

OPPORTUNITIES AT MESSIAH COLLEGE

Resources

- Career Center for Vocational Development
Helping Professions Job and Internship Fair, Graduate School, and Career Information Sheets

Experiential opportunities

- Internship Center
Full or part-time internships
Examples: Counseling—Community Action Commission of Pennsylvania
Psychiatric Assistant—Philhaven
Behavioral Healthcare Services
- Department of Psychology
Practica: 1–3-credit work-learning experience
- At the Agape Center
Volunteer Opportunities: Best Buddies, Paxton Ministry, Schaffner Youth Detention Center

Contact information:

John Addleman, Chair
Phone: (717) 796-1800, ext. 2980
E-mail: JAddlemn@messiah.edu

Box 3052
One College Ave.
Grantham, PA 17027

www.messiah.edu/departments/psychology



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

06-1120



PSYCHOLOGY AND
Counseling



Counseling Psychology

Clinical Psychology

“Clinical and counseling psychology are two of the largest and most popular fields in psychology. Clinical and counseling psychologists deal with the causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of individuals with psychological problems. Typically, clinical psychologists treat more severe disorders, while counseling psychologists work with patients suffering from everyday stresses.”

(WCUPA, 2000)

A counseling psychologist might:

- Engage in counseling/psychotherapy, teaching, and scientific research.
- Utilize interviews, testing, and observation to collect information about clients.
- Facilitate personal and interpersonal functioning across the life span with a focus on emotional, social, vocational, educational, health-related, developmental, and organizational concerns.

A clinical psychologist might:

- Specialize in treating a particular problem, such as phobias or schizophrenia.
- Diagnose, assess, and treat patients with psychiatric disorders, as well as research all areas of clinical practice.
- Consult with physicians on physical problems that have underlying psychological causes.

Places of Employment

- Private practice
- College and university counseling centers
- Community guidance centers and clinics
- Employment bureaus, social agencies, and rehabilitation centers
- Public and private hospitals
- Consulting firms
- Mental health institutions, prisons

Education and Certification

Education:

A bachelor's degree qualifies one to work as a counseling aide, rehabilitation aide, or social service worker. Most employers require a graduate degree in psychology, including an internship and dissertation. A master's degree may qualify an individual to work as a psychological or research assistant, or to work under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. A doctorate is essential in order to be a licensed clinical psychologist.

Certification:

- The American Psychological Association (APA) presently accredits doctoral training programs, as well as accrediting institutions that provide internships for doctoral students in clinical and counseling psychology.
- **State**—Licensing varies by state and by type of position but is required for anyone offering client care. Clinical and counseling psychologists usually require a graduate or doctoral degree in psychology, the completion of an approved internship, one to two years of professional experience, and a passing exam grade.
- **National**—For clinical psychologists, the National Register Health Service Providers in Psychology credential requires a doctoral degree in psychology, at least two years of supervised experience, and an independent practice license.

- For counseling psychologists, certification is available through the National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. You must hold a master's degree or higher with a concentration in counseling, have at least two years of supervised field experience, provide two professional endorsements, and pass the national exam.

Recommended Programs and Courses

Majors

- B.A. in Psychology
- B.S. in Psychology

Minors

- Counseling

Courses

- Life Span Development
- Abnormal Psychology
- Group Dynamics
- Counseling Theories
- Counseling Techniques
- Statistical Methods in Psychology
- Psychological Testing

Additional Resources

Websites

- www.apa.org
- www.socialpsychology.org/clinical.htm
- www.counseling.org

Books

(Available through the Department of Psychology or Career Center for Vocational Development.)

- Kuther, T.L., & Morgan, R.D. (2004). *Careers in psychology: Opportunities in a changing world*. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth.
- Palmo, A. J., & Weikel, W. J. (Eds.). (1986). *Foundations of mental health counseling*. Springfield, IL: Thomas.
- Sternberg, R. J. (1997). *Career paths in psychology: Where your degree can take you*. Washington, D.C.: APA.
- Super, C.M., & Super, D.E. (1994). *Opportunities in psychology careers*. VGM Career Horizons.

Journals

- *Journal of Counseling Psychology*
- *Journal of Clinical Psychology*
- *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*