Overview of Academic Program Structure

The clinical program curriculum consists of a four-year academic sequence followed by a University-approved internship. The academic coursework consists of foundation courses in psychology and clinical psychology, a research sequence culminating in Doctoral Research Projects I and II, an assessment sequence, and a psychotherapy sequence. Students receive didactic training in assessment and psychotherapy and are required to see patients through the Parnes Clinic as part of the practicum components of the assessment sequence (first and second year) and psychotherapy sequence (third year and fourth year). In the second, third, and fourth (optional) years of the program, students also complete externships in approved training facilities. This work is concomitant with full-time attendance at school. Research training is also an integral part of the basic curriculum. Students receive training in research methodology, design, and statistics and are required to complete two doctoral research projects. Many members of the faculty are available via a research seminar to be research advisers. Students indicate a preference for their research adviser at the end of their first year. Student preference is weighed against faculty availability in order to match all students with a research adviser. The research requires completion of a comprehensive, critical review of the literature (Doctoral Research Project I) as well as a qualitative or quantitative empirical study (Doctoral Research Project II).

Overview of Academic Curriculum – Please visit the Student Resources Page for a detailed look at course offerings and descriptions

Coursework

1. Foundation Courses: This includes courses in Physiological Psychology, Psychopharmacology, Cognitive Bases of Behavior, Affective Bases of Behavior, Lifespan Development, Social Psychology, History and Systems of Psychology, and Adult Psychopathology. Please review the Clinical Program Core Sequence Requirements on the Student Resource page.

2. Assessment Training: This includes 5 courses along with 5 adjunctive practicums in Clinical Interviewing, Cognitive Assessment, Personality Assessment and advanced Clinical Assessment I and II. Students conduct intake reports on patients in the clinic, conduct assessment batteries and write reports on volunteers in their first year and learn to administer and integrate comprehensive assessment reports on patients in the clinic in their second year. Please review the Clinical Program Core Sequence Requirements on the Student Resource page. For a detailed description of the assessment training, go to page 24 of the Student Handbook.

3. Psychotherapy Training: Clinical courses include those in Multicultural and Diversity Issues in Psychology, Issues in Professional Practice, and Proseminar in Clinical Psychology. Students also receive training in basic relationship skills, humanistic therapy, and common factors in psychotherapy in the following courses: Concepts of
Psychotherapy, Basic Psychotherapy Practicum, and the assessment courses and practicum listed above. Students are also required to take theory of psychotherapy courses from *Category A: Psychodynamic Psychotherapy* (Psychoanalytic Theory and either Self Psychology, Object Relations Therapy, or Interpersonal Psychotherapy), *Category B: Cognitive Behavior Therapy* (Cognitive Therapy and Behavior Therapy) and *Category C: Other Modalities and Populations* (theories of intervention in modalities other than individual therapy and populations other than adults). Students also treat patients in the training clinic in their third and fourth year using either cognitive behavior therapy or psychodynamic therapy (or sequentially both), and are provided with individual supervision and group supervision (by enrolling in the individual psychotherapy practicum). For a detailed description of clinical training, go to page 24 of the Student Handbook. Students can also review the Clinical Program Core Sequence Requirements and the Clinical Program Concentrations on the Student Resource page under Registration Materials.

4. Research Training: This includes training in research methods, design, statistics, and data analysis. Students are also required to take two research seminars, which provide exposure to content areas in which faculty conduct or are willing to sponsor research; In addition, students complete Doctoral Research Projects I and II. The program’s research training is discussed in more detail on page 32 Students can also review the Clinical Program Core Sequence Requirements on the Student Resource page under Registration Materials.

5. Elective Courses: Students have the opportunity to select from a wide range of elective courses, minors and concentrations.

The Student Resource page lists the Curriculum Planners, the Graduation Checklists, and the Curriculum Grids, which contain a list of all available courses in the school. The Curriculum Planner is a year-by-year guide for students to plan their coursework and training over their five years in the clinical program. The Graduation Checklist allows students to check all required and elective coursework taken to ensure that they have completed all 114 credits required to graduate from the program. Students can visit the Student Resources page to review the Curriculum Planner and the Graduation Checklist for their incoming class. Students can also visit the Student Resource page to view the latest Fall and Spring Curriculum Grid, which offers the most updated listing of current course dates, times, and instructors in the program.

Students can also review the courses open to students across doctoral programs, and the list of concentrations and minors offered in the program and the school on the Student Resources page.