

Georgia State University Department of Psychology

The Joint Community and Clinical Psychology Option (CLC)

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This program draws together two specialty areas, Clinical and Community psychology, and therefore it requires its students to fulfill all requirements for both. It is designed for applicants whose career interests require comprehensive training in both specialties. Those whose primary interest is in becoming a licensed clinical psychologist are advised to apply to the clinical program only and supplement their training with courses from the Community area.

Competency Areas For Students Dually-Enrolled in Community and Clinical Psychology

Distinguishing Features of Community Clinical Training

Clinical Community Psychology at GSU includes a strengths-based, culturally competent approach to mental health and healthy development that emphasizes theory, research and practice at multiple levels of analysis—psychological, sociopolitical, and ecological. It is informed by the traditions of prevention and social justice in community psychology and by the focus on assessment and individualized mental health interventions in clinical psychology. In addition to being qualified for clinical licensure, students who complete this joint program will receive training in the range of indirect services necessary for interventions at the institutional and community levels: consultation, program development and evaluation, social policy, and action research.

General Competencies

- A. An ethical, strengths-based perspective on human behavior and intervention that incorporates both social-psychological assets and theories of psychopathology.
- B. An application of principles from the prevention and social justice traditions in community psychology to the practice of clinical psychology. Likewise, the application of clinical knowledge on assessment, mental disorder, interpersonal and group dynamics processes, and behavior change to direct services in community settings.
- C. Expertise in the choice and use of research methods that are particularly appropriate to applied settings. In particular, mixed-methods, action and participatory methods, and methods appropriate to needs assessment, formative evaluation and the production of evidence-based psychological interventions.

Specific Competencies for Theory, Research, and Practice

1. Human diversity and multicultural psychology—this includes the settings that provide services
2. Ethical psychological interventions at multiple levels of analysis: ecological, sociopolitical, and psychological.
3. Consultation and supervision
4. Program development and evaluation
5. Social policy and social change strategies
6. Participatory and Action research