months.

Gittings, L. (Applicant), Kelly, J. (Co-Applicant), Logie, C. (Co-Applicant), Makusha, T. (Collaborator), Malone, S. (Collaborator), Sekgala, D. (Collaborator), **Theron, L.** (Collaborator), & Toska, E. (Collaborator). (2025–2027). *Understanding and promoting the resilience and wellbeing of emerging adult men living with perinatally-acquired HIV in the Eastern Cape, South Africa.* SSHRC Insight Development Grant. Value: CAD \$74,987.00.

Theron, L. (PI), Fawole, O., Levine, D., Mai-Bornu, Z., Olaniyan, L., Stekel, D., Ungar, M., & Wright, C., with collaboration from Choi, K., Höltge, J., Kapwata, T., McGrath, B. & Vande Hey, J. (Start date, February 1, 2024). *Protecting African youth who are NEET against depression: An investigation of differentially impactful, multisystemic resilience enablers.* Wellcome Trust Discovery Award. Value: £4,999,978 over 66 months.

Van Blerk, L. (PI), Bukenya, B., Hunter, J., Jamieson, L., & **Theron, L.** (Start date, October 1, 2023). (2REST) *Responsibilities for resilience embedded in street temporalities: Mapping street youth lived resiliences through analysis of secondary data.* ESRC. £264,900.00 over 24 months.

Completed grants [alphabetically listed]

Hart, A. (PI), **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M, Reid, S., Ebersöhn, L., Kelso, C., Ashworth, P., Madzwamuse, S., Church, A., & Nash, D. (Start date November 1, 2016). *Patterns of resilience among young people in a community affected by drought: Historical and contextual perspectives.* Global Challenges Research Fund. Value: £164,447.68 over 2 years.

Levine, D. (PI), **Theron, L.C.** (Co-PI), Brown, G., & Ungar, M. (Start date, June 25, 2020). *Resilience to COVID-19: Learning from emerging adults in a disadvantaged SA community.* International Research Development Fund: ODA 2019/20. Value: £14,500 over 6 months.

Levine, D. (PI), **Theron, L.C.** (Co-PI), Haffejee, S., & Ungar, M. (Start date, January 3, 2021). *Positive adaptation to compound risk: Learning about mental health resilience from African emerging adults.* British Academy. Value: £50,000 over 36 months.

Mitchell, C. (PI), Moletsane, R. (Co-PI) and co-applicants (including Theron, L.C.). (Start date March 1, 2015). *Girl-led “from the ground up” policy-making: Addressing sexual violence and enabling resilience.* CIHR. Value: R3,000,000 over 5 years.

Moretti, M. (PI), Barone, L., Gallegos, J., Osman, F., Pasalich, D., Pascuzzo, K., Ranahan, P., & **Theron, L.C.** (Start date, September 30, 2020). *Reducing risk and promoting health among vulnerable teens and their families in the context of COVID-19: A multisite national and international implementation and evaluation study.* Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Value: \$199,625 over 12 months.

Theron, L. (PI), Cockroft, K., & Wood, L. (Start date April 1, 2009). *Read-me-to-Resilience.* SANPAD. Value: R600000.00 over three years.

Theron, L. (PI) & Kumpulainen, K. (Co-PI). (Start date April 1, 2013). *Social ecologies of resilience among at-risk children starting school in South Africa and Finland: A visual participatory study.*

National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa/ Finland Research Cooperation Programme. Value (SA-only; Finnish work comparably funded by Finnish NRF): R540000.00 over three years.

Theron, L. (PI) & Levine, D. (Start date September 1, 2018) *Digital pathways of resilience: African young adults' stories of resilience*. Newton Mobility Grant, British Academy. Value: £9,345.00 over 18 months.

Theron, L. (PI), Macknach, A. (Co-PI), Ungar, M., Moletsane, R., Jefferis, T., & Muller, I. (Start date, April 15, 2019). *Adolescent resilience to environmental and socioeconomic challenges: A study of multiple systems*. [Short title: RYSE-RuSA]. National Research Foundation, South Africa (SA) (NRF) / Russia (RFBR) Joint Science and Technology Research Collaboration. Value (SA-only; Russian work comparably funded by RFBR): R895,750.00 over three years.

Theron, L. (PI), Narayanan, A, (Co-PI), Cockcroft, K., Fouche, A., & Ungar, M., (Start date, April 1, 2021). *The multisystemic sources of human resilience to COVID-19-related stress: Learning from emerging adults in India and South Africa*. [Short title: RYSE-InSA]. ICSSR-NIHSS Joint Call for Research Proposals 2021. Value: R299 755.00 over 36 months.

Theron, L. (PI), Strydom, H., Delport, R., & Geyer, S. (Start date April 1, 2005). *Resilient educators (REds)*. NRF Thutuka grant. Value: R671 000.00 over 5 years.

Tobin, M., Batini, C., Wright, C., **Theron, L.**, Ungar, M., Levine, D., Naidoo, R., Marais, E., John, C., Packer, R. (Start date June 1, 2019). *Pilot study: Patterns of resilience among adolescents in Secunda/ eMbalenhle Schools who are exposed to poor air quality*. International Research Development Fund, 2018/2019, GCRF. Value: £25,600 over 6 months.

Ungar, M. [International site Co-PI, Canada], & **Theron, L.C.** [International site Co-PI, South Africa] (Start date April 1, 2009). *Pathways to resilience: Formal service and informal support use patterns among youth in challenging social ecologies*. International Community-University Research Alliance, joint funding from the International Development Research Council of Canada and The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Value \$2,000,000 over 5 years.

Ungar, M. (PI), **Theron, L.** (Co-PI), Cox, R., Burke, S., & Reid, S. (Start date December 1, 2016). *Patterns of resilience among youth in contexts of petrochemical production and consumption in the Global North and Global South* [Short title: RYSE]. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Team Grant Environments and Health. Value: \$2,000,000 over 8 years.

Incentive funding

Theron, L. C. (2012-2015). Faculty grant towards full-time PhD students affiliated to funded projects. Value: R1,320,000.

Theron, L.C. (2011-2016). NRF incentive funding. Value R240,000.00 over 6 years rating cycle.

Theron, L.C. (2017-2022). NRF incentive funding. Value R80,000.00 over first year of rating cycle.

Theron, L.C. (2023-2028). NRF incentive funding. Value R30,000.00

Student Supervision & Postdoctoral Mentorships

PhD students

Completed (n=18)

1. Bredekamp, J. (2025). *The benefits of sharing House-Tree-Fire-Water-Person drawings with parents when their anxious child is in therapy*. [Doctoral thesis, University of Pretoria]. (Supervised: 2021-2024)
2. Gama, B. (2023). *The resilience of emerging adults inhabiting a stressed industrialized environment in Eswatini*. [Doctoral thesis, University of Pretoria]. (Supervised: 2018-2022)
3. Haffejee, S. (2018). *A visual participatory exploration of the resilience processes of black African girls who have been sexually abused*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2015-January 2018)
4. Bezuidenhout, C. (2018). *Positive transitioning to school of resilient grade 1 learners from divorced homes: A participatory visual study*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2015-January 2018)
5. Jefferis, T. C. (2016). *Resilient Sesotho-speaking adolescent girls: A participatory visual study*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2012-January 2016)
6. Van Rensburg, A. (2015). *A social-ecological investigation of African youths' resilience processes*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2013-January 2015)
7. Truter, E. (2014). *South African social workers at risk: Exploring pathways to their resilience*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Co-supervised: January 2012-January 2014)
8. Joubert, C. (2013). *The Read-me-to-Resilience intervention: An exemplar of the resilience-promoting value of providing educators-as-lay-counsellors with ready-made interventions*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2011-November 2013)
9. Fourie, C. L. (2011). *Resilience in the presence of Fragile X syndrome – a multiple case study*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2008-April 2011)
10. Odendaal, I. E. (2010). *Rorschach indicators of resilience in adolescents*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised March 2008-October 2010)
11. Malindi, M. J. (2009). *The antecedents of resilience among street children*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: March 2005-May 2009)
12. Dunn, N. (2008). *When White Afrikaans-speaking adolescents from divorced families function resiliently: An overview of the protective antecedents*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2006-November 2008)
13. Bannister, M. (2007). *An intervention programme to augment resilience in divorced parents*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2004-May 2007)
14. Marx, O. (2006). *An intervention programme for the improvement of academic skills of learners with limited intellectual ability*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2004-November 2006)
15. Lodewyckx, E. (2005). *An invitational teaching strategy for accounting in higher education*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Co-supervised: January 2002-May 2005)
16. Phooko, F. W. (2004). *A school-based support programme for the intermediate learner with depression*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2001-May 2004)
17. Nel, M. (2003). *A story-based language enrichment programme for Grade 4 English second language learners with inadequate English proficiency*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: January 2001-May 2003)

18. Schoeman, E. H. (2003). *The use of medical hypnoanalysis in guiding emotionally vulnerable adolescents towards growth in emotional maturation*. [Doctoral thesis, North-West University]. (Supervised: October 2000-May 2003)

Current

6 current students [detail available on request]

Master's students

Completed

44 completed master's students (2003-2025; all women; a complete list is available on request)

Current

3 current students [detail available on request]

Postdoctoral fellows

Dr Nombuso Gama	2024-2025 (2REST funded)
Dr Oluwaseyi Somefun	2022-2023 (RYSE funded)
Dr Tosin Akinduyo	2022-2023 (UP scholarship)
Dr Catherine Adegoke	2016 (NRF scholarship)
Dr Shlaine L'Etang	2010-2011 (NRF scholarship)
Dr Angelique van Rensburg	2015 (NRF scholarship)

Conference Participation

[completed; chronological listing, excluding invited addresses]

International and African conference participation

1. **Theron, L.**, Matross, C., & Chisanga, C. (2025, November). Nurturing strength and mental wellbeing: Supporting child and adolescent resilience. Symposium presented at the 7th Global Mental Health Summit. Cape Town, South Africa.
2. **Theron, L.**, Hoeltge, J., Somefun, O. D., & Ungar, M. (2023, March 23-25). Protecting South African adolescents against depression: The importance of multisystem resources. Symposium paper presented at SRCD Biennial Meeting, Salt Lake City, USA.
3. Somefun, O. D., **Theron, L.**, & Ungar, M. (2022, September 28-30). The moderating effect of resilience on the association between family adversity and adolescent developmental outcomes in South Africa. Conference paper presented at Resilience 2022, Mainz, Germany.
4. Haffejee, S. & **Theron, L.** (2022, July). Critical reflections on the usefulness of eConnect to a sample of child and youth care workers in South Africa. Symposium paper presented at International Attachment Conference, Lisbon, Portugal.
5. **Theron, L.** & Haffejee, S. (2022, July). Implementation of Connect in South Africa. Pre-conference workshop paper presented at International Attachment Conference, Lisbon, Portugal.
6. **Theron, L.**, Bantebya Kyomuhendo, G., Gulesci, S., Manson, T., Mareschal, I., Hadfield, K. (2022, June). *Child and adolescent refugee wellbeing in Africa: Why are we doing so little?* Symposium paper presented at 26th Biennial Meeting of the ISSBD, Rhodes, Greece.
7. Fouché, A., Fouché, F.D., & **Theron, L.C.** (2020, April). *Child protection and resilience in the face of COVID-19 in South Africa: A rapid review of C-19 legislation.* Paper presented at Society for Research and Child Development Biennial Meeting, Virtual.
8. Hart, A., Khaile, N.M., **Theron, L.C.**, Mampane, M.R., Ebersöhn, L., & Duncan, S. (2018, June). *Developing a co-produced policy briefing with young people on resilience to drought in South Africa.* Paper presented at Fourth World Congress on Resilience, Congrès Marseille, France.
9. Ungar, M. & **Theron, L. C.** (2018, May). *Culturally relevant adaptation of qualitative methods when studying youth resilience in stressed environments.* Paper presented at 16th Qualitative Methods Conference, Banff, Canada.
10. **Theron, L. C.**, Ebersöhn, L., Mampane, M., & Hart, A. (2018, May). *When those with more and less power collaborate: Complexities and caveats of participatory research in a resource-poor, rural South African context.* Paper presented at 16th Qualitative Methods Conference, Banff, Canada.
11. Van Breda, A. D., & **Theron, L.** (2018, March). *An indigenous framework for youth resilience in South Africa.* Paper presented at International Social Work Conference, Kigali, Rwanda.
12. **Theron, L. C.** & Van Rensburg, A. (2017, September). *When parent-figures care: The differential value that township-dwelling adolescents attach to resilience resources.* Paper presented at 1st Pan-African Psychology Congress, Durban, South Africa.
13. Coetzer, Y., DeVilliers, D., & **Theron, L. C.** (2017, September). *What difference do young historically disadvantaged voices make in addressing gender-based sexual violence in South Africa?* Paper presented at 1st Pan-African Psychology Congress, Durban, South Africa.
14. Haffejee, S., & **Theron, L. C.** (2017, June). *Factors that enable resilience processes in adolescent girls that have been sexually abused.* Paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience Conference IV, Cape Town, South Africa.
15. Tatlow, M., & **Theron, L. C.** (2017, June). *“Pillars of learning”? Young people’s views of school and learning in contrasting settings in global South & North.* Paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience Conference IV, Cape Town, South Africa.

16. **Theron, L. C.**, Foster, K., & March-McDonald, J. (2017, June). *Pathways to resilience: A review of well-being-enablers among migrant young people*. Symposium paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience Conference IV, Cape Town, South Africa.
17. **Theron, L.C.** (2017, March). *Co-produced pathways of resilience: Insights from South Africa*. Symposium paper presented at International Systems Research Conference, Heidelberg, Germany.
18. **Theron, L.C.** (2016, August). *Changing the odds: Learning from mismatched service-provider and youth understandings of what enables resilience*. Paper presented at 2016 ISPCAN Congress, Calgary, Canada.
19. **Theron, L. C.** (2016, July). *School ecologies and resilience: Lessons for 21st century school psychologists*. Symposium presented at 2016 ISPA, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
20. **Theron, L. C.** (2016, June). *Adjusting well to first grade in South Africa and Finland: Lessons from the SISU project*. Symposium presented at 8th European Conference on Positive Psychology, Angers, France.
21. Van Rensburg, A., **Theron, L. C.**, & Rothmann, S. (2015, July). *Latent class analysis of resilience-supporting resources among resilient Sesotho-speaking South African adolescents*. Paper presented at the 31st International Congress of Psychology Pacifico Yokohama, Yokohama, Japan. doi:10.1002/ijop.12308
22. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2015, August). *“Teachers always helped me” – The nature of teacher actions that matter for African youths’ resilience processes*. Symposium paper presented at the EARLI 16th Biennial Conference, Limassol, Cyprus.
23. **Theron, L. C.** (2015, June). *How do education services matter for resilience processes? South African youths’ experiences*. Paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience III, Halifax, Canada.
24. **Theron, L. C.** (2015, June). *Culture, context, and resilience: Complexities and caveats*. Symposium at the Pathways to Resilience III, Halifax, Canada.
25. Kumpulainen, K., **Theron, L.**, Bezuidenhout, C., Kahl, C., Mikkola, A., & Salmi, S. (2014, August). *A visual participatory study of social ecologies of resilience among at risk children starting school in South Africa and Finland: Some preliminary challenges*. Paper presented at the 3rd Biennial European Association of Research on Learning and Instruction (EARLI) Conference of SIG 5 – Learning and Development in Early Childhood, Jyväskylä, Finland.
26. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2014, July). *Facilitating youth resilience processes: Evidence-based guidelines for educational psychologists*. Paper presented at the 28th International Congress of Applied Psychology, Paris, France.
27. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2014, May). *Pathways to resilience in rural contexts of chronic poverty and danger: A South African study*. Paper presented at the Second World Congress on Resilience, Timisoara, Romania.
28. **Theron, L. C.** (2013, October). *Black South African young people and pathways of resilience*. Paper presented at The International Symposium on Youth and Resilience Perspectives, Beijing, China.
29. Van Rensburg, A., **Theron, L. C.**, & Rothmann, S. (2013, October). *Formal service provision: A way to resilience for youth in rural South Africa?* Paper presented at The International Symposium on Youth and Resilience Perspectives, Beijing, China.
30. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2013, October). *Resilient black South African youth: Lessons for school psychologists*. Paper presented at the Fourth International Conference on Education & Educational Psychology, Antalya, Turkey.
31. Jefferis, T. C., & **Theron, L. C.** (2013, October). *Resilient African adolescent girls in contexts of adversity: A participatory visual study*. Paper presented at the International Symposium on Youth and Resilience Perspective, Beijing, China.

32. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2012, June). *The educational roots of youth resilience: Youth-ecology partnerships*. Paper presented at Child's World – Working Together for a Better Future, Aberystwyth, Wales.

33. Wood, L., Ntaote, G., & **Theron, L. C.** (2012, March). *Supporting Lesotho teachers to develop resilience in the face of the HIV and AIDS pandemic*. Paper presented at the Bangkok International Academic Conference, Bangkok, Thailand.

34. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2011, November). *Culturally-embedded meaning-making: An exploration of how young, resilient South African adults confront suffering*. Paper presented at the Second International Making Sense of Suffering Conference, Prague, Czechoslovakia.

35. Lau, C., **Theron, L. C.**, & Cameron, C. A. (2011, July). *Contributions of socio-emotional associations with family and community to youth resilience*. Paper presented at the International Visual Sociology Association (IVSA) Conference, Vancouver, Canada.

36. Liebenberg, L., & **Theron, L. C.** (2011, July). *Youth spaces and places: Understanding the marginalisation of youth in physical contexts*. Paper presented at the International Visual Sociology Association (IVSA) Conference, Vancouver, Canada.

37. Malindi, M. J., & **Theron, L. C.** (2011, June). *Drawing on strengths: Images of ecological contributions to male street child resilience*. Paper presented at the XXXIIIth Congreso Interamericano de Psicología, Medellin, Colombia.

38. Malindi, M. J., **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2011, June). *Towards an African understanding of resilience: Perspectives of rural adult South Africans*. Paper presented at the XXXIIIth Congreso Interamericano de Psicología, Medellin, Colombia.

39. Cameron, C. A., & **Theron, L. C.** (2010, July). *Adaptations of the DITL methodology: From strong toddlers to resilient teenagers. "Days in their lives": Global perspectives on growing up well*. Paper presented at the symposium conducted at the ISSBD Conference, Lusaka, Zambia.

40. **Theron, L. C.**, & Theron, A. M. C. (2010, June). *A critical review of South African youth resilience, 1990-2008*. Paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience II Conference, Halifax, Canada.

41. **Theron, L. C.**, & Cameron, C. A. (2010, June). *Adapting methodologies for partnering in youth resilience*. Paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience II Conference, Halifax, Canada.

42. Brooks, C., **Theron, L. C.**, Samuelson, L., & Mabitsela, M. (2010, June). *Vulnerability, risk and resilience: Bringing youth voices into view*. Paper presented at the Pathways to Resilience II Conference, Halifax, Canada.

43. Cameron, C. A., **Theron, L. C.**, & Tapanya, S. (2010, June). *Cartooning our paths to resilience*. Facilitated discussion at the Pathways to Resilience II Conference, Halifax, Canada.

44. **Theron, L. C.** (2010, June). *Read me to resilience! A quasi-experimental study aimed at the empowerment of AIDS-orphans*. Facilitated discussion at the Pathways to Resilience II Conference, Halifax, Canada.

45. Delport, C. S. L., Strydom, H., **Theron L. C.**, & Geyer, S. (2010, May). *Voices of HIV&AIDS-affected educators: How they are psychosocially affected and how REds enabled them towards resilience*. Paper presented at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

46. Theron, L. C. (2009, July). *Visual data collection: A way around language barriers to data collection? A South African illustration*. Paper presented at the Fourth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, Athens, Greece.

47. Cameron, C. A., Lau, C., Tapanya, S., Didkowski, N., Liebenberg, L., Ungar, M., & **Theron, L. C.** (2009, February). *"Day in the life" of resilient adolescents in diverse communities around the globe*. Paper presented at the Human Early Learning Partnership, University of Victoria: Reach International Research Day, Victoria, BC.

48. Ungar, M., Tapanya, S., & Cameron, A., Hjeddal, O., Makhnach, A., **Theron, L. C.**, & McCubbin, L. (2008, July). *Pathways to resilience across cultures: Lessons from studies of positive development*

under adverse circumstances. Invited symposium conducted at the International Conference of Psychology, Berlin, Germany.

49. **Theron, L.** (2008, July). *Uphenyo ngokwazi kwentsha yasemalokishini ukumelana nesimo esinzima: A South African study of resilience among township youth.* Paper presented at the International Conference of Psychology, Berlin, Germany.
50. **Theron, L.** (2007, July). *Resilient educators (REds) – Can educators be supported to cope with the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic? A South African study.* Poster session presented at the Eighth International AIDS IMPACT Conference, Marseilles, France.
51. **Theron, L.** (2006, June). *Promoting the health of South African educators affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.* Poster session presented at the Fifth Nordic Health Promotion Research Conference, Esbjerg, Denmark.
52. **Theron, L.** (2005, June). *An intervention tool: A wellness program for schools.* Paper presented at Pathways to Resilience – The International Resilience Project, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada.

National

53. Theron, L., Fawole, O.I., Levine, D.T., Mai Bornu, Z., Olaniyan, O., Stekel, D.J., Wright, C.Y., & Ungar, M. (2024, October 8-11). Emerging adult resilience to depression: Systematic review insights for psychologists in Africa. Paper presented at PsySSA's 30th Annual Psychology Congress and 10th PAPU's Anniversary Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa.
54. Theron, L., Hoeltge, J., Cockcroft, K., Fouche, A., & Ungar, M. (2024, March 7-9). The multisystemic roots of adolescent and emerging adult resilience to depression. 2024 SA-ACAPAP Congress, Protea Hotel & Conference Centre, Stellenbosch, South Africa
55. Bredekamp, J. & Theron, L. (2023, October 4-6). Enhancing the parent-psychologist alliance in sand play therapy: Utilizing HTFWP drawings completed by anxious children. Paper presented at 27th Annual SA Psychology Congress, Emperor's Palace Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
56. Theron, L., Cockcroft, K., Benvenuti, S., Ravengani, L., Seabi, B., van Niekerk, E., & Wakefield, S. (2022, October 12-14). Resilience in COVID-challenged times. Symposium presented at the 26th Annual PsySSA Congress, Emperor's Palace Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
57. Rodgers, J. G., Pretorius, C., Jefferis, T. J., Ugar, M., Makhnach, A., & Theron, L. C. (2021, July 27-29). Listen to your elders: Adult perceptions of environmental and socioeconomic challenges and their impact on adolescent resilience. Paper presented at 21st Congress of the South African Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (Virtual).
58. Theron, L. C., & Rothmann, S. (2019, May). Benevolent childhood events and adolescent mental health: A latent class analysis'. Paper presented at SA-ACAPAP congress, Wanderers Club, Johannesburg, South Africa.
59. Khaile, N. M., Theron, L. C., Mampane, M. R., & Ebersöhn, L. (2018, January). *How schools can champion resilience in times of drought: Learning from Leandra youth.* Paper presented at 2018 Education Association of South Africa, Durban, South Africa.
60. Bemath, N., Cockcroft, K., & Theron, L. (2016, September). *Working memory in psychological resilience: A mixed method study.* Paper presented at the 22nd South African Psychology Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa.
61. Khumalo I. P., Kumpulainen, K., Malmivaara, L., Theron, L. C., Kahl, C., Bezuidenhout, C., Mikkola, A. I., Salmi, S., & Leburu, K. (2015, September). *South African and Finnish school ecologies that facilitate children's positive adjusting to first grade in risk-filled communities: Lessons for psychologists.* Symposium paper presented at the 21st South African Psychology Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa.

62. Theron, L. C., & Van Rensburg, A. (2015, September). Resilience-supporting resources, caregiver presence, and quality caregiving: What matters for mental health? Symposium paper presented at the 21st South African Psychology Congress, Johannesburg, South Africa.

63. Van Rensburg, A. C., Theron, L. C., & Rothmann, S. (2015, January). Resilience and school engagement. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Education Association of South Africa (EASA), Legend Golf and Safari Resort, Mookgophong, Limpopo, South Africa.

64. Van Rensburg, A., Theron, L. C., & Rothmann, I. (2014, September). African youth's varied pathways to resilience: Implications for practitioners. Paper presented at the 20th Anniversary South African Psychology Congress, Durban, South Africa.

65. Hall, A., & Theron, L. C. (2014, September). Resilience processes in adolescents with intellectual disability: A multiple case study. Paper presented at the 20th Anniversary South African Psychology Congress, Durban, South Africa.

66. Jefferis, T. C., & Theron, L. C. (2014, June). What theologians must know about how religion is valuable to youth. Paper presented at the Welcoming Africa's Children in Church and Society: Theological and Ministerial Reflections, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

67. Van Rensburg, A., Theron, L. C., & Rothmann, S. (2013, October). The relationship between services and resilience. Paper presented at the 2nd South African Symposium on Positive Social Sciences: Towards Thriving Youth, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.

68. Jefferis, T. C., & Theron, L. C. (2013, September). Resilient adolescent girls: A participatory visual study of gendered pathways to resilient. Paper presented at the PsySSA 2013 Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa.

69. Theron, L. C. (2013, September). South African adolescents' pathways to resilience: A case of indigenous vs Western theories. Paper presented at the PsySSA 2013 Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa.

70. Theron, L. C., & Theron, A. M. C. (2013, January). Resilience research with South African youth: Caveats and ethical complexities. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Education Association of South Africa (EASA), Warmbaths, South Africa.

71. Theron, L. C., & Theron, A. M. C. (2012, July). Beating the odds of poverty: Stories from resilient South African students. Paper presented at the ICP, Cape Town, South Africa.

72. Theron, L. C., & Theron, A. M. C. (2012, January). What is different about teachers who champion resilience? Reflections on teachers who encourage youth-at-risk to adjust well to difficult lives. Paper presented at the 2012 Annual Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Mpikweni Beach Resort, South Africa.

73. De Lange, N., & Theron, L. C. (2012, January). "Well, I guess I saw the whole HIV teaching in a different way": Reflections on teacher competency in a challenging context. Paper presented at the 2012 Annual Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Mpikweni Beach Resort, South Africa.

74. Theron, L. C., & Theron, A. M. C. (2011, January). South African youth resilience, 1990-2010: Lessons for teachers. Paper presented at the 2011 Annual Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Sun City, South Africa.

75. Mayaba, N., Wood, L., & Theron, L. C. (2010, January). Collaborative partnerships to increase resilience among AIDS-orphans: Some methodological challenges. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.

76. Wrethman, R., Ntaote, G., Wood, L., & Theron, L. C. (2010, January). An evaluation of the impact of the REds intervention on educators affected by HIV&AIDS: An experimental study. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.

77. Theron, L. C., Cameron, A., Lau, C., Didkowsky, N., & Mabitsela, M. (2009, August). A day in the lives of four resilient youth: An investigation of the cultural roots of resilience. Paper presented at the 14th South African Psychology Conference, Cape Town, South Africa.

78. Theron, L. C., Radebe, L., & Moeketsi, V. (2009, February). Pictures of change. A closer look at how visual methodologies encourage expressions of change. *Every voice counts: Critical partnerships for teacher education and rural communities*. Paper presented at the International Symposium, Durban, South Africa.

79. Theron, L. C. (2009, January). Resilient educators (REds) – An example of positive practice with educators impacted by the HIV crisis. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Illovo Beach, South Africa.

80. Theron, L. C. (2008, August). "I care – do you?" *The impact of REds on HIV/Aids-affected educator perception of the pandemic*. Paper presented at the 14th South African Psychology Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa.

81. Theron, L. C. (2007, August). "I have undergone some metamorphosis!" *The impact of REds on educator perception of the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. A pilot study*. Paper presented at the 13th South African Psychology Conference, Durban, South Africa.

82. Esterhuizen, S., Mabitsela, M., & Theron, L. C. (2006, November to December). *Ignoring the boundaries: Supporting educators affected by HIV and Aids – a review of the 2006 implementation of REds*. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Kenton, Wilderness, South Africa.

83. Theron, L. C. (2006, September). *Responsible psychological research in education: A review of the 2006 implementation of REds*. Paper presented at the PsySSA Conference, Caesar's Palace, Johannesburg, South Africa.

84. Theron, L. C. (2006, April). *Support structures to nurture the wellness of educators affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic*. Paper presented at the South African Positive Psychology Conference, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

85. Theron, L. C. (2006, April). *Educator vulnerability because of the HIV/AIDS pandemic – A qualitative study*. Paper presented at the South African Positive Psychology Conference, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

86. Theron, L. C. (2006, January). *The vulnerability of educators affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic*. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

87. Theron, L. C. (2005, April). *The impact of HIV on affected South African educators*. Poster session presented at the Seventh International AIDS IMPACT Conference, "The moment is NOW", Cape Town, South Africa.

88. Nel, M., & Theron, L. C. (2005, January). *A story-based language enrichment programme for Grade 4 ESL learners with inadequate English*. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

89. Theron, L. C. (2004, March). *Educator perceptions of colleagues with HIV and the impact thereof on wellness*. Paper presented at the Second South African Work Wellness Conference, Potchefstroom, South Africa.

90. Theron, L. C. (2004, January). *Educator perceptions of colleagues and learners with HIV and the impact thereof on educator wellbeing*. Paper presented at the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa.

RECOGNITION OF RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Research Awards

- Leicester Institute for Advanced Studies Short Stay Research Fellowship Award, 2023
- Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Best Researcher Award, 2022
- Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Best Researcher Award, 2020
- Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Best post-graduate supervisor, 2020
- Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Best post-graduate supervisor (throughput rate), 2019
- NWU Vice-Chancellor's Awardee: Service Excellence in Community Engagement (Applied Research Results), 2015
- Finalist, NSTF-BHP Billiton Award 2015 (individual/team research leading to innovation): Khazimula – An indigenous strategy to support youth resilience
- Vice-Rector, VTC NWU Award for Sustained Research Excellence, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012
- Recipient of Education Association of South Africa Research Medal, 2013
- Most Productive Researcher, Vaal Triangle Campus, NWU, 2011, 2010, 2009
- Recipient of Education Association of South Africa Medal of Honour: Young Researcher 2009
- Honorary Membership Award: Golden Key, 2009
- Recipient of Anglo-American Travel Grant (Anglo American Chairman's Fund Educational Trust), April 2002
- Recipient of Unisa's Alma Mater Scholarship for Doctoral Studies, academic merit, 2000
- Recipient of Unisa's Master's Exhibition, academic merit, 1995-1997

National Research Foundation (NRF) Rating

Established researcher (C2), 2011-2016

Internationally acclaimed researcher (B3), 2017-2022

Internationally acclaimed researcher (B1), 2023-2028

RESEARCH-RELATED SERVICE

Editorial board

Current

Associate editor, *Adversity and Resilience Science* (Springer), 2023-
Associate editor (action), *Journal of Adolescent Research* (SAGE), 2021-
Associate editor, *School Psychology International* (SAGE), 2013-
Subject editor, *Ecology & Society* (Resilience Alliance), 2022-
Editorial board, *Education Research as Social Change*, 2012-
Editorial board, *Journal of Adolescence* (Elsevier), 2019-
Editorial board, *Child Indicators Research* (Springer), 2022 -

Past

Associate editor (action), *Child Abuse & Neglect* (Elsevier), 2016-2024
Associate editor, *South African Journal of Psychology*, 2011-2012
Associate editor, *South African Journal of Education*, 2012-2016

Guest Editor, Resilience-focused Special Journal Issues [completed]

Li, H., Mu, G. M., & **Theron, L.** (2023). *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14.
Matsopoulos, A. & **Theron, L.** (2023). *School Psychology International*, 44.
Theron, L. & Van Breda. (2021). *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 119.
McCalman, J., Munford, R., **Theron, L.**, Sanders, J., & Bainbridge, R. (2020). *Frontiers in Public Health*, 8.
Theron, L. C., & Ungar, M. (2018). *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 78.
Moletsane, R. & **Theron, L.C.** (2017). *Agenda*, 31(2).
Theron, L. C. (2016). *School Psychology International*, 37.

Research advisory boards

Current

Invited member, Wellcome Trust CDA interview panel, 2025-2027
Invited member, citiesRISE Scientific Advisory Council (SAC), 2024-...
Invited member, EQUALITY Research Collective, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Ghent, Belgium, 2020 - ...
Invited member, Consortium of Street Children Research Forum [international advisory board of Consortium for Street Children], 2018 - ...
Invited member, Advisory Board, Centre for the Study of Resilience, University of Pretoria, 2017 - ...

Past

Invited member, Project Advisory Group: Building with Bamboo, 2015-2016

Research Mentor

Invited mentor, the 8th Haruv International PhD Workshop on Child Maltreatment, 15-16 May 2023, Mt Scopus Campus, Jerusalem.

Ethics board

Chair, Humanities and Health Research Ethics Committee, North-West University, 2015-2016

NRF psychology specialist panel

Member, 2019-2022

Convener, 2020-2021

ASSAf journal evaluation panel

Ad Hoc Peer Review of New Journal Applications - 2025

Reviewer

- Scholarly journal articles (APA, Elsevier, Sage, Taylor & Francis, Wiley)
- Books (Van Schaik, Juta, Oxford Press) and book proposals (Springer)
- Funding applications, national and international [e.g., SSHRC; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Wellcome Fund; British Academy; Swiss National Science Foundation; MRC, UK; ISF]
- International conference papers [SRCD]
- NRF rating applications
- Applications for promotion/tenure (national and international)

Conference organisation/scientific committee

Co-chair, Pathways to Resilience Conference IV, Cape Town, June 2017

Co-chair, Scientific Committee, SA-ACAPAP Conference, Johannesburg, May 2019

Awards committee

Invited member, ISSBD Awards Committee, 2017 - 2022

External examiner

External examiner of 100+ master's and doctoral theses, national and international (2001-2021)

Office in national associations

- Executive Committee of EASA (2010-2013; Chair, 2011)
- Executive Committee, Educational Psychology Division, PsySSA (2011-2013)
- Executive Committee, South African Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (2018-; incoming president 2021)

Academy membership (nominated and elected)

- Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

Association memberships (current)

- Psychological Society of South Africa (PsySSA)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- South African Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (SA-ACAPAP)
- The International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD)

Community engagement

- RYSE findings disseminated to industry (details available on request)
- Resilience-focused talks at local schools (details available on request)
- Resilience-focused training of Khulisa Social Solutions staff (2014; 2015)
- Resilience-focused research guidance to Khulisa Social Solutions (2015-2020)

OTHER DETAILS OF ACADEMIC CAREER

Education & Training

Doctor of Education (Guidance & counselling) University of South Africa, 1998-2000

Thesis details:

MacFarlane², L.C. (2000). Resilience therapy: A group intervention program to promote the psychological wellness of adolescents at risk [Unpublished doctoral dissertation]. University of South Africa.

Internship: Educational Psychologist School of Achievement, 1998

Master of Education (Guidance & counselling) University of South Africa, 1996-98

Mini-dissertation details:

MacFarlane³, L.C. (1998). An educational-psychological perspective of the personal attributes which serve to anchor resilience [Unpublished master's mini-dissertation]. University of South Africa.

Honours Bachelor of Education University of South Africa, 1994-95

Higher Diploma in Education University of the Witwatersrand, 1990

Bachelor of Arts University of the Witwatersrand, 1986-89

Membership of professional bodies

Health Professions Council of South Africa (Educational Psychologist):

Registration number: PS 0063622

South African Council of Educators (SACE):

Registration number: 77074

Membership of university bodies

Complete list available on request

² Surname changed to Theron, 19 March 2003

³ Surname changed to Theron, 19 March 2003

Work History

Name of employer	Position and duties	Period
Department of Educational Psychology, Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria	<p>Professor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Supervision of post-graduate students • Teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Educational Psychology Practicum: Universal resilience intervention (2017 – ongoing) ◦ Educational Psychology Practicum: Professional ethics (2020 – ongoing) ◦ An Introduction to Advanced Research, Theory & Methods in Education (2017 – ongoing) ◦ Educational Psychology Pathways to Behavioural and Emotional Wellbeing (2017-2018) • Co-ordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Educational Psychology Practicum (2017 – ongoing) • Academic citizenship 	August 2016 – current (mandatory retirement: 2033)
Extraordinary Professor, Optentia Research Focus Area, North-West University	Research collaboration	August 2016 – August 2023
Professor, Optentia Research Focus Area / School of Education Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus	Research professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Supervision of post-graduate students • Masters in Positive Psychology: Resilience lectures • Academic citizenship 	January 2011- July 2016
School of Education Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus	Associate Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Supervision of post-graduate students • Teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Qualitative Research Design ◦ Positive Psychology [resilience theory & application] • Academic citizenship 	January 2008- December 2010

	<p>Senior Lecturer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Supervision of post-graduate students • Teaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Learner Support ◦ Inviting Schools • Academic citizenship 	January 2002- December 2007
	<p>Lecturer (Learner support; inviting schools)</p>	July 2000- December 2001
School of Achievement	Psychologist (educational)	1999 - June 2000
	Intern psychologist	1998
Bracken High	Teacher (English; Guidance)	1993-1997