

# **Applied Social and Community Psychology:** *A Graduate Program for Psychology in the Public Interest*

Department of Psychology  
College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
North Carolina State University  
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## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Applied Social and Community Psychology program at NC State University is a research-intensive graduate program that trains students to produce knowledge and solutions that address social problems through the application of psychological science. Students learn how to use psychological theory and research methodology to examine societal issues from individual, community, group, organizational, and policy perspectives. Faculty and students participate in collaborative research with both public and private organizations in local, national, and international communities.

Our mentor-based training model builds the theoretical foundation and applied research skills necessary to develop, implement, and evaluate interventions and policies addressing important problems of society. Graduates are employed in local, state, national, and international settings, including academic institutions, government and non-profit agencies, and private industry.

Students accepted into the Applied Social and Community Psychology program work towards the Ph.D. degree.

## **TRAINING AND COURSEWORK**

The program curriculum emphasizes: (a) theory and research on social change; (b) developing, implementing, and evaluating prevention and intervention programs; (c) examining various forms of diversity, inequality and justice among individuals, institutions, communities, and societies; and (d) action-oriented research methods. Program coursework includes training in:

- Community psychology
- Social psychology
- Innovation and technology
- Translational science
- Social and behavioral health
- Inequality and social justice
- Applied research methodology
- Advanced statistical methods
- Program development and evaluation
- Specialty topics reflecting faculty expertise

Please consult our program webpage for a detailed list of program requirements, course offerings, and training plans. Individual programs of study are tailored to the student's research interests and career objectives. Students may supplement their psychological studies with interdisciplinary coursework in other areas such as public administration, economics, sociology, criminology, communication, design, and engineering. Students may also take courses at other area universities via the Inter--Institutional Registration Program, including Duke University, North Carolina Central University, and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## FACULTY

Program faculty are united by the shared goal of understanding, transforming, and improving the contexts and systems in which humans develop and interact. Within this broad context, we have a wide range of research interests:

### **Dr. Craig C. Brookins**

Associate Professor, Ph.D., Michigan State University  
Community-based interventions to promote well-being and justice  
Email: [biadnow@ncsu.edu](mailto:biadnow@ncsu.edu)  
Engaging Communities Lab: <http://engaging.wordpress.ncsu.edu/>

### **Dr. Jeni L. Burnette**

Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University  
Social psychology and self-regulation  
Email: [jburne5@ncsu.edu](mailto:jburne5@ncsu.edu)  
Mindset Lab: <http://jeni.acoportfolio.com/mindset-lab>

### **Dr. Sarah L. Desmarais**

Associate Professor and Program Coordinator, Ph.D., Simon Fraser University  
Assessments and interventions in correctional settings  
Email: [sdesmarais@ncsu.edu](mailto:sdesmarais@ncsu.edu)  
Forensic Psychology in the Public Interest Lab: <http://ncsuforensicpsychology.com/>

### **Dr. Denis O. Gray**

Professor, Ph.D., Michigan State University  
Innovation and university/industry cooperation  
Email: [denis\\_gray@ncsu.edu](mailto:denis_gray@ncsu.edu)  
Innovation Studies Team: <http://www.ncsu.edu/iucrc/>

### **Dr. Elan Hope**

Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Michigan  
Civic engagement, racial identity, and racial discrimination  
Email: [ehope@ncsu.edu](mailto:ehope@ncsu.edu)  
Hope Lab: <http://www.elanhope.com/#aboutus>

### **Dr. Joseph Simons-Rudolph**

Teaching Assistant Professor, Ph.D., NC State University  
Men and masculinity  
Email: [jmrudolp@ncsu.edu](mailto:jmrudolp@ncsu.edu)  
Men and Masculinity Lab: <https://sites.google.com/a/ncsu.edu/maml>

### **Dr. Laura Widman**

Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Tennessee  
Adolescent sexual health and HIV/STD prevention  
Email: [lmwidman@ncsu.edu](mailto:lmwidman@ncsu.edu)  
Teen Health Lab: <http://www4.ncsu.edu/~lmwidman/>

### **Dr. Mary Wyer**

Associate Professor, Ph.D., NC State University  
Diversity in science, technology, and higher education  
Email: [mary\\_wyer@ncsu.edu](mailto:mary_wyer@ncsu.edu)  
Stereotypes Lab: <http://www.ncsu.edu/project/stereotypes/index.htm>

## **Allied Faculty and Scholars**

### **Dr. Barri Burrus**

Adjunct Faculty; RTI International

### **Dr. Lindsey McGowen**

Research Scholar

### **Dr. Roger Mitchell**

Emeritus Professor

### **Dr. Elaine Rideout**

Adjunct Faculty; WISERsystems, Inc.

### **Dr. Michelle Russell**

Postdoctoral Fellow

### **Dr. Richard Van Dorn**

Adjunct Faculty; RTI International

### **Dr. Wendee Wechsberg**

Adjunct Faculty; RTI International

## **SERVICE**

Consistent with the traditions of a Land Grant University, the Applied Social and Community Psychology program has established a record of service to a broad range of communities including rural and urban neighborhoods, private enterprises, state, local and national education/government, and international organizations. These activities are considered central to our program and training goals.

## **ADMISSION**

Students are admitted each fall semester. Applications are due January 5, 2017 for the 2017-2018 cohort. Applicants should have a strong academic record, competitive GRE scores, and research experience. In addition to prior degrees in psychology, applicants with appropriate degrees in other social sciences, engineering, and related disciplines are encouraged to apply. Relevant work and volunteer experiences are valued. Decisions are based on the appropriate match between each applicant's strengths, program goals, and faculty expertise.

All applications are handled through the NCSU Graduate School and the on--line application system at: <http://www.ncsu.edu/applygrad>. More specific details on what is needed, where to obtain the appropriate forms and/or how to submit required information can be found at: [http://psychology.chass.ncsu.edu/graduate/documents\\_and\\_forms.php](http://psychology.chass.ncsu.edu/graduate/documents_and_forms.php)

## **SUPPORT**

Within the Department of Psychology, a limited number of teaching and research assistantships are available. They provide a competitive stipend and require 20 hours per week of work. A limited number of Graduate Student Support Plans also are available for those receiving assistantships and include health insurance and tuition waivers. Research assistantships also have been funded by extramural awards provided by national (e.g., National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health) and local agencies. Students may also take advantage of other forms of financial assistance, including Graduate School supplements, scholarships, grants, loans, and campus employment. Additional information on these opportunities may be found on the NCSU Graduate School website.

*North Carolina State University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status.*