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Alina M. Perez is a Professor of the Health Care Sciences Department at NSU, Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences. She holds a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from the University of Miami, a Master's in Public Health (MPH) from the University of South Florida, and a Master's in Social Work from Barry University. Professor Perez is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and certified qualified supervisor for social work interns for the State of Florida. She also completed the Heritage Health Policy Fellowship by the American Osteopathic Association in 2006.

Professor Perez has practiced as a medical social worker in the areas of inpatient and outpatient mental health, oncology, ER medicine and hospice care, and as an attorney in the areas of worker's compensation, personal injury and family law. Professor's Perez's public health scholarship and community involvement has focused extensively in addressing issues of the minority aging population. Her scholarly work includes presentations at several local, national and international conferences. She has several publications including a book, a book chapter and various journal articles on aging, culture and health, end-of-life issues, and mental health and the law.