

Abridged CV: Linda Theron

D.Ed. (guidance & counselling); M.Ed. (guidance & counselling); B.Ed.Hons;
PGCE; BA

I am a Full Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology (University of Pretoria) and Extraordinary Professor in Optentia Research Unit (North-West University). I am also an HPCSA-registered psychologist (category: Educational). My enduring clinical and research interest is in child and youth resilience, with a special interest in how situational and cultural context shapes the resilience of African young people. Google Scholar H-index (April 2023): 40.

Selected recent peer-reviewed publications

- 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://srcd.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/cdev.13483>
- Höltge, J., **Theron, L.**, Cowden, R.G., ... & 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>
- Theron, L.** (2020). Resilience of sub-Saharan children and adolescents: A scoping review. *Transcultural Psychiatry*, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1363461520938916>
- 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>
- 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>
- Theron, L.C.**, Murphy, K., & Ungar, M. (2021). Multisystemic resilience: Learning from youth in stressed environments. *Youth & Society*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X211017335>
- 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*, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/00220221221077353>
- 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*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579423000494>
- 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://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0361476X22000212>
- 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.chiabu.2021.105083>
- 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://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11205-017-1728-8>
- 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)
- 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*, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579423000469>
- 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>
- Van Breda, A.D., & **Theron, L.C.** (2018). A critical review of South African child and youth resilience studies, 2009-2017. *Child and Youth Services Review*, 91, 237-247. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2018.06.022>

Funded studies

Current:

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 2 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 (SA-only; India comparably funded by ICSSR): R299 755.00 over 30 months.

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.

Completed (selected):

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.

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) & 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; Russia comparably funded by RFBR): R895,750.00 over three years.

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.

Other relevant information

National Research Foundation Rating: Internationally acclaimed researcher (B1, 2023-2028)

Nominated & elected member of Academy of Science, South Africa (ASSAf)

Associate (action) editor, *Child Abuse & Neglect* (Elsevier)

Associate (action) editor, *Journal of Adolescent Research* (SAGE)

Subject editor, *Ecology & Society* (Resilience Alliance), 2022-

Editorial Board: *Child Indicators Research*; *Journal of Adolescence*; *School Psychology International*

Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Best Researcher Award, 2020

Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria: Best Post-graduate Supervisor Award, 2020

Post-graduate supervision:

17 completed PhD students (since 2004)

40 completed Master's students (since 2003)

Professional registrations:

Psychologist (Educational), Health Professions Council of South Africa, PS0063622

Teacher, South African Council of Educators