

New York State Office of Mental Health



Department of Psychology
Doctoral Clinical Externship Program
2025-2026



Creedmoor Psychiatric Center

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Psychology Department

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Executive Director

Martha Adams Sullivan, DSW, LMFT, MA

Clinical Director

Thulasi Reddy, MD

Director of Psychology

Constance Freeman, Ph.D.

Extern Supervisors

Thomas Pabon, Ph.D.

Stephanie Leung, Psy.D.

Darlyne Richardson, Ph.D.

Didactic Presenters

All members of the Psychology Department

Rev. 12.20.24

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Facility

The aim of the Creedmoor Psychiatric Center (CPC) Doctoral Externship Program in Psychology is to provide an extensive planned and programmed sequence of training experiences which ensures that our externs engage in compassionate, culturally appropriate, and evidenced-based mental health services for our adult psychiatric patients. Creedmoor offers a unique training opportunity for doctoral students in that it is one of the largest New York State Office of Mental Health adult psychiatric facilities to offer an extensive range of treatment modalities and clinical approaches. The direct responsibility for the administration of the facility is vested in the Executive Director, Martha Adams Sullivan, D.S.W., L.M.F.T, M.A.

Creedmoor's mission is to provide compassionate, high quality mental health services. The institution's goals are to partner with recipients in recovery by promoting self-help and empowerment in formulating and attaining goals related to living, learning, working, and socializing through individualized, age appropriate, culturally competent, and evidence-based treatment; and, to ensure a safe and secure environment through the development and implementation of safety programs which promote recipient, staff, and community safety. Creedmoor provides treatment for in-patients and out-patients.

Creedmoor has a culturally diverse patient population and staff which represent the multi-ethnic blend of this geographic area. The facility's comprehensive service delivery focuses on individualized person-centered care in its in-patient treatment units, out-patient Wellness and Recovery Centers, and residences, all aimed at supporting each patient's path to recovery.

This highly sought-after externship creates a dynamic and creative learning environment in which education, training, experience, supervision, role-modeling, and mentoring blend with the externs' strengths and abilities toward the achievement of their professional competencies. The supervisors and all psychologists in the program are highly trained with years of experience in psychiatric settings. Their theoretical backgrounds and clinical interventions are broad and comprehensive which meet the challenges of the patients' needs and abilities. The externs have the valuable opportunity of becoming full members of multidisciplinary treatment teams which provide additional active and integrative learning environments. We seek candidates who have a strong interest in practicing in a culturally diverse environment and caring for underserved populations. Creedmoor views our approach which integrates social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental influences as most beneficial to patients' recovery and externs' professional development.

Program

The purpose of the externship program is to provide a formalized and systematic program of supervised training which assists students in integrating their graduate education and training into a current model of professional practice consistent with the needs of a public health agency. The training faculty have a wide range of experience with this population and have successfully adapted several theoretical frameworks for working with psychiatric patients. The externs are offered a rich and broad experience which is appropriate for the education and training of professional psychologists. The time commitment is two days weekly, one of which must be a Tuesday, from 8-4:30. The program begins in September.

Training

Training sites are three units within Building #40. Each has a full-time in-patient psychology supervisor on each unit.

Dr. Thomas Pabon, Multicultural Recovery Skills, Spanish Language
Dr. Stephanie Leung, Multicultural Recovery Skills Unit, Asian Language
Dr. Darlyne Richardson, Geriatric Integrated Care

Psychology staff as well as multi-disciplinary staff of the facility are the didactic seminar presenters.

Extern Responsibilities

Externs are responsible for direct care in providing individual and group psychotherapy and family contacts as needed, and for completion of psychological assessments. Externs attend ward clinical rounds, discharge meetings, case conferences, and therapeutic community meetings. Externs are required to attend weekly hour-long training seminars on Tuesdays on topics related to numerous treatment issues of psychiatric patients. They are encouraged to attend monthly Psychology Department meetings, Grand Rounds, workshops, seminars, and OMH teleconferences. Externs overlap with the department's doctoral interns during the week.

Supervision

Externs receive, at a minimum, one hour weekly of formal one-to-one supervision for their individual cases and group therapy by their on-site supervisors as well as on-going informal supervision. Groups are co-led with the extern's supervisor. There is one hour monthly of group supervision by the Director of the Psychology Department. The doctoral interns will provide peer supervision of an extern's case starting mid-year.

Goals of the Externship

To integrate theoretical knowledge with clinical skills in carrying out psychological services in the diagnosis, treatment, and assessment of adult psychiatric patients. Externs will sharpen their skills as therapists with this population and will attain an initial competency in providing therapeutic services to psychiatric patients in individual and group therapy.

To use psychological tests as a means of obtaining valuable information for the diagnosis and treatment of patients. Externs will develop an initial competency in the writing of assessments for psychiatric patients. The reports will reflect the sequential development of their testing skills with this population. They will present and discuss the report and its recommendations at team meetings.

To enhance their theoretical models and a view of themselves as professional psychologists. Externs will develop a more secure sense of themselves as psychologists with sound clinical judgment by honing their integration of several appropriate theoretical models from which they provide treatment. They will develop a greater ability to work independently and understand the impact of their treatment on the patients.

To work effectively with staff on the team and in the facility. Externs will gain an understanding of the complex nature of multidisciplinary teams, both as individual units and as a blending of individuals. Externs will learn to maneuver effectively within the system, forming productive working alliances with staff, and establishing themselves as valued professionals within the team.

Application

Please submit the following by January 13, 2025.

- a letter of interest
- a current resume
- one psychological assessment on an adult client
- two letters of reference, one from a previous externship placement supervisor and one from a university faculty
- a transcript of doctoral coursework (this does not need to be an official copy)

Applications are to be e-mailed to Dr. Freeman at: constance.freeman@omh.ny.gov. Interviews for qualified candidates will be held from January 22, 2025 to February 28, 2025. The Match will occur on March 3, 2025.

