

NSU Department of Counseling Newsletter

Fall 2020

NSU DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES FOR THE FORT LAUDERDALE/DAVIE,
MIAMI, PALM BEACH, TAMPA, & ORLANDO CAMPUSES,
AND THE ONLINE FORMAT

*Greetings from
the Chair*

Dear NSU Department of Counseling:



Welcome to the 2020-21 Academic Year! Our fall launch has seen many firsts so far this term. Campus-based faculty, staff, and students are proudly sporting our NSU Shark Swag as we are 'masked up' in compliance with the Return of the Sharks plan. Face-to-face instruction has been modified to offer a Blend-Flex delivery method to allow for a flexible approach to learning as we navigate campus and community safety in response to the pandemic. Our regional campus format has also been revised to a hybrid weekend/online delivery reflecting a necessary response to student needs during this crisis. The department also launched its inaugural 8-week New Student Orientation self-paced course to welcome students across our concentrations and to provide information and opportunities to build community.

Speaking of community, as counselors we have opportunities to learn from each other, care for each other, listen to each other, and to support each other as we continue on our academic and professional journeys. We are aware of the pain endured by marginalized individuals who have experienced direct and vicarious racial trauma, which was acutely exacerbated over the summer and beyond as brutalities continue. Your faculty are engaged in a process to create space to talk more about how we are engaging in these difficult, but crucial conversations in the classroom, as well as about what we will do as a department to encourage student voice. Your voice is needed! Please participate in our discussions to improve how we can foster inclusion among diverse students, faculty, and staff, as well as how we can better prepare students to feel culturally competent in working with clients experiencing racial trauma. Email tj290@nova.edu or counseling@nova.edu to get involved and join our action plan.

We are living, learning, and working through a health, safety, economic, and cultural transition that no one has seen in our lifetimes. I'm so proud to be a part of this team and to provide opportunities for our strength and resilience to shine through.

Have a great semester! Go Sharks!
Tara S. Jungersen Ph.D., LMHC, CCMHC, NCC
Department Chair

NSU

Florida

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

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Department and Counseling Concentration Updates

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Concentration

As of July 1, 2020, FL Board 491 no longer requires 1,000 pre-master's clinical hours to begin the post-master's registered internship. The new Board 491 requirement is 700 hours. You can view the requirements at floridasmentalhealthprofessions.gov

It is imperative that you note that NSU's curriculum will remain at 750 hours. Thus, as a requirement to graduate, you will still need a minimum of 750 total hours, with a minimum of 280 direct hours, as per the Practicum and Internship Handbook.

If you have any specific questions regarding this change, please contact the Clinical Coordinators – Dr. Elda Veloso or Dr. Shannon Karl.

School Counseling Concentration

Many exciting improvements are underway with the school counseling concentration; most notably the introduction of the School Counseling Hybrid program which allows for more flexibility and for students to complete the program at an accelerated pace. Here at NSU, we believe in developing the school counselor identity and fostering professional development opportunities. Recently, three of our School Counseling students were selected as "Emerging Leaders" for the Florida School Counselor Association (FSCA) and another student is serving on the membership committee!

Substance Abuse Concentration

In response to student and community needs, the department added several new Substance Abuse Counseling practicum sites over the summer. Students continue to provide much-needed substance abuse counseling services in response to increased service needs during the pandemic.

Applied Behavior Analysis Concentration

NSU is excited to announce that the Association for Behavior Analysis International has verified the MS in Counseling's Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) concentration courses toward the 5th Edition coursework requirements for eligibility to take the Board Certified Behavior Analyst® or Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst® examination. This new verified course sequence (VCS) commenced at the start of the Fall 2020 semester and includes Behavior Development Solution examination preparation modules that expose students to simulated text experiences.

For more information about the ABA concentration and the opportunities for careers in ABA, contact Dr. Emmy Maurilus at 954-262-6922 or em986@nova.edu.

The counseling department would like to recognize that **#BLACKLIVESMATTER**

#BLACKLIVESMATTER

Counseling Faculty Spotlight



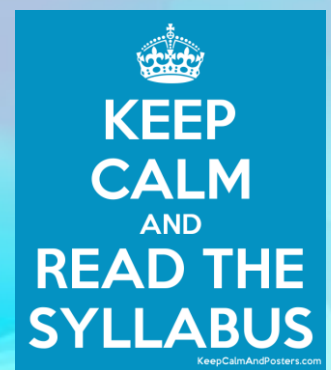
Dr. Anna Owens

Dr. Anna K. Owens earned a doctoral degree from Florida Atlantic University, a CACREP accredited program in Counselor Education and Supervision. She possesses a concentration of knowledge in both School Counseling and Clinical Mental Health, while developing a strong research focus in evidenced-based social and emotional learning (SEL) interventions. As an experienced certified school counselor, ESOL director, and counselor in private practice; Dr. Owens has worked in diverse settings with thousands of students, educators, and various educational stakeholders. As president and past-president of the Chi Sigma Iota Beta Rho Chapter, she understands the dynamics required for effective leadership specifically within the academic setting. Dr. Owens holds leadership positions within International Marriage and Family Counseling (IAMFC), Florida School Counseling Association (FSCA), Evidence-Based School Counseling Conference (EBSCC), and the Mental Health Counselors Associations of Palm Beach (MHCAPB). In addition, Dr. Owens serves as an appointed member of the Education Task Force committee for the City of Boca Raton and enjoys volunteer work for a nonprofit woman's organization within the community.

These various leadership roles foster the opportunity to merge a passion for teaching and supervision with personal interest in critical inquiry into counseling research.
— Dr. Anna Owens

Program Office Tips and Reminders...

- Check your **Canvas Student Department of Counseling Student Center** frequently!
- Check your NSU email **at least once per week** so program faculty and staff can get a hold of you with important program updates.
- Use **Degree Works to run a degree audit**, which is very informative as it provides all student completed coursework as well as coursework still needed. Access it through NSU Sharklink: <http://sharklink.nova.edu>
- **Save program handbooks and course syllabi on a cloud storage.** You might need them years down the road for state boards or applications for schools or scholarships.
- Registration for the **Winter 2021 term begins October 26, 2020!** Log into the Department of Counseling Student Center to identify when you will have access to register.
- **New students** complete the Self-paced New Student Orientation (NSO) Course by October 11, 2020.



Student Updates



Counseling Student Organization

The Counseling Student Organization is pleased to announce the results of the recent election for the 2020-21 Board:

- President: Yekaterina Sorsher**
- Secretary: Nicole Torek**
- MHC Representative: Karli Gallo**
- Main Campus VP: Samantha LoForte**
- Online VP: Megan McInerney**
- Tampa VP: Cynthia Johnson**

Students interested in the remaining open positions should contact CSO Faculty Advisor Dr. Isabel Thompson or CSO President Yekaterina.

To join CSO, go to the Counseling Student Organization in Canvas and 'like and follow us' on Facebook!

Professional Development Virtual Counseling Conferences

Florida Association for Behavior Analysis (FABA)
40th Annual Meeting 2020
September 16th - 18th

71st Annual Florida Counseling Association (FCA) Convention
Oct 2nd & 3rd

The Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI)
Culturo-Behavior Science for a Better World Conference
October 7th - 9th

SAIGE 2020 Virtual Conference
Society for Sexual, Affectional, Intersex, & Gender Expansive
Identities (formerly ALGBTIC)
October 10th & 11th

Florida School Counselor Association (FSCA) Convention
2020 reFOCUS
October 29th - 31st

Congratulations, Officers!

Dear NSU counseling students and staff,

This is my second year in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Master's program. After teaching for 16 years, I was ready for a change, so I analyzed my favorite aspects of teaching and it ultimately led me to counseling. I was instantly excited about the decision and now that I have finished a full year at NSU, I could not be happier with my choice! Being an online student, I was fearful that I would not feel connected to the school, but that is not the case at all. The Residential Institute was a game changer and allowed me to connect with my peers and form friendships and study partners. I attend webinars provided by our counseling department and have followed the advice to join various counseling organizations. The professors also provide opportunities to be involved in our field. Last semester, I was one of three students who gave a presentation on Trauma-Focused CBT with Dr. Teixeira at the virtual American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA) conference, which was an incredible opportunity with positive feedback from the attendees! Dr. McKibben was kind enough to connect me with a community organization that helps with crisis response and I plan to pursue that opportunity once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. At this point, I plan to work with adults, but I am looking forward to my remaining time at NSU while I develop my specialty and prepare for life as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor!

Counseling Student Spotlight



Lisa Davis

"Right now, my focus is to take opportunities that arise in my life, even if I don't feel ready for them, and I encourage you to do the same; just go for it!" - Lisa Davis, CMHC student