

Psychology Internship Program



VA Greenville Health Care Center
401 Moye Blvd.
Greenville, NC 27834
(252) 830-2149
<http://www.durham.va.gov/locations/Greenville.asp>

MATCH Number: 242311
Applications Due: December 7, 2017

Accreditation Status

The doctoral internship at the VA Greenville Health Care Center is a recently established program accepting its second class of interns for the academic year of 2018-2019. Our application for APPIC membership has been submitted and is currently under review. The program is not currently accredited; however, **prior to APA accreditation, graduates of this internship program are eligible to apply for APA accredited postdoctoral fellowship positions and jobs within the VA.** Questions related to the program's accreditation status should be addressed to:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 2002
Phone: (202) 336-5979 e-mail: apaaccred@apa.org
Internet: <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation>

Application & Selection Procedures

Application Procedures

The Internship application process is online. To apply, please go to the APPIC website (www.appic.org) for instructions on how to complete the online APPIC Application for Psychology Internships (AAPI). Interested individuals who meet eligibility criteria should submit the following application materials:

- A cover letter indicating interests (please specify if interested in a neuropsychology emphasis, otherwise, please indicate preferences of major and minor rotations)
- APPIC Online Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Official graduate transcript(s)
- Three letters of reference
- De-identified psychological report

Instructions and forms for the Applicant Agreement form required for the Match from the National Matching Program may be downloaded at the web site at www.natmatch.com/psychint. Applicants who cannot access the web site should contact National Matching Service (NMS) directly to request instructions and registration forms.

The deadline for submission of application materials is **December 7, 2017**.

APPIC Match: The Greenville VA Health Care Center internship participates in the computer matching program and adheres to all Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) policies.

APPIC Program Code number: 242311

Interviews

Top candidates will be invited for in-person interviews in mid-January. In-person interviews are encouraged, however, requests for telephone interviews can be accommodated. We believe in-person interviews are superior in terms of providing applicants opportunities to learn about our site and the program we offer. Please be sure to indicate a daytime telephone number in your application materials so you can be reached to schedule an interview. Inquiries may be made via e-mail at Robert.Shelton2@va.gov.

Applicants not selected to interview will receive notification by electronic mail no later than close of business, **December 15, 2017**.

Selection

The Greenville VA Health Care Center Psychology Internship Program complies with all APPIC guidelines in the recruitment and selection of interns, and participates in the NMS Match program. "This internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant" (APPIC Match Policies: 2017-2018). A complete copy of APPIC policies and the computer matching program can be found at the APPIC website, <http://www.appic.org/>. Successful candidates who match with the Greenville VA Health Care Center Internship will be contacted by phone and e-mail, as part of discussions regarding rotation assignments.

For academic year 2018 – 2019, the Internship Program training year begins on August 6, 2018.

Thank you for your interest in our program. We look forward to reviewing your application – and learning more about your goals.

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Internship applicants must meet these criteria to be considered for any VA Psychology Internship Program:

1. Be a doctoral student in good standing at an American Psychological Association (APA) or Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) accredited graduate program in Clinical, Counseling, or Combined psychology or Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS) accredited program in Clinical Science. Persons with a doctorate in another area of psychology who meet the APA or CPA criteria for respecialization training in Clinical, Counseling, or Combined Psychology are also eligible.
2. Candidates must be approved by their graduate program's Director of Training as ready for internship

Candidates preferably will have only minor dissertation requirements remaining. Preference will be given to candidates who have supervised assessment and therapy experience with a range of psychopathology across varied populations and settings, as well as supervised training in objective psychological and neuropsychological test interpretation. Minority applicants and those with interests and expertise in minority issues are encouraged to apply. We are committed to ensuring a range of diversity among our training classes with respect to Veteran status, members of historically underrepresented groups, sexual orientation, and disability status. All things being equal, consideration is given to applicants who identify themselves as Veterans or members of historically underrepresented groups.

The program requires that applicants have received minimum number of hours of the following at the time of application:

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours: 300

Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours: 50

Other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

If you are selected as an intern, you will be considered a Federal employee, and the following requirements will apply.

1. U.S. citizenship. VA is unable to consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. Verification of citizenship is required following selection. All interns and fellows must complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to beginning VA training.
2. A male applicant born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the draft by age 26 to be eligible for any US government employment, including selection as a paid VA trainee. Male applicants must sign a pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they can be processed into a training program. Exceptions can be granted only by the US Office of Personnel Management; exceptions are very rarely granted.
3. Interns are subject to fingerprinting and background checks. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens. Please find additional information about the required background checks at the following website (<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/10450.html>)
4. VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. Interns and Fellows are not required to be tested prior to beginning work, but once on staff they are subject to random selection for testing as are other employees.

To comply with federal and VA rules and provide interns with liability protection, a current and valid Affiliation Agreement between VA and the sponsoring doctoral program must be on file before the intern can be appointed. Most APA-accredited doctoral programs already have an agreement on file. More information is available at <http://www.va.gov/oaa/agreements.asp> (see section on psychology internships).

Falsifying these documents will result in the intern's immediate dismissal.

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns: **\$24,767**

Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns: **N/A**

Program provides access to medical insurance for intern? **Yes**

If access to medical insurance is provided

Trainee contribution to cost required? **Yes**

Coverage of family member(s) available? **Yes**

Coverage of legally married partner available? **Yes**

Coverage of domestic partner available? **No**

Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off: **104 hours annual leave**

Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave: **104 hours annual sick leave**

In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave? **Yes**

Other Benefits (please describe): **Life Insurance**

Additional information about VA stipends and benefits is available on the VA Psychology Training website <http://www.psychologytraining.va.gov/benefits.asp> .

Initial Post-Internship Positions: first class was admitted academic year 2017-2018.

Outcome date is not yet available.

Director of Training

Training Director: Robert Shelton, Psy.D.

VA Greenville Health Care Center

Phone: (252) 830-2149 ext 3439

Fax: (252) 830-0215

e-mail: Robert.Shelton2@va.gov



Psychology Setting

The mission of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is to honor America's veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. As one of its four statutory missions, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) conducts education and training to enhance the quality of care provided to patients within VHA "to educate for VA and for the Nation." Locally, the Greenville VA Health Care Center (HCC) conducts this mission by maintaining strong ties with East Carolina University and other institutions of higher learning and housing numerous training programs in medicine (Gastroenterology, Psychiatry, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Internal Medicine), nursing, nurse practitioner, social work, audiology, and pharmacy. Thus, the mission of the Greenville VA HCC is closely aligned with the aim of our internship program. The Greenville VA HCC affords interns with ample opportunity to interact with professionals of other disciplines, engage in scholarly activity, and to provide psychological services to patients with a wide variety of backgrounds and presenting problems.

The psychology internship program at the VA Greenville HCC in Pitt County is the only training program of its kind in eastern North Carolina, a predominately rural area. The HCC opened in March 2014 and was launched to better serve the health care needs of Veterans in these rural counties. The HCC is housed in an 116,000-square-foot clinic, set on 12 acres of land. Services provided include primary care, mental health, women's health, laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, audiology, cardiology, orthopedics, neurology, optometry, and dental services. The HCC is administratively part of the Durham VA Medical Center in Durham, NC. The HCC is adjacent to the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University (ECU) and Vidant Medical Center. Psychologists at the HCC have been involved in training practicum students from ECU's Department of Psychology since 2010 and accepted the first class of two psychology interns for the 2017-2018 academic year. Three of the psychology staff currently hold appointments as adjunct assistant professors at ECU in the Department of Psychology.

Veterans aged 55 and above represent over 70% of those served at the Greenville HCC. Per recent internal reports, 65% of Veterans served through the HCC live in rural or highly rural areas. The majority of patients are male, although a higher percentage of younger veterans and active duty service members are women. (Of those served in primary care at the HCC, 8.4% were female; nationally, women represented about 9.4% of the total veteran population in 2015)

Staff and leadership at the Health Care Center feel a deep commitment to training the next generation of psychologists and have embarked on this enterprise with excitement and a sense of the importance of the task. Clinical practice at the VA Greenville HCC is informed by research, and interns have the opportunity

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to receive training in evidence-based assessment and treatment. We expect interns to think critically, to generate and test hypotheses related to their clinical work, and become educated consumers of clinical research. At the VA Greenville HCC we focus on clinical practice and excellent service delivery in a setting where self-reflection and mentoring are valued. The intern is guided through training from a developmental approach. Interns will begin by observing their supervisors' clinical work, will advance to conducting assessment and therapy while receiving in-vivo supervision and feedback, and graduate to junior colleague status within each clinical rotation.

All staff psychologists are credentialed through the Durham VA Health Care System. Our Associate Chief of Mental Health is a psychiatrist, Wilfredo Rodriguez, M.D. Our Supervisory Psychologist is Kevin Smythe, Psy.D., and our Director of Training is Robert Shelton, Psy.D. The Chief of Psychology in the Durham Health Care System is Keith Shaw, Ph.D. The psychology staff is comprised of eight total psychologists.

Training Model and Program Philosophy

Our program follows the scientist-practitioner philosophy of training. We provide training in and encourage use of evidence-based psychological practice. Our developmental training model emphasizes the progression from graduate student to professional ready for entry-level independent practice in psychology. The primary focus of the internship year is graduated experiential learning. Competencies in professional practice are developed through clinical practice, supervision, didactic training and mentorship. Delivery of patient care is secondary to the educational mission of the internship. Interns play an important role in selecting their own training opportunities and developing training plans to meet their specific needs.

Program Goals & Objectives

Program Goals

The overarching goal of the Greenville VA HCC training program is to provide generalist training to prepare interns for clinical practice. The importance of clinical practice that has its foundation in the science of psychology is stressed. The program formally integrates science and practice in a number of ways including didactic seminars on practice issues that are based on current empirical literature and the use of empirically validated and supported assessment and clinical interventions. Our goals are consistent with the VA's mission to provide quality care to veterans while advancing state of the art services through research and education. Our program has nine primary goals.

Interns are expected to develop entry-level competency in the following profession-wide competency areas:

1. Research
2. Ethical and legal standards
3. Individual and cultural diversity
4. Professional values, attitudes, and behaviors
5. Communication and interpersonal skills
6. Assessment
7. Intervention
8. Supervision
9. Consultation and interprofessional/interdisciplinary skills

Training Schedule and Rotations

Prior to beginning orientation, interns develop an initial plan of training through telephone conference with the Training Director. During orientation week, interns further develop their training schedule for the entire year after hearing presentations by all the faculty psychologists describing their rotations and associated training experiences. Consulting closely with each other and the training committee, interns select those training experiences that best meet their individual training needs and interests. Interns are expected to develop a well-balanced rotation schedule rather than one that is narrowly focused. While an intern can expect to spend a minimum of 25% of time in face to face psychological services (e.g., interviews, assessment, individual and group therapy, consultation), face to face time would typically be closer to 40%.

Program Structure

We anticipate having two full-time funded internship positions for the 2018-2019 class.

Structure: Interns choose two of the three major rotations to participate in per year as well as two of the available minor rotations to participate in per year. The training year is structured in 6-month terms; each rotation (both major and minor) lasts 6 months. Interns will be engaged in the major rotation a total of 24 hours per week and in the minor rotation a range of 6-8 hours per week. In this fashion an intern can begin to develop a focus on an area of interest. Rotation assignments will be based on consideration of both the intern's interests and identified training needs. Every effort will be made to assign a set of clinical rotations that will balance the intern's interests with needs to ensure a broad range of clinical experiences.

1 st 6 Month Term	2 nd 6 Month Term
Major Rotation (24 hours/week)	Major Rotation (24 hours/week)
Minor Rotation (6-8 hours/week)	Minor Rotation (6-8 hours/week)
Supervision (4 hours/week)	
Didactics (3-4 hours/week)	

Major Rotations:

1. **Primary Care-Mental Health Integration**– the primary care clinic at the Greenville VA HCC served 12,000 Veterans in the preceding 12 months. There has been an active PC-MHI team within the primary care clinic for over two years, comprised of two psychologists, one clinical social worker, one registered nurse/care manager and one half-time psychiatrist. The intern on this rotation will be involved in a weekly interdisciplinary team meeting as well as “curbside consultations” with primary care providers and same-day consultations with patients seen in primary care. The focus is on learning the skills necessary to work in an integrated care setting with mental health providers who are co-located and collaborative in their work with primary care providers. PC-MHI’s focus is on mild to moderate anxiety and depression as well as on assisting with behavioral medicine interventions and facilitating patients accessing more intensive mental health services as needed. Interns will learn to provide services in an evidence-based tobacco cessation program (Quit Smart) as well as in the use of mindfulness meditation. The intern will be trained in conducting brief, functional assessments and in brief therapies based on cognitive behavior therapy such as Problem Solving Therapy (PST). PST has been recognized by APA’s Division 12 (Society for Clinical Psychology) as having strong research support as a treatment for depression (APA, 2006).

As noted, interns will have the opportunity to learn a range of other empirically based practices during their training in PC-MHI including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBT-I) which is the gold standard of non-pharmacological insomnia care. At the Greenville VA HCC, CBT-I is offered in the format of a 6-session treatment group that accepts referrals from the mental health clinic, primary care clinic, and Specialty Medical services.

Interns will also learn exposure therapy for noncompliance with Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) for Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA). This treatment is indicated for individuals with OSA who are unable to tolerate their CPAP due to anxiety reactions. At the VA Greenville HCC, this treatment is offered in the format of a 6-session treatment group that accepts referrals from mental health clinic, primary care clinic, and Specialty Medical services.

(PC-MHI Supervisors: Natalie Cross, Ph.D., Robert Shelton, Psy.D.)

2. General Mental Health – The intern on this rotation will work within a Behavioral Health Integrated Program (BHIP) and interact with other mental health disciplines including social work, nursing, and psychiatry providing team-based care for Veterans. At this time, the general mental health clinic is staffed with four psychologists, seven psychiatrists, three clinical social workers, and four registered nurses. There are opportunities for exposure to and training in evidence-based psychotherapies (EBPs), such as Cognitive Processing Therapy for PTSD (CPT) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for depression (CBT-D). The intern will receive training in co-facilitating therapy groups including CBT for depression. In addition, the intern will also receive training and experience in conducting comprehensive psychological evaluations, including personality and ADHD assessments. The intern will be expected to conduct initial intake interviews with new patients and to develop a small caseload as well as to participate in co-facilitating a therapy group. The intern will have the opportunity to work with patients presenting the full spectrum of mental health issues.

(Supervisors: Danielle Gagne, Ph.D., Jackie Jones-Alexander, Ph.D., Lauren Osborne, Ph.D., Kevin Smythe, Psy.D.)

3. Neuropsychology - Interns who choose to focus on neuropsychology will have the option to complete a major rotation in this area as well as a minor rotation in neuropsychology, depending on intern interest and staff availability. In terms of time this would total 40% of the intern's training year, making neuropsychology an area of emphasis based on APA's recommendations for descriptions of training programs. Interns will have the opportunity to provide assessment services and consultation for outpatient evaluations, with referral questions centered around dementia, stroke, traumatic brain injuries, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, learning disorders, ADHD, and mood disorders. Interns will eventually be responsible for full evaluations which includes completing chart reviews and clinical interviews, constructing test batteries, reviewing test data, conceptualizing cases, and writing clinical reports with personalized recommendations, as well as providing feedback to Veterans and their families. Interns will also be expected to attend and provide in-house seminars on different neurological and psychiatric topics, as well as participate in Neurology Grand Rounds at the local medical center. Interns may also help to provide consultation through the COACH program, which is a multidisciplinary, home-based program focused on supporting Veterans with dementia and their caregivers so that Veterans can remain in their homes for as long as safely possible. Fact-finding sessions will also be available, to help prep interns interested in board certification. (Supervisor: Katherine Kane, Ph.D.)

Minor rotations: Interns will choose from four minor rotations (6-8 hours per week) including:

- a) **Home Based Primary Care** (Greenville HCC) - The HBPC program provides comprehensive, longitudinal primary care by an interdisciplinary team in the homes of veterans with advanced chronic disabling diseases for whom routine clinic-based care is not effective. Interdisciplinary team members include a psychologist, a primary care physician, nurse practitioners, clinical social workers, an occupational therapist, and a nutritionist. Interns on this rotation will have the opportunity to conduct intake evaluations, brief therapy focused on lifestyle behavior change (health psychology and geropsychology exposure), longer term therapy, screening for cognitive impairment and mood symptoms, and some neuropsychological testing. Interns can expect to

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collaborate and consult with other healthcare disciplines on the HBPC team. (Supervisor: Kari Kirian, Ph.D.).

- b) **ECU Psychological Assessment and Specialty Services Clinic** is the training clinic for ECU's APA-accredited PhD clinical psychology program, which has a concentration in health psychology. This clinic is located approximately 2.2 miles from the Greenville VA HCC on the ECU East campus. The PASS Clinic provides behavioral health services to community members as well as ECU faculty, staff, and students. The PASS Clinic emphasizes empirically supported short-term treatments. Interns on this placement will receive advanced training in psychological assessment, the provision of individual psychotherapy, as well as training in the provision of supervision. (Supervisor: Tony Cellucci, Ph.D., ABPP)
- c) **ECU Brody School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine Health Psychology Service** - The Health Psychology Service minor rotation is in the ECU Brody School of Medicine Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic approximately two miles from the Greenville VA HCC. This minor rotation offers an experience in pre-surgical and pre-treatment psychological evaluation. Trainees will receive training in health psychology/behavioral medicine assessment and treatment of medically and psychologically complex patient populations including morbidly obese candidates for bariatric surgery, obese patients wishing to enroll in a behavioral weight loss program, renal transplant populations (donors and recipients), patients with Hepatitis C Virus considering retroviral treatment, and chronic pain patients considering spinal cord stimulator implantation. In addition to evaluation/assessment, trainees also have the opportunity to provide group interventions to these patient populations aimed at improving post-surgical/treatment outcomes. Interdisciplinary learning opportunities include side-by-side learning with psychology practicum students, psychiatry residents and medical students in clinic and in available didactic seminars. (Supervisors: Irma Corral, Ph.D., MPH., Brandon Kyle, Ph.D.)
- d) **ECU Brody School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine Consultation-Liaison Service** - The consultation-liaison (CL) service minor rotation is located at Vidant Medical Center approximately one mile from the Greenville VA HCC. Vidant Medical Center is licensed for 909 beds and is a Level 1 Trauma Center, one of 6 in the state of North Carolina. It is the only level I trauma center east of Raleigh, and thus is the hub of medical care for a broad and complicated rural region of over 2 million people. This minor rotation offers an experience in providing inpatient mental health assessment and treatment. Specifically, trainees receive training in conducting capacity evaluations, assisting physicians in differential diagnosis, working with patients on coping with illness, and administering psychometric tests to assist with treatment decisions. The mission of the CL service is to provide service to both the patient and the primary team in managing the patient's care while in the hospital as well as to help transition back to life outside the facility. Interdisciplinary care is highlighted in this experience, and trainees have the opportunity to develop consult/liaison skills while interacting with various medical teams. (Supervisor: Karlene Cunningham, Ph.D.)

DIDACTIC TRAINING and SEMINARS

Time is reserved each week for several seminar series designed to provide greater breadth and depth to each intern's training. These include:

Didactic Seminar Series

The Greenville VA HCC Psychology Training Program includes three hours of weekly didactic training for interns including seminars in the following areas: Psychological Assessment, Psychological Intervention, Supervision, Ethics, Diversity, and Professional Development.

a. Psychological Assessment

Seminars on psychological assessment will include those related to Neuropsychological Assessment, assessment in general mental health and some assessment in Health Psychology. Examples of these seminars include Neuropsychological Assessment of Traumatic Brain Injury, Personality Assessment, Suicide Risk Assessment, and Introduction to Integrated Care.

b. Psychological Intervention

Interns will learn about psychological intervention in terms of both evidence-based therapy relationships and evidence-based practices:

1) Evidence-Based Therapy Relationships

A series of lectures on therapeutic relationship factors will be provided. These “Common Factors” will be discussed in the context of relationship factors, treatment type, and patient factors all making significant contributions to treatment success. Interns will learn about therapeutic alliances, empathy, positive regard, goal consensus, congruence, genuineness, collecting client feedback, repairing alliance ruptures, and managing countertransference.

2) Evidence-Based Practices/Cognitive Processing Therapy for PTSD

Interns will learn about an array of evidence based practices, including cognitive behavioral therapies for PTSD, depression, insomnia, substance abuse, tobacco cessation, and chronic pain. Interns will be involved in formal VA training for Cognitive Processing Therapy, a gold standard treatment for PTSD. This training typically consists of three days of training early in the training year conducted by a nationally recognized VA training consultant, plus six months of supervised practice of the psychotherapy along with consultation from a VA training consultant. The three-day training takes place at the Durham VA Medical Center.

c. Supervision Series

A series of lectures on theories and methods of supervision is provided. This series is designed to orient interns to challenges and goals in providing supervision to trainees in the field of psychology. Topics covered include supervision for beginners, competencies of a clinical supervisor, multicultural issues in clinical supervision, and the ethics of clinical supervision.

d. Ethics Series

Continuing education in the field of ethics is a core goal of the Intern Lecture Series. These seminars are offered in a variety of formats, including case discussions, multimedia presentations, and debates of ethical issues. Topics covered include psychology ethics in the VA, boundaries and multiple relationships, confidentiality in the digital age, IRB and human subjects’ protection, and the ethics of neuropsychological testing.

e. Diversity Series

The Psychology Internship Program places a major emphasis on training in cultural sensitivity and issues of individual and cultural diversity in clinical practice. These seminars focus on recognizing issues of individual and cultural diversity, acknowledging these issues in a professional context, coping with personal biases and stereotypes, and effective practice with culturally diverse populations. The seminars are taught from an experiential perspective and interns are involved in role plays, case discussions, and other activities that promote self-reflection and interactive learning. Topics include military culture, experiences of women while active duty and as veterans, cultural competence in psychological assessment and intervention, and microaggressions.

f. Professional Development Series

A series of seminars are focused on professional development issues including preparing to find a job in professional psychology. Topics include adjustment to internship, understanding Veterans benefits, leadership in psychology, and applying to post-doctoral and professional positions,

Grand Rounds

The Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine and Neurology at ECU's Brody School of Medicine sponsor Grand Rounds on a routine basis. While interns are not required to attend Grand Rounds, attendance provides exposure to a broad base of knowledge.

Supervision

Each intern is provided a minimum of four hours of scheduled supervision weekly, two of which are provided individually by a member of the internship faculty. Typically, two hours of individual supervision are provided weekly on the major rotation, one hour individually is provided on the minor rotation, and an hour weekly of additional psychotherapy supervision or group supervision is provided. In addition, psychology faculty typically are available as needed for "ad hoc" supervision, so in actuality the total hours of supervision would exceed four weekly.

Requirements for Completion

Interns are provided with performance criteria for each rotation and an evaluation form that reflects the expectations regarding clinical competencies an intern should be attaining. In addition to ensuring a minimum of 2080 hours of training experience, completed over the course of 12 months, interns must achieve competency ratings equivalent to "Intermediate" in all competency areas of the rotations completed. Evaluations are conducted four times a year (i.e., mid-first rotation, end of first rotation, mid-second rotation, end of second rotation/end of year).

In addition to developing clinical competencies, maintaining good standing within the program also necessitates certain levels of professional behavior. Interns are expected to appear and conduct themselves as professionals. Veterans and staff shall be treated with dignity and respect. The APA ethical guidelines and HIPPA regulations will be strictly adhered to, especially in matters of confidentiality of information, non-exploitation of patients and avoiding conflicts of interests. Additionally, interns are responsible for conforming to all other Health Care Center and Office of Personnel Management regulations concerning conduct and behavior.

Facility and Training Resources

Interns are provided with office space and secure networked computers necessary for patient care and administrative responsibilities. They have access to the VA Medical Library services such as entire text databases like Ovid, as well as VA Intranet and Internet resources for clinical work and research.

Administrative Policies and Procedures

The VA Greenville HCC's policy on Authorized Leave is consistent with the national standard. You are welcome to discuss this with the Director of Training.

Due Process: Due process and grievance procedures are available upon request from Robert.Shelton2@va.gov .

Privacy policy: We collect no personal information from you when you visit our web site.

Self-Disclosure: We do not require interns to disclose personal information to their clinical supervisors except in cases where personal issues may be adversely affecting an intern's performance and such information is necessary to address these difficulties.

Training Staff

PSYCHOLOGY STAFF CREDENTIALS AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Natalie Cross, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical and Health Psychology, University of Florida

Licensed Psychologist, North Carolina #4090

Professional Organizations: American Psychological Association, Member, 2001-Present, APA Division 38 Member, Society for Health Psychology, APA Division 10 Member, The Society for the Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts

Clinical Interests: Integrated Care, Behavioral Sleep Medicine, Substance Use Disorders, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Mindfulness Meditation

Research Interests: Behavioral Sleep Medicine, Brain-Body Correlations in Stress and Illness

Theoretical Orientation: Cognitive-Behavioral, Motivational Interviewing, and Mindfulness Meditation

Danielle Gagne, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 2016, Saint Louis University

Postdoctoral Fellowship: (PC-MHI/Behavioral Medicine), Durham VA Health Care System

Licensed Psychologist: North Carolina # 5226

Clinical Interests: Behavioral medicine/health psychology with specific interests in eating disorders/weight management, behavioral sleep medicine, chronic pain, women's health, and coping with chronic illness

Research interests: Program Development, Health Psychology, Weight Stigma

Theoretical Orientation: Integrative, predominately Cognitive-Behavioral, Interpersonal, and Acceptance/Mindfulness-based approaches.

Jackie Jones-Alexander, Ph.D.

Education: PhD, Clinical Psychology, 2006, SUNY-University at Albany

Licensed Psychologist, North Carolina #3767

Clinical Interests: PTSD, Depression, Anxiety, Group Psychotherapy, Smoking Cessation, Cognitive Processing Therapy for PTSD

Research: Treatments for PTSD, Depression, and Anxiety, psychology training, implementation of CBT in Group formats

Theoretical Orientation: predominately cognitive-behavioral and mindfulness-based

Katherine Kane, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Psychology with curricular emphasis in Geropsychology, 2012, University of Colorado at Colorado

Postdoctoral Fellowship: (Neuropsychology), VA Boston Health Care System

Licensed Psychologist, Rhode Island #PS01394

Clinical Interests: Veterans' health, neuropsychology, geropsychology

Research Interests: Assessment, dementia care, psychometrics, vascular issues

Theoretical orientation: Flexible battery approach, CBT

Kari Kirian, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Health Psychology, 2012, East Carolina University

Joined the Greenville Health Care Center team in 2015

Professional Organizations: American Psychological Association, Association for Psychologists in Academic Health Centers, Society for Behavioral Medicine

Clinical Interests: health psychology, lifestyle behavior change, primary care psychology

Theoretical Orientation: Cognitive-behavioral

Lauren K. Osborne, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, 2016, The University of Southern Mississippi

Fellowship: Bay Pines VA Health Care System Substance Abuse Treatment Program/Mental Health Clinic

Licensed Psychologist: Colorado PSY.0004660

Clinical Interests: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Substance Use Disorders, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Anxiety

Research Interests: Functional impact of psychotherapy, program development/evaluation

Theoretical orientation: Cognitive-Behavioral, Humanistic

Kevin Smythe, Psy.D.

Education: Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, 2004, James Madison University

Licensed Psychologist, North Carolina #3249

Professional Organizations: American Psychological Association

Clinical Interests: Treatment of Depression, Anxiety, and PTSD.

Research: Palliative Care, Health Psychology, Crisis Intervention, and Industrial/Organizational Psychology.

Theoretical Orientation: Integrative, predominately Cognitive-Behavioral and Humanistic approaches.

Robert Shelton, Psy.D.

Education: Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, 1999, Spalding University

Licensed Psychologist, North Carolina #2621

Professional Organizations: American Psychological Association

Clinical Interests: Veteran's health, pain management, primary care psychology

Research Interests: chronic disease management, mindfulness based interventions, psychology training, health effects of stress

Theoretical Orientation: Predominantly cognitive-behavioral and acceptance/mindfulness-based.

Adjunct Faculty

Tony Cellucci, Ph.D., ABPP

Clinical Professor and Director of ECU Psychological Assessment and Specialty Services Clinic (PASS)

Education: MS Behavior Therapy, Southern Illinois University; PhD, Clinical Psychology, 1981

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Licensed Psychologist, North Carolina # 1018 HSP

Professional Organizations: American Psychological Association Div 12 Clinical (Fellow) & Div 50

Addictive Behaviors; Association of Psychology Training Clinics (APTC) Past President

Clinical Interests: CBT Psychotherapy for adults with emotional problems and addictive behaviors, HIV counseling

Teaching and Research Interests: Motivational interviewing, substance abuse, psychological assessment, ethics and supervision issues in training

Irma Corral, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 2009, San Diego State University-University of California San Diego Joint Doctoral Program

Fellowship: Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, East Carolina University

Licensed Psychologist: North Carolina #4144

Clinical Interests: Behavioral Medicine Interventions, Pre-Surgical and Pre-Transplant Evaluation, Depression, Anxiety

Research Interests: Racial/ethnic disparities in health behavior and chronic illness

Theoretical orientation: Cognitive-Behavioral, Behavioral

S. Karlene Cunningham, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 2014, Auburn University

Postdoctoral Fellowship: (Behavioral Medicine/HIV) Brown University Clinical Psychology Training Consortium

Licensed Psychologist, Rhode Island #PS01570; North Carolina #5007 HSP

Clinical Interests: Sexual and reproductive health, perinatal mood disorders, chronic illness (e.g., HIV), cancer
Research Interests: Sexual health, psychometrics, assessment, implementation science, evidenced based practice
Theoretical Orientation: Transtheoretical, predominately Cognitive-Behavioral and Interpersonal approaches

Brandon N. Kyle, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 2010, West Virginia University

Fellowship: South Texas Veterans Health Care System (San Antonio, TX), Primary Care/Health Psychology Emphasis

Licensed Psychologist: North Carolina #4157

Professional Organizations: Association for Contextual Behavioral Science, Society of Behavioral Medicine, American Psychological Association

Clinical Interests: Pre-surgical (e.g., bariatric, transplant, spinal cord stimulator) psychological evaluation. Evidence-based, cognitive-behavioral assessment and intervention for health behavior change, chronic pain, depression, and anxiety.

Research Interests: Pain, including acute, chronic, dental, and spinal cord stimulator implantation. Medical education, particularly undergraduate and graduate psychiatry & behavioral medicine education.

Theoretical orientation: Behavioral, Cognitive-Behavioral

Trainees

2017-2018 Internship Class

Pacific University

Marywood University

Area:

Greenville is widely recognized as the cultural, educational, economic, and medical hub of Eastern North Carolina. While retaining its Southern charm, Greenville has grown into the 10th largest city in the state and is now a thriving, small metropolitan city of about 90,000 in the heart of Pitt County with a population of over 175,000 residents.

Greenville is a growing university-medical community, home to East Carolina University and Vidant Medical Center, along with a strong industrial community. Greenville is also an accommodating event and leisure destination with an expanding Greenville Convention Center Campus, and a vibrant Uptown Greenville District with its own diverse art, music, food, and festival scene featuring an increasing number of unique, locally-owned businesses, galleries, shops, and restaurants.

Greenville can be found in the center of Pitt County, along the beautiful Tar River in Eastern North Carolina's Inner Banks, approximately 85 miles east of the state capital of Raleigh and 87 miles west of the Atlantic Ocean. The area's numerous waterways offer opportunities for boating, kayaking, fishing, hiking, camping, and birding. Our community is also fortunate to have one of the most extensive recreation and greenway systems in the region, including the 324 acre River Park North, the Greenville Town Common, and Greenville Greenway System, which visitors and residents can enjoy during all four seasons every year thanks to our relatively mild climate.

East Carolina University is the 3rd largest public university in North Carolina, with over 27,000 students and 6,000 faculty and staff. ECU Brody School of Medicine is affiliated with Vidant Medical Center, one of four academic medical centers in North Carolina. This 900+ bed academic medical center is a tertiary

referral center and provides acute, intermediate, rehabilitation and outpatient health services to more than 1.4 million people in 29 counties.

Area Links:

[Greenville-Pitt Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greenville-Pitt County NC Convention and Visitors Center](#)

[Uptown Greenville](#) (a private nonprofit dedicated to revitalizing the city's center—the Uptown business district)

[Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge](#) (a non-profit arts organization dedicated to educating, inspiring and making the arts accessible to the entire Pitt County community)

[East Carolina University](#)

[ECU Visual and Performing Arts](#)

[Vidant Medical Center](#)

[East Carolina Velo Cycling Club](#)

[Running Clubs](#)

[Canoe/Kayaking](#)

[Greenville, NC # 33 on Forbes list of “Best Small Places for Business and Careers”](#)

Beaches: [North Carolina Crystal Coast](#) “With more than 85 miles of enticing North Carolina coastline, nine distinct regions – including “America’s Favorite Town” – and hundreds of events and activities”

[Hammocks Beach State Park](#) “A crown jewel of the North Carolina coast and Hammocks Beach State Park is Bear Island—a three-mile-long, undeveloped barrier island accessible by the park’s passenger ferry, private ferry or by paddling a canoe or kayak.”

[“Best-Kept Secrets: NC's Inner and Outer Banks a land of pirates, wolves, legends”](#)

Nearby communities:

[Washington, NC](#) - “the original Washington”

[New Bern, NC](#) – North Carolina’s Colonial Capitol

[Raleigh, NC](#)

Airports: Locally, Greenville is serviced by [Pitt-Greenville Airport](#)

Additional flights are available out of [Raleigh-Durham International Airport](#)

[Greenville Map](#)

Driving Directions to VA Greenville Health Care Center

From the East

Take NC 43 to Highway 11 into Greenville.

Make a left on Arlington Blvd, and follow to Stantonsburg Road. Make a right onto Stantonsburg. Follow to Rite Aid Drug Store.

At Rite Aid Drug Store, make a left onto Moye Blvd. Moye Blvd ends at 5th Street. Straight ahead, through the traffic light, is the Greenville HCC (401 Moye Blvd, Greenville, NC 27834) just past Jimmy John's and Microtel Inn. Look for the large blue VA logo on the front of the building.

From the West

Take NC 264 into Greenville.

As you enter Greenville and start approaching Vidant Memorial Hospital, look for a Rite Aid Drug Store on your right. At the Rite Aid Drug Store, make a left onto Moye Blvd. Moye Blvd. ends at 5th Street. Straight ahead, through the traffic light, is the Greenville HCC (401 Moye Blvd, Greenville, NC 27834) just past Jimmy John's and Microtel Inn. Look for the large blue VA logo on the front of the building.