
Psychology

Graduate Psychology at UMass Dartmouth

Faculty and Fields of Interest

Department of Psychology College of Arts and Sciences

Caliri, Victor P.

Professor. PhD Boston College, CAGS Boston University, MA Holy Cross College, EdM, BS Boston University. *Specializations:* Counseling and organizational psychology, humanistic and health psychology.

Ruggeri, Lynn Tondat

Professor. PhD Ohio University, MA, BA State University of New York. *Specializations:* Physiological psychology and recovery from neural damage.

Caruso, John L.

Professor. PhD, MS University of Pittsburgh, AB Fairfield University. *Specializations:* Learning, cognitive processes, teaching of psychology, sports psychology.

Conboy, John K.

Associate Professor. PsyD Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, MS Murray State University, MEd University of Maine, BA University of Rhode Island. *Specializations:* Child and family psychotherapy, psychological assessment, sports psychology, child neuropsychology.

Corriveau, Donald P. (Chairperson, Department of Psychology)

Professor. PhD, MA University of Rhode Island, BA Providence College. *Specializations:* Behavioral medicine & clinical research.

Dickman, Scott J.

Associate Professor. PhD University of Michigan, MA University of Minnesota, BA Oberlin College. *Specializations:* Information processing, personality, psychopathology.

Donnelly, Paul A. (Graduate Program

Director, Clinical/Behavioral Analysis Option) Professor. EdD Boston University, MA Assumption College, BA Providence College. *Specializations:* Counseling psychology adolescence and family therapy.

Egan, Susan

Assistant Professor. PhD Florida Atlantic University, BA Stetson University. *Specialization:* Social developmental psychology.

Elfenbein, Morton H.

Professor. PhD, MA, AB Boston University. *Specializations:* Experiential learning, epistemology, organizational psychology.

Franko, Debra L.

Assistant Professor. PhD McGill University, BA University of Michigan. *Specializations:* Eating disorders, prevention, treatment; clinical psychology.

Haimson, Barry R.

Professor. PhD, AM Boston University, BA Brandeis University. *Specializations:* Perception, ERP correlates of information processing, hemispheric specialization.

Holt, William R.

Professor. PhD, MA Brown University, BA Williams College. *Specializations:* Child psychology and learning.

Hojjat, Mahzad

Assistant Professor. PhD, MS, MPhil Yale University, BA University of Connecticut. *Specializations:* Social and cross-cultural psychology.

Powers, Theodore

Assistant Professor. PhD McGill University, BS Columbia University. *Specializations:* Clinical psychology and group therapy.

Riley, James B.

Professor. PhD, MA Boston College, BA Bowdoin College. *Specializations:* Behavior modification and community psychology.

Shapiro, Amy M.

Assistant Professor. PhD, MSc Brown University, BS, BA Tufts University. *Specializations:* Cognitive science, computer-assisted learning, psycholinguistics, memory.

Sims-Knight, Judith E. (Graduate Coordinator, General Psychology Option)

Professor. PhD University of Minnesota, MA Queens College, AB Brown University. *Specializations:* Cognitive development, adult reasoning, human-computer interaction, instructional psychology.

The Department of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth offers a graduate program leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Psychology. This graduate program has options in Clinical/Behavioral Analysis and General Psychology. Each program is presented separately below.

Financial Assistance

A limited number of graduate teaching and research assistantships are awarded to qualified students who have been accepted for admission. Graduate teaching assistants generally complete 10-20 hours of work per week as assigned by the Psychology Department Chairperson. In return, the students are compensated with a stipend and tuition remission. Application for graduate assistantships can be made at the time of application to the graduate program.

Other assistance, such as loans or work-study, may be available to you. Please refer to the chapter on "Expenses and Academic Assistance."

A special note for *Massachusetts State Employees*. This program is considered a day school program and thus state employees may be eligible to attend *tuition free* (under state contract). Please check with your personnel office.

Option in Clinical/Behavioral Analysis

Degree Requirements, Clinical/Behavioral Analysis Option (MA degree)

The objectives of the Clinical/Behavioral Analysis option are:

1. To provide students with specific and applied research and problem-solving skills;
2. To provide all clinical students with a broad exposure to a variety of therapy modalities;
3. To provide students with extensive experiential learning opportunities, practica, internships, and intensive supervision; and
4. To prepare students for licensure as Certified Mental Health counselors in the State of Massachusetts.

Admission to the Clinical/Behavioral Analysis Option

Students are accepted into the program in the Fall only. The deadline for submission of materials for the Clinical/Behavioral Analysis option is March 31st.

Successful candidates have the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Psychology or a closely related field.
- A minimum undergraduate cumulative average of 2.75 on a 4.0 grading scale. Students not meeting this requirement but who otherwise give evidence of strong academic ability may be accepted.
- Completion of psychology statistics course.
- Some work experience related to the field of Psychology/Social Work.

Applicants must submit the required application materials to the Graduate Office. In addition, this Psychology option has specific admissions requirements:

- In addition to the regular application, candidates should complete the supplemental application form.
- Since this option has a clinical component, one of the three letters of recommendation should be submitted from a present or former agency supervisor capable of addressing your clinical potential.
- Graduate Record Examination scores, while not required, will be considered if submitted.
- Final candidates may be required to attend a personal interview with the Admissions Committee.

Two Plans — 48 and 60 credits

The basic clinical program is a three-year, 48-credit program. Matriculated students will be expected to take two courses per semester for the three years. Licensure from the Massachusetts Board of Registration for Certified Mental Health Counselors requires the master's degree to comprise 60 credits.

The 48 credit plan

Academic Core	9 credits
Clinical Core	18 credits
Behavioral Specialty	15 credits
Thesis/Comprehensive Exam	6 credits

The following courses are required:

	credits
Part I - Academic Core	
PSY 501 Physiology, Psychology, & Psychopharmacology	3
PSY 503 Advanced Psychopathology	3
PSY 505 Research Methods and Design	3
Part II - Clinical Core	
PSY 511 Theories of Psychotherapy	3
PSY 512 Evaluation Techniques	3
PSY 589 Practicum	4
PSY 591 Internship I	4
PSY 592 Internship II	4

Part III - Behavioral Specialty

PSY 521 Behavior Modification & Behavior Therapy	3
PSY 522 Behavioral Family & Group Counseling	3
PSY 523 Behavioral Medicine	3
PSY 524 Adv. Behavior Modification & Behavior Therapy	3
PSY Elective	3

Part IV - Thesis/Comprehensive Exam

<i>Choose between (for 6 credits)</i>	
PSY 593 Clinical Methods I	6
PSY 594 Professional Orientation and Ethical Practices	
or	
PSY 596 Graduate Thesis	

Licensing Requirement—additional 12 credits

Students preparing for the Massachusetts license will complete 60 credits, including the following five courses and a modified selection from the 48-credit plan above:

PSY 510 Helping Relationships	3
PSY 515 Human Growth & Devel.	3
PSY 516 Social & Cult. Foundations	3

PSY 570 Advanced Group Processes	3
PSY 575 Lifestyle, School, & Career Development	3

Exact requirements are available from the department.

Course Availability and Schedule

Since this is a clinical program, most of our students are presently employed in the field of psychology/social work. Therefore, all courses have start times in the middle to late afternoon to accommodate student schedules.

Course schedule by years of study:

	Fall	Spring
First Year Students	PSY 503 PSY 505	PSY 501 PSY 512 PSY 515
Second Year Students	PSY 521 PSY 522 PSY 570	PSY 511 PSY 524 PSY 589
Third Year Students	PSY 591 PSY 593 or PSY 596	PSY 523 PSY 592 PSY 594 or PSY 596

Summers: In alternating summers, one of the following, then two of the following, courses are offered: PSY 510, PSY 516, PSY 575.

Research Competence

Each student must show proof of competence in research and its reporting. Students receiving the Master of Arts may choose to complete either a thesis or a comprehensive exam (written and oral).

Details concerning the thesis/comprehensive exam option may be found in the Psychology Department Graduate Student Handbook.

Contact

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 North Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300
 508-999-8334
 pdonnelly@umassd.edu

Option in General Psychology

Degree Requirements, General Psychology Option (MA degree)

The General Psychology option is designed to prepare students for doctoral work in psychology and related fields, including cognitive science. The program combines coursework in basic areas of psychology with the opportunity to do collaborative research with faculty members. Students have considerable flexibility to tailor their programs to their individual needs. The outstanding feature of this program is the opportunity for close interaction between faculty and students, both in the classroom and in the laboratory, because of the low student/faculty ratio.

Admission to the General Psychology Option

Successful candidates will have a Bachelor of Arts degree or a Bachelor of Science degree, and an interest in research. It is not necessary to have an undergraduate degree in Psychology. Prospective applicants are invited to call to discuss their qualifications and interest (see list of contacts given later).

Applicants must submit the required application materials to the Graduate Office. In addition, this Psychology option has specific admissions requirements:

- All three letters of recommendation must be from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic or research experience.
- Applicants are expected to submit Graduate Record Examination scores, on both the general test and in Psychology. The Psychology subject examination requirement will be waived for applicants who did not major in Psychology.

There is no set application deadline for the General Psychology option.

The General Psychology option is a two-year, 36-credit program. This program is typically full-time, but can accommodate students who wish to pursue the program part-time, or on other timetables.

The following courses are required:

		credits
PSY 501	Physiology, Psychology, & Psychopharmacology	3
PSY 505	Research Methods & Design	3
PSY 506	Advanced Research Design	3
PSY 513	Seminar: Topics*	3, 3
PSY 514	Research Techniques: Topics*	3, 3
PSY 596	Graduate Thesis (variable up to 6 credits)	6

*PSY 513 and PSY 514 are coordinated courses designed to provide an in-depth treatment of a major field in Psychology. In the Seminars students will learn to read and analyze theory and research, and in the Research Techniques courses they will learn how to engage in research in the same field. Each year a different topic will be given. Students are required to take two different Seminar/Research Techniques sequences.

Three additional courses will be selected from the following:

PSY 507	Physiology, Psychology, and Psychopharmacology	9
PSY 515	Human Growth and Development	
PSY 517	Close Relationships	
PSY 521	Behavior Modification and Behavior Therapy	
PSY 595	Independent Study*	

Up to 6 credits of approved 400-level courses. Examples are: CIS 431 Human-Computer Interaction; PHL 417 Thinking Machines; PHL 418 Freud and Philosophy ; PSY 490 Special Topics in Psychology (various topics are offered under this number).

*It is strongly recommended that one of these courses be PSY 595.

Contacts

Dr. Judith Sims-Knight
Coordinator, General Psychology Option
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jsimsknight@umassd.edu

The following faculty, listed at the beginning of this section, are active in the General Psychology option. Prospective students are encouraged to contact them about their research interests.

Dr. Lynn M. T. Rugierri
508 999-8318

Dr. John K. Conboy
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Dr. Scott J. Dickman
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Dr. Susan Egan
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Dr. Morton H. Elfenbein
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Dr. Ted Powers
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Dr. Amy M. Shapiro
508 999-8377
ashapiro@umassd.edu

Dr. Judith E. Sims-Knight (above).

Psychology Courses

PSY 501 three credits

Physiology, Psychology, and Psychopharmacology

Advanced study of the physiology of the nervous system and the workings of the brain. Included is a working understanding of psychopharmacology in present day use. Practical application, side effects, and uses of medication in the mental health field today are of specific concern.

PSY 503 three credits

Advanced Psychopathology

Theories of abnormal psychology, in an advanced study of the major forms of psychopathology. Students will be exposed to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (American Psychiatric Association). Case studies and therapeutic intervention strategies will be emphasized.

PSY 505 three credits

Research Methods and Design

Prerequisites: A statistics course and permission of instructor

Integrates research design, data analysis, data interpretation, and APA format report writing across the two dominant paradigms in contemporary psychology. The course includes the use of the SPSS statistical software for univariate parametric and some non-parametric models. The course contains a strong experiential component to prepare students for thesis writing.

PSY 506 three credits

Advanced Research Design

Prerequisite: PSY 505 or permission of instructor

In-depth study of statistics in psychological research. Major topics include regression and structural equation models.

PSY 510 three credits

Seminar in Helping Relationships

Prerequisites: Graduate status and permission of instructor

Major approaches to supportive and therapeutic interventions employed by psychologists to help others. Core theoretical constructs and basic counseling techniques are emphasized. This course fulfills a portion of the Mental Health Counselors license requirement.

PSY 511 three credits

Theories of Psychotherapy

The major counseling theories explored in an academic and experiential format. Role playing and videotaping are used. Theories discussed include reality therapy, behavior therapy, rational emotive therapy, gestalt therapy, transactional analysis, client-centered therapy,

and the psychoanalytic model.

PSY 512 three credits

Evaluation Techniques

Traditional components of psychological testing, including test construction, test development, test administration and test interpretation, and specific training in frequently administered clinical tests (e.g., MMPI, WAIS and WISC). Beyond traditional test theory, students will be exposed to contemporary evaluation devices including behavioral assessment, interview data, and naturalistic observation.

PSY 513 three credits

Seminar: Topics

Pre- or Co-requisite: PSY 506

In-depth seminar on selected topics in a field of psychology. A few specific topics will be examined in depth—the historical roots, theories, and current research approaches. Two areas are offered in alternate years: personality and psychopathology; cognition. One of the primary goals of this course is to prepare students for PSY 514, in which knowledge gained in this course will be used to conduct research projects.

PSY 514 three credits

Research Techniques: Topics

Prerequisites: PSY 506, PSY 513

Research techniques in the context of specific topics studied in the associated seminar. Two areas are offered in alternate years: personality and psychopathology; cognition. The course will include both formal and hands-on work.

PSY 515 three credits

Human Growth and Development

Prerequisite: Psychology graduate status

The nature of normative transitions across the life span. The course fosters an understanding of change from conception through death. Special emphasis is given to both cognitive and behavioral theories as well as supporting research. This course fulfills a portion of the Mental Health Counselors license requirement.

PSY 516 three credits

Social and Cultural Foundations

Prerequisite: Psychology graduate status

Nature and dynamics of interpersonal group relations as they occur within a multicultural context. Students will study relations among diverse ethnic, racial, and cultural groups in the United States and globally. The course looks at cross-cultural relations from an interdisciplinary perspective, considering psychological, sociological, and historical factors; considers several relevant issues in counseling from a multicultural perspective, and studies specific

cultural groups in the context of therapy issues. This course fulfills a portion of the Mental Health Counselors license requirement.

PSY 517 three credits

Psychology of Close Relationships

Seminar in the study of close relationships. Students will study existing research and learn to think critically about the underlying theory and research. Major emphasis is placed on romantic relationships.

PSY 521 three credits

Behavior Modification and Behavior Therapy

Basic principles of learning as theoretical underpinnings of contemporary applied behavioral psychology. Behavior change techniques derived from learning theory widely used in clinical, education, recreational, and family settings will be examined, and individual group applications compared and contrasted.

PSY 522 three credits

Behavioral Family and Group Counseling

Detailed analysis of the function and structure of the family unit. The academic component includes topics such as family systems, behavioral contracting, networking, family sculpting, power, control, setting behavioral goals, the double bind, the identified patient, groups as a system, and the structuralist approach. The experiential component involves the inter-generational family tree, role playing diagnosis, and evaluation of actual families.

PSY 523 three credits

Behavioral Medicine

An interdisciplinary approach to health and illness. Particular emphasis is placed on the interface of psychology and other allied disciplines with traditional medical approaches. Students are introduced to medical psychology as a profession and exposed to practical applications including stress management and biofeedback training.

PSY 524 three credits

Advanced Behavior Modification and Behavior Therapy

Theoretical and functional considerations for the design and implementation of effective behavior programming. Through readings and analysis of case studies, students gain familiarity with the theoretical and applied principles of behavior modification and therapy.

PSY 570 three credits

Advanced Group Processes

Prerequisite: Psychology graduate status
Theoretical, research, and experiential aspects

of the study of group processes or group dynamics. The course examines applications of theory and research in settings such as organizations, organizational development, and group therapy and uses lecture, student seminar presentations, and class experiential self-analytic group activities. This course fulfills a portion of the Mental Health Counselors license requirement.

PSY 575 three credits
Lifestyle, School, and Career Development
Explores the impact of diverse lifestyles on mental health issues and academic and vocational adjustment. The course examines the effect of culture, gender, ethnicity, race, socioeconomic stature, and sexual orientation on psychotherapy, assessment, and academic and vocational adjustment. Special emphasis is given to cultural differences, alternative lifestyles, gay and lesbian issues, family patterns, fairness in testing, the "Bell Curve" debate, career counseling, and the relationship between cultural norms and psychopathology. This course fulfills a portion of the Mental Health Counselors license requirement.

PSY 580 three credits
Graduate Seminar in Psychology
Graduate seminar offered for one semester on a specific topic. Topics vary according to student needs and faculty expertise in particular areas of study.

PSY 589 four credits
Graduate Practicum
Prerequisite: Departmental permission
A distinctly defined, pre-internship, supervised curricular experience. Course requirements include Massachusetts licensing requirements for Master's level mental health counselors. Students provide direct service with a clientele appropriate to the program emphasis. Classroom work includes role plays or other laboratory experiences. Students are provided with both individual and group supervision experiences.

PSY 590 variable credits
Field Experience
Prerequisite: Departmental permission; Co-requisite: PSY 511, PSY 512, or PSY 522
Placement at area mental health facilities, involving students in the practical application of the theories being studied in the classroom. The placements vary according to the specific course being taken conjointly.

PSY 591, PSY 592 four credits each
Internship I, II
Prerequisite: Departmental permission
Application of skills acquired through

classroom work through internship placements. Students will be placed in mental health agencies and will receive extensive supervision.

PSY 593 variable credits
Seminar in Clinical Methods
Review of research in a major clinical area, for third year graduate students. Students create an in-depth review of the literature, culminating in a final project that is presented to two graduate faculty for review.

PSY 594 variable credits
Seminar in Professional and Ethical Issues
Advanced seminar on legal, ethical, professional, and moral issues facing mental health practitioners. Aspects of testing, assessment, psychotherapy, and psychopathology theory will be central issues. The course culminates in a written or oral exam testing application of clinical knowledge, ethical, and legal issues through a clinical case study model.

PSY 595 three credits
Independent Study
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor, graduate director, and college dean
Independent pursuit of an individual research project under the supervision of a faculty sponsor.

PSY 596 variable credits; typically six
Graduate Thesis
Prerequisite: Departmental permission
Student develops and executes an independent research thesis under the direction of a faculty advisor. Graded A-F.

Course for the MAT program

PSY 609 three credits
Early/Middle Adolescence
Prerequisite: An undergraduate course in child or adolescent psychology or its equivalent
What makes young adolescents distinctly different—such as issues of puberty, conformity, burgeoning intellectual powers. Of particular concern are two issues: (a) evaluating the validity of the research that provides us with our knowledge of them, and (b) exploring how to apply our knowledge to effective practice both in formal and informal settings.