Practicum Sites for the Clinical Program

The following are clinical practica available to graduate students in the clinical program. External practicum placements are arranged in consultation with the respective Clinical Track Coordinators, Dr. Weisman de Mamani (Adult), Dr. Lindahl (Child), and Dr. Saab (Health). Some sites change a bit from year to year, so please check with your clinical advisor regarding current availability.

PRIMARY SITES

University of Miami Psychological Services Center

Setting:
The University of Miami Psychological Services Center (PSC) is a primary clinical training site for graduate students in the three clinical psychology PhD programs. Services provided include individual therapy for children, families, adults and couples, psychological testing and assessments, and groups to address various problems in living.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Trainees have several therapy and assessment opportunities. Practicum students conduct individual therapy with children, adults, families, and couples. They also have the choice to conduct groups, such as a social phobia group, and participate in ongoing therapy programs, such as the Trauma Treatment program. Advanced students also have the opportunity to engage in peer supervision, both with students in their first year of the program before they begin practicum and with students in their first year of practicum. Trainees also conduct several psychoeducational assessments with children, adolescents, and adults with a wide variety of social and educational difficulties. Advanced students may participate in the Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic, conducting comprehensive diagnostic and psychoeducational evaluations of children and adolescents suspected of having autism spectrum disorders.

Supervision:
Trainees are supervised by clinical faculty and licensed clinical psychologists. Amount of supervision varies depending upon students’ practicum year. For therapy, students just beginning practicum and usually those in their second year of practicum receive individual supervision for at least one hour per week. If students carry cases after their second practicum year, they receive group supervision for at least 2 hours per week. Those conducting groups also receive specialized supervision. Further supervision can be arranged as needed. For assessments, trainees are supervised by a licensed clinical psychologist on an ongoing basis.

Time Commitment:
Students in their first year of practicum are expected to complete a total of 80 face-to-face therapy hours at this site. Students in the child track are expected to complete 7 psychoeducational assessments; students in the health and adult tracks are expected to complete 4 such assessments. Students typically spend 10 – 12 hours per week working at this site during their first year of practicum. Time commitment varies for students electing to continue to see clients for therapy and/or assessments beyond the first practicum year.

Eligibility:
Almost all students are placed here for their first year of practicum, which typically begins during the summer after their first year in the program and ends during the summer after their second year. Students may elect to continue practicum at the clinic beyond the first practicum year with permission from the clinic director and their clinical track coordinator.
Typically Utilized By:
Child Track, Adult Track, and Health Track

**University of Miami Counseling Center - (APA accredited internship site)**
http://www.miami.edu/sa/index.php/counseling_center

Setting:
The UM Counseling Center is a resource center for students, staff, and faculty at the University of Miami. The center strives to enhance the success of students in achieving their academic goals through providing high quality personal, career, and academic counseling, as well as psychoeducational programs.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Opportunities exist for individual therapy, group therapy, and campus outreach. Practicum students are encouraged to be creative in generating both group therapy ideas and ideas for campus outreach. Students also participate in the intake process with new clients. Because the student body at the University of Miami is extremely diverse, trainees gain experience in working with clients from many different countries, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds.

Supervision:
Practicum students receive two hours per week of supervision by a qualified psychologist and are required to participate in a 1-hour per week case conference.

Time Commitment:
Practicum students are encouraged to be on site for 10 hours per week. During this time, they are expected to see five individual clients, receive supervision (two-three hours), and supplement the remaining time with outreach, groups, and record keeping. Students begin practicum in the fall (August/Sept) and end at the end of the spring semester (May); a 2-semester commitment is required.

Eligibility:
Students are eligible for placement after they have completed their placement at the PSC. Students should contact Dr. Rappaport in March to schedule an interview if interested in beginning a practicum in the following fall. Dr. Rappaport is also the Director of Training for the internship program.

Typically Utilized By:
Adult Track

**Mailman Center for Child Development, Department of Pediatrics, University of Miami (APA-accredited Internship Site)**

Setting:
The Mailman Center for Child Development is located at 1601 NW 12th Avenue in the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center. The Mailman Center is an academic center that addresses concerns of individuals with developmental disabilities and children with special health care needs. The Center is housed in a 9-story building with nearly 115,000 square feet of office, clinical, training, conference, and laboratory space. The Mailman Center annually serves over 15,000 children, youths, and their families. There are a number of rotations for practicum training, as summarized below. Rotation assignments are arranged by Dr. Neena Malik, who is also the Director of Training for this APA-accredited internship site.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Available experiences vary depending on the rotation. In general, practicum students have the opportunity for assessment, individual, family, and group therapy, pediatric consultation, because the population served by the Mailman Center is culturally and ethnically diverse, practicum students gain experience in working with clients from a number of different countries, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds.

**Supervision:**

The amount of supervision varies depending upon the specific rotation. Each rotation is supervised by a licensed clinical psychologist. The psychologist meets with trainees to develop the best plan of treatment for the clients served on that rotation.

**Time Commitment:**

Time commitment varies by rotation. See descriptions below. Regardless of rotation, all students in their first year of practicum at the Mailman Center are required to attend a didactic case conference for one hour each week, which is Wednesdays at noon.

**Eligibility:**

Students are eligible for placement at the Mailman Center after completing one year of practicum at the Psychological Services Center. Child track students are required to complete two 6-month rotations as part of their practicum requirement. However, many students choose to complete more than the required number of rotations.

**Typically Utilized By:**

Child Track

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**Rotations - Mailman Center for Child Development**

*(Rotations are Subject to Change; check with the Director of Training)*

**Preschool Interventions**

This rotation focuses on children, ages 3 to 5 years, who are primarily ethnic-minority children living in low-income neighborhoods. Practicum students are involved in several community based, prevention oriented and/or therapeutic activities, including: problem solving, responsive teaching, and behavioral interventions. Individual supervision is provided at Mailman for one hour a week with additional supervision provided by postdocs or interns on site. In addition, formal training in the implementation of various interventions is provided. The time commitment for this rotation is 5 – 10 hours per week. Travel/car is required. This rotation is available most mornings.

**Pediatric Mobile Clinic**

This rotation serves children, adults, and families. Clients are often Spanish-speaking, low-income families without health insurance. Practicum students are involved in both assessment and intervention, including administering brief behavioral and psychological evaluations and cognitive behavioral interventions. Practicum students work with a general physician, nurse practitioner, and nutritionist to meet the needs of the families. Trainees receive one hour per week of individual supervision. The time commitment for this rotation is 5 – 10 hours per week. Travel is usually required but student can ride on mobile van. Currently, this rotation is available on Thursdays.

**Community-based Chronic Illness Clinic**

In this rotation, the trainee works with a pediatric chronic disease specialist to improve care for children with chronic illness in an underserved community. The intern and specialist provide support and clinical expertise to the primary care team members in a community health center. Tablet computers will be utilized to improve communication between patients, families and their physicians, and also for patient education and data collection. The goals of the project are to improve health education, increase the disease management skills of the patients and caregivers, and allow increased communication between healthcare providers and caregivers. Interns will provide consultation and liaison services and conduct therapy with
children and their families referred due to chronic conditions such as obesity and asthma. Individual and family-based interventions address presenting problems such as adjustment and coping, adherence, and weight management. Both onsite and remote supervision using tablets will be provided. Currently, this rotation is available on Mondays.

**Continuity Clinic/Primary Care Rotation**

This rotation is a consultation and liaison rotation where the trainee staffs a primary pediatric care clinic and consults with attending and resident pediatricians. Consultations may include working with families and children on a brief basis and/or pediatricians regarding child development and behavior. Trainees will also serve the role of educating pediatric residents regarding child development and child psychopathology, including risk, resilience, and prevention issues. Common problems include post-partum depression and parenting challenges, difficult behaviors in young children (tantrums, oppositional behavior, sleep problems), developmental disabilities, ADHD, and depression. Trainees will also be able to coordinate and make recommendations about referrals for long term care, and occasionally may take on a case for continued care through the clinic. This rotation occurs on one half day per week, either morning or afternoon.

**Behavioral Pediatrics Clinic**

This rotation functions as the primary outpatient therapy clinic and serves children experiencing behavior problems and their families. Children of all ages are served at this clinic. The population served by the clinic is representative of Miami demographics. Trainees conduct intake interviews with live observation and supervision in an interdisciplinary team setting. Individual and family therapy is conducted utilizing EBTs. Trainees coordinate services with the clinic’s pediatrician if there is a need for medication. Practicum students receive 30 minutes to 1 hour of supervision per week from a licensed clinical psychologist. Supervision is also conducted through live observation and students receive immediate feedback, and there is also group supervision. Time commitment is 5 – 10 hours per week. This clinic is available on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1-6.

**Special Immunology Clinic**

This is a neuropsychological evaluation clinic that serves children and adolescents who are HIV positive. Demographics are predominantly African American and Haitian. Practicum students conduct neuropsychological assessments. Students are trained to interpret the Wechsler Intelligence Scales for Children – Fourth Edition, Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scales – Third Edition, Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement – Third Edition, Grooved and Purdue Pegboards, Connors’ Performance Test, Wide Range Assessment of Memory and Learning, Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System, and the Wechsler Memory Scales – Second Edition from a neurodevelopmental perspective, among other measures. Although practicum students are required to interpret and write several reports throughout the semester, practicum students administer and score assessment batteries on a weekly basis. Practicum students receive at least one hour per week of supervision from a licensed psychologist. Time commitment is 8 – 12 hours per week. This clinic is all day on Wednesdays or Fridays.

**Early Steps Program**

This program serves children under the age of 3 with suspected developmental delay. The population served here is representative of Miami’s demographics. Practicum students are trained to administer developmental assessments and provide feedback to families. Measures used in this program include the Battelle – Second Edition, and the Bayley Scales of Infant Development. The Bayley is administered only on Fridays with low birth weight/preterm infants/toddlers. Trainees receive one hour of individual supervision from a licensed psychologist. Supervision is also conducted through live observation and students receive
Cleft Lip & Palate Craniofacial Clinic

This rotation serves children and adolescents with craniofacial abnormalities. The population served is largely ethnic minority from varying SES backgrounds. This multi-disciplinary team meets three times a month and provides services to children and families of children with craniofacial differences including cleft lip and/or palate and craniofacial syndromes. Team members include disciplines such as genetics, plastic surgery, dentistry, speech and language, and nutrition. Opportunities exist to participate as part of the multi-disciplinary assessment team as well as to provide outpatient psychotherapy. Common clinical issues including learning disorders, behavioral difficulties, self-image concerns, and peer relationship difficulties. Trainees receive individual supervision from a licensed psychologist through live observation. Students receive immediate feedback. Time commitment is 5 hours per month, as the clinic meets approximately one Thursday morning each month.

Psychological Assessment Service

This service provides experience in psychological, psycho-educational, and neuropsychological evaluation of children. Children are referred from other clinics in the Mailman Center and Department of Pediatrics, as well as from the Dade County Schools, community agencies, and private referral sources. Cases are varied in terms of ethnic background, SES, presenting problem, and age range (i.e., infancy through adolescence). Evaluations may include testing, family and school interviews, observations, consultation with other allied professionals, formal communication of findings to parents and other appropriate parties, and follow-up on treatment recommendations. Trainees receive at least one hour of individual supervision per week from a licensed psychologist. Time commitment is 8 – 12 hours per week and is available most days of the week.

Diabetes Research Institute/Endocrinology Clinic

This rotation serves individuals with Type I and II diabetes and their families, as well as children with other endocrine disorders (e.g., short stature, obesity). Clients range in age from birth through 18 yrs old. Many of the clients are Medicaid recipients who are monolingual Spanish or Haitian. Trainees engage in brief behavioral and psychological evaluations for patients and families. They also conduct brief behavioral interventions for patients and families to aid in their adjustment to diagnosis and/or improvement in disease management. Trainees receive one hour per week of individual supervision from a licensed psychologist as well as on site supervision. Time commitment is 5-10 hours per week. Diabetes clinic is either morning or afternoon on Tuesdays and Thursdays or morning and/or afternoon on Fridays for Endocrine clinic.

Pediatric Cochlear Implant Clinic

The UM Cochlear Implant Program is one of the largest and busiest in the world. Psychology trainees will work as part of a multidisciplinary team, which includes CI surgeons, audiologists, and auditory verbal therapists. Trainees will have the opportunity to observe a cochlear implant surgery and interact with children and families undergoing cochlear implant evaluation. Trainees will assist audiologists with play audiometry, CI programming, and pre and post surgical counseling, and will be a crucial component in the evaluation of children and families being considered for an implant. Trainees may also have the opportunity to do initial consultations with families just receiving a hearing loss diagnosis and psychological consults ensuring that families have realistic expectations about the benefits of CI surgery. Trainees will get experience working with typically developing children and children with developmental delays (e.g., autism, cerebral palsy) in a medical setting. This rotation is available Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Trainees may choose one or two half days of clinical work each week.
or a full day on the rotation. Supervision will be provided on-site, as well as scheduled in the office.

Interdisciplinary Developmental Evaluation Service (IDES)

IDES in an interdisciplinary assessment service involving trainees from clinical psychology, audiology, pediatrics, speech/language, nutrition, social work, physical therapy, and education. The population served is representative of Miami Dade County. Trainees have the opportunity to coordinate psychological assessments of developmentally and medically complex children with professionals from these various disciplines, resulting in comprehensive recommendations for intervention or follow-up. Trainees can expect to complete one assessment battery and report every two weeks. Students receive at least one hour a week of individual supervision. Time commitment is 8 – 12 hours per week. IDES requires one day a week on Mondays and two hours for interdisciplinary meetings and feedback sessions to parents on Wednesday afternoons.

Pediatric Medical Coping Clinic

The focus of the Pediatric Medical Coping Clinic is on helping families and children with medical conditions cope with conditions and psychosocial sequelae. Treatment may also target difficulties with medical adherence, weight management, pain management, difficulty swallowing pills, and other overlapping medical and psychosocial conditions. Trainees receive individual and group supervision, and meet with patients individually and for family treatment. Time commitment is 5-6 hours per week.

Adolescent Medicine

Adolescent Medicine is a primary care clinic for adolescents who typically have health problems and are on Medicaid (cannot afford private insurance, typically). Since they are medically complex youth, their primary care needs are also complex. Consultation in this clinic is on a wide range of issues related to chronic medical conditions. Activities include brief mental health interviews, brief intervention, referrals for services, follow up, occasional outpatient therapy. The Wednesday clinic is an HIV/STD screening clinic, so a number of issues come up during this clinic, including trauma.

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) Training Rotation

The University of Miami PCIT program provides free evidence-based parent training to families with children ages 2 to 7. The program primarily serves children referred for disruptive behavior problems or parents who have physically abused their children. PCIT services are provided Monday through Thursday and make-up appointments are scheduled for Friday afternoons. Trainees can choose a morning, afternoon, or full day rotation. Each trainee receives training in accordance with the PCIT International Training Guidelines and is paired with a postdoctoral fellow as a co-therapist on all cases. Beyond serving as a co-therapist, trainees are responsible for clinical documentation (e.g., progress notes, intake reports). Trainees receive live supervision from the postdoctoral fellow before, during, and after each session. Further, the clinic director provides monthly two hour-long group supervision, which includes case discussion, practicing of coaching skills, and video review of sessions.

Child Neurodevelopmental Service (CNS)

CNS offers highly specialized and comprehensive neuropsychological assessment services in both English and Spanish for children and adolescents with a history of medical conditions that affect the central nervous system. Practicum students see patients with cancers involving treatment that may affect the central nervous system (e.g., leukemia, lymphoma), high grade and low grade brain tumors, sickle cell disease, HIV/AIDS, solid organ transplantation, stroke, hydrocephalus, congenital central nervous system malformations, and seizure disorders. Trainees complete neuropsychological and/or psychoeducational evaluations within a developmental context for youth from infancy to young adults. Responsibilities include parent
or family interviews, test administration, scoring, report writing, feedback participation, and possible school consultations. Weekly supervision occurs on-site. Time commitment is 8-12 hours per week, and typically involves a full day of testing and then additional hours for feedbacks, scoring, and consultations, when needed.

**Child Protection Team (CPT)**

CPT is a multidisciplinary child abuse assessment team consisting of physicians, nurses, social workers, and psychologists (and trainees). Children and families are referred to CPT for evaluation of child abuse allegations, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse or neglect. Psychology trainees participate in the evaluation of either a child victim or an alleged perpetrator or non-offending parent each week. Typical referral questions for CPT evaluations include an assessment of the abuse allegations (i.e., what actually happened), the child’s psychological functioning and treatment needs, recommendations regarding the child victim’s best interests related to visitation, reunification, and court testimony, and psychological functioning and treatment needs for alleged perpetrators or non-offending parent. Evaluations include a clinical interview and a battery of psychological tests, usually to include an objective personality measure (MCMI-III or MAPI), story-telling task (either TAT or Roberts), sentence completion, and projective drawings (for children). While trainees typically administer the psychological testing, the clinical interview is conducted by the clinical supervisor and observed and documented by the trainee. Trainees may also have the opportunity to observe supervisory expert witness testimony conducted either in person or via telephone, participate in the medical evaluation of child victims, and observe the interviewing of victims and family members by CPT case coordinators, either in the CPT office or in the hospital. Trainees commit to one half day a week in this clinic.

**Cystic Fibrosis/Pulmonary Clinic**

This rotation focuses on mental health concerns in the cystic fibrosis pulmonary clinic. A new study recently published by Quittner et al., 2014 in *Thorax*, indicated that adolescents and adults with CF are at higher risk for depression and anxiety. An international, multidisciplinary group of experts have just published guidelines for mental health screening beginning at age 12 for all individuals with CF and screening of all parent caregivers of children with CF from birth to age 17 (Quittner et al., in press *Thorax*). These guidelines recommend annual screening using the PHQ-9 and GAD-7 with an algorithm for repeated screenings of those who are elevated. We also recommended providing evidence-based treatments (CBT, IPT) to those who score in the moderate or severe range. Parents who are elevated will be given referrals to providers in the community and we will begin to develop a referral network of providers that span the geographical community our patients come from. The Pulmonary Clinic provides consultation related to issues such as CF, asthma, reactive airway disorder, dysplasia, etc. Typical consultation includes adherence and/or adjustment issues, typically also involving parents. Practicum students have interaction with other team members including physicians, nurses, and respiratory therapists. Supervision occurs on-site. Trainees commit to one half day a week in this clinic.

**The Debbie Institute**

The Debbie Institute is a division within the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Miami’s Miller School of Medicine. The mission of the University of Miami Debbie Institute is to nurture and enrich the lives of children during the critical years of early learning in a child centered inclusive educational environment that embraces cultural diversity and strives to create the foundation for students to flourish throughout their lives. The Debbie School’s educational services are delivered to children and families through three programs: 1) Early Education Program; 2) the Auditory/Oral Education Program; and 3) Infant-Toddler-Preschool Education Program. The Early Education Program serves 80 children with developmental disabilities from birth through three years in a setting with their typically developing peers. The Auditory/Oral Education Program serves 35 children who are deaf and hard of hearing.
from 18 months to 8 years of age and includes three inclusion classrooms and two self-contained classrooms. The Infant-Toddler-Preschool Education Program serves approximately 45 typically developing children between the ages of birth through five. Psychology trainees work as part of a multidisciplinary team, including teachers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech and language pathologists, and case managers. Trainees will have the opportunity to conduct outpatient therapy with children and families, conduct direct interventions in the classroom, and consult with a multidisciplinary team. Trainees may also have the opportunity to participate in Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings and ongoing research studies. Presenting problems include adjustment issues, externalizing and internalizing behavior problems, and school problems. Trainees will learn about infant and toddler development, as well as behavior management techniques for children with hearing aids or cochlear implants. This rotation is available every day from 8:30am to 2:00pm. Trainees may choose one or two half days or a full day on the rotation.

Hematology/Oncology

The Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology provides medical, psychological, and social care to children with sickle cell disease, cancer, hemophilia, and a variety of rare tumors and blood diseases. Each year approximately 100 newly diagnosed cancer patients, 500 children with sickle cell disease and 250 children with hemophilia are seen. In addition to Psychology, the Hematology/Oncology team has medical doctors, nurses, child life specialists, and administrative staff. The Psychology Team provides psychotherapy (brief and long-term); crisis intervention; pain management and help with painful procedures. Psychology trainees see patients individually, with family, or may see family members separately. Trainees conduct neuropsychological evaluations with children who have had brain surgery; brain radiation; chemotherapy; strokes and resulting learning difficulties. Trainees are asked to consult on a wide range of behavioral and emotional problems. Trainees can also be involved in inpatient services by attending medical rounds periodically and seeing the children at bedside. Trainees typically commit two half days to this rotation.

Families First

Families First, funded by The Children’s Trust, delivers relationship-focused parenting groups for families of young children throughout Miami-Dade County. Goals include improving the system of care and building resources for parents, strengthening families and promoting optimal child health and development. Groups are based on best-practice concepts from child development theory and research that support the importance of promoting positive parent-child relationships to facilitate optimal child development. Families First currently offers 2 evidence-based/best practice, relationship-focused parenting groups, one focused on parents with infants (Baby and Me) and one focused on parents with children ages 1-3 (Incredible Years Toddler Curriculum).

Pediatric GI

This is an outpatient GI clinic where psychology provides consultations to selected cases, usually involving irritable bowel, generalized recurrent abdominal pain, constipation, encopresis, and other GI disorders including Crohn’s and ulcerative colitis. Once patients are identified as needing and agreeing to psychological services, patients may be scheduled for ongoing outpatient therapy to be conducted at follow-up GI appointments. Alternatively, patients may be referred to PMCope for therapy.

School Health Initiative

The School Health Initiative (SHI) is a project designed to provide comprehensive healthcare services to children in some of Miami’s severely underresourced communities. SHI now operates in nine schools, providing care to over 12,000 children per year, regardless of their ability to pay. At our clinics, housed inside schools in at-risk Miami communities, we offer free
primary health care to students on site and facilitate access to specialists at the University of Miami, including psychological interventions. During this rotation, students will see a combination of consultation-liaison cases and outpatient therapy cases. Opportunities for group work may be available. Trainees will work closely with the clinic social workers and medical team. Common presenting problems include anxiety, ADHD, depression, and lack of adherence to medical regimen. This rotation requires at least a half-day per week commitment and may require transportation to and from schools in North Miami and/or Overtown. There may be opportunities for telehealth experience.

**Miami Veterans Affairs Healthcare System (APA accredited internship site)**

**Setting:**
The Veterans Affairs Healthcare System is located at 1201 NW 16th Street in Miami. This medical center provides multiple medical services on both an inpatient and outpatient basis. The patient population is comprised of men and women veterans. There are a number of available rotations for practicum training, as summarized below. The inpatient rotation is normally open to students in the adult track, while the other rotations are normally available to health track students.

**Main Aspects of the Placement:**
Available experiences vary depending on the rotation. In general, practicum students have the opportunity for assessment, individual, and group therapy, and consultation. Because the population served by the medical center is culturally and ethnically diverse, practicum students gain experience in working with clients from a number of different countries, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds.

** Supervision:**
Although the amount of supervision varies depending upon the specific rotation, trainees receive a minimum of one hour per week. Each rotation is supervised by a licensed clinical psychologist. The psychologist meets with trainees to develop the best plan of treatment for the clients served on that rotation.

**Time Commitment:**
Time commitment varies by rotation. All trainees are required to spend 12 hours per week over two days. See descriptions below.

**Eligibility:**
Students are eligible for placement at the VA Medical Center after completing one year of practicum at the Psychological Services Center. After arrangements have been made with the Clinical Track Coordinators, students are required to meet with Dr. Regina Pavone, Director of Training, and the rotation supervisor.

**Typically Utilized By:**
Health Track and Adult Track

**Rotations**
**Psychosocial Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (PRRTP)**
The PRRTP is a twelve week intensive 18-bed residential program for Veterans who are experiencing a wide variety of psychiatric problems and addictive disorders that would benefit from additional structure and support to address these problems and multiple and significant psychosocial stressors, often including homelessness, chronic medical conditions, and unemployment. The PRRTP provides comprehensive treatment and rehabilitative services
meant to improve quality of life and promote independent, self-supporting, and successful reintegration into the community.

The PRRTTP provides residential rehabilitation and treatment services that focus on the Veteran’s strengths, abilities, needs, and preferences rather than concentrating exclusively on illnesses and symptoms. Training opportunities during practicum include a wide variety of experiences with individuals with diverse psychiatric problems. Some of the more common diagnoses include anxiety disorders, including PTSD, schizophrenia spectrum disorders, major affective disorders, and substance abuse. Opportunities during practicum include conducting group and individual psychotherapy, with opportunities for brief psychological assessments as well. Specific interventions employed at this site include CBT, DBT, ACT for depression, and Motivational Interviewing. Practicum students are required to be at the site two days a week for an average of 10 hours. Students are encouraged to elect Thursdays as one of their practicum days in order to be present for weekly staff and intake meetings.

Post-Deployment Clinic
This rotation serves veterans returning from Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND) on an outpatient basis. Students conduct neuropsychological screenings and full neuropsychological evaluations. Purposes of assessments include determining mental status, diagnosing learning and psychological disorders, evaluating presence of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) or Post-Traumatic Amnesia, and treatment planning. Populations seen included post-traumatic stress disorder, mTBI, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, etc. Assessment batteries included measures of cognitive abilities, memory, executive functioning, post-concussive sequelae, emotional functioning, and personality. Students have the opportunity to see returning veterans for short-term, individual cognitive-behavioral therapy (3-12 sessions). Students co-facilitate a TBI Coping Skills group for veterans returning from OEF/OIF/OND. Trainees receive 1-2 hours of weekly individual supervision and have the opportunity to attend 1 hour per week of treatment team meetings. Time commitment is 10-12 hours per week.

Spinal Cord Injury/Disorders (SCI/D) Unit
This rotation serves inpatient and outpatient veterans with new or long-term SCI/D as a result of combat, accident or disease (e.g., multiple sclerosis). Clients reflect Miami demographics and range in age from young adult to geriatric. Student activities include psychological evaluations for new patients on SCI/D unit (clinical interview, BDI-II or Geriatric Depression Scale, Folstein MMSE, case conceptualization, report writing, treatment recommendations), individual therapy to promote adaptive coping and treat multiple conditions (depression, anxiety, personality disorder, substance abuse, chronic pain), and group therapy (Multiple Sclerosis support group). Trainees receive 1 – 2 hours per week of individual supervision and have the opportunity to attend 1 hour per week of treatment team meetings. Time commitment is 12 hours per week.

Day Activities Center
Practicum students provide individual psychotherapy to veterans in outpatient setting. These cases come from the hospital-wide psychology services list of veterans who are interested in individual therapy, NOT necessarily from the DAC. The practicum student is also expected to lead or co-lead one outpatient group outside of the DAC. The extern can lead one of the several ongoing groups or start another group. Psychoeducational, cognitive-behavioral or process groups for DAC members are typically available. The extern can be involved in program development. A staff psychologist provides one hour of individual supervision per week, and additional supervision is often provided by the extern who co-leads the group.

Sleep Clinic
The sleep disorders practicum is, in most cases, two semesters and requires 12 hours per week. It will provide the student with experience working with a multi-disciplinary team comprised of physicians, a psychologist, nurses and technologists. Training will include both didactic and clinical. For example, students will become familiar with the diagnostic nosology in sleep medicine (International Classification of Sleep Disorders-2), interview and diagnose patients in the sleep disorders clinic, becoming familiar with polysomnography (PSG), understanding the results of overnight PSG, and learning about appropriate treatment for a wide range of sleep disorders. Of particular relevance to psychology practicum students will be training in behavioral sleep medicine. This training entails applying behavioral therapy to sleep disorders, for example, CBT for insomnia or therapy to enhance compliance with continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP). The student in this rotation may have the opportunity to learn how to ‘score’ sleep and/or become involved in sleep research projects. Students receive 1-2 hours of supervision each week. The supervision occurs in the clinic at the time students assess and/or intervene with veterans. Behavioral Sleep Medicine Clinic takes place on Wednesdays from 10am-4pm and General Sleep Disorders Clinic takes place on Thursdays from 9am-3pm. A CBT-I groups takes place on Tuesdays from 2:30pm-3:30pm.

Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP)

The SARRTP is a 24-bed residential rehabilitation program for treatment of substance dependence. A large proportion of patients are diagnosed with comorbid psychiatric disorders such as depression, anxiety, and psychosis in addition to substance dependence. Mean length of stay is 91 days. The program utilizes a biopsychosocial conceptualization of the development of substance dependence. Treatment is provided by a multidisciplinary staff representing psychology, psychiatry, social work, nursing, occupational therapy, recreation therapy, and music therapy. Most treatment is carried out in group format; however, each patient is assigned to a staff person as his/her individual counselor. Individual counselors develop comprehensive individualized treatment plans for their assigned patients in collaboration with the entire staff. Weekly supervision is provided by a staff psychologist, with additional supervision provided by other team members. Students are given the opportunity to attend weekly multidisciplinary staff meetings in which each patient’s comprehensive treatment progress is discussed. There are also opportunities to attend training seminars offered to the psychology interns. The greatest emphasis in treatment is placed on increasing patients’ motivation for change and assisting them to develop and practice a comprehensive relapse prevention plan. The goal of this practicum placement is to provide experience in treatment of alcohol and drug addiction, including with patients dually diagnosed with substance dependence and other major psychiatric disorders. This practicum provides opportunities to conduct empirically supported problem-focused individual therapy, process and skills group therapy, as well as some couple and family therapy when applicable. Students who have completed one year of practicum will be eligible for this placement. Students should plan to spend at least 2 consecutive semesters at the placement. They will be present at the facility for at least two days per week for a total of 10 hours.

Consultation and Liaison/Integrated Health

Practicum students in this rotation receive training within both Consultation and Liaison (C&L) and Integrated Health. Time commitment is 10-12 hours per week. The patient population reflects the demographics of Miami, including individual differences by age, race/ethnicity, culture, gender, and sexual orientation. The Consultation and Liaison service focuses on both inpatient and outpatient areas, serving veterans with complex care needs including co-morbid medical and psychological diagnoses. Trainees conduct clinical consultations (clinical interview, case conceptualization, report writing, referrals). They perform psychological evaluations for transplant eligibility as well as medical clearance for
other treatment/procedures (e.g., Hepatitis C therapy). There are also opportunities to conduct brief individual therapy with patients and to administer, score, and interpret assessment instruments.

Within Integrated Health, trainees have the opportunity to deliver interventions in both individual and group formats to outpatient veterans (and their family members as appropriate) with a variety of medical and psychological diagnoses. Trainees work as part of an interprofessional team which may include primary care providers and nursing staff, nutrition, psychology, pharmacy, and/or psychiatry. Trainees have the opportunity to deliver group intervention in multiple areas, including diabetes education/management, cardiovascular risk reduction, managing overweight/obesity, tobacco cessation, pain management, alcohol risk reduction, and stress management. Practicum students receive training in motivational interviewing and health coaching techniques to help veterans identify and implement behavior change strategies. Students receive at least one hour per week of individual supervision.

Within C&L and Integrated Health, trainees receive a minimum of one hour of individual supervision per week and are highly encouraged to attend a one hour group supervision experience which includes rotational supervisors as well as interns and post-doctoral residents within the C&L/Integrated Health rotations. The training program utilizes a hierarchical supervision model such that practicum students work closely with interns and residents who provide ongoing supervision and feedback in addition to the licensed rotational supervisor.

Pain Clinic
The pain clinic provides services to veterans dealing with chronic pain conditions. Patients are referred from a variety of outpatient clinics. Students learn and utilize a biopsychosocial approach to assessment and treatment of these patients. Students assist with clinical consultation and conduct psychological evaluations to assist in the treatment of chronic pain, as well as psychological evaluations for implantable pain modalities. Students are involved in conducting individual pain-focused outpatient psychotherapy. Students are also involved in co-facilitating the pain management support group (weekly), and the pain education group (psychoeducational /CBT weekly group). Students have the opportunity to observe pain intervention procedures conducted by pain clinic physicians. Trainees receive 1 hour of individual supervision per week and 1 hour of group supervision per week with a licensed clinical psychologist. Time commitment is 10-12 hours per week. Tuesdays and Thursdays are the most important days to be available. Tuesdays can be a half day (morning) and Thursdays all day.

Integrated Psychology Service
This rotation is an opportunity for students to work in the integrated psychology service within the Miami VA. Our role is to provide mental health services to veterans who manifest a broad range of psychiatric disorders and levels of daily functioning. The disparity of these concerns manifest from chronic and persistent mental illness to short-term adjustment disorders (i.e., maladaptive response to civilian life after military discharges). A number of these veterans are medically compromised which lends complexity to their psychological and functional presentation and ongoing treatment needs. Students will be integrated in many multidisciplinary teams including psychiatry, social work, psychology, nursing, and recreation therapy whose goals are to provide treatment to the specific needs of each veteran and her/his spouse. Specialty interventions of these services include individual, couple, and group psychotherapy, psychoeducational classes, psychotropic medication management, and case management services. Students in this program will provide individual, couple, or group psychotherapy, including specialized groups, such as Recovery group. In addition, students will conduct
biopsychosocial interviews and have opportunities to conduct psychological assessments geared toward treatment planning. Students will also have an opportunity to participate and contribute to case conferences, crisis management interventions, and treatment planning groups.

Correct Care, Inc./ South Florida State Hospital (SFSH) (APA accredited internship site) (http://www.geocarellc.com/Services/CorrectionalMentalHealthServices.aspx)

Setting:
SFSH is at a state psychiatric facility that provides long-term care for severely mentally ill individuals. The median stay for patients at SFSH is 6 months, with some patients staying a year or more. SFSH provides comprehensive, multidisciplinary care for a diverse patient population, including assessment, individual, and group treatment.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Individual and group therapy with adults including opportunities to co-lead anger management, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy forensic risk management groups, to name a few. Students also conduct initial and annual psychological assessments on a monthly basis to assess patient appropriateness for psychological services. Practicum students can also gain experience in administering evidence-based personality, neuropsychological and cognitive assessments, and in comprehensive report writing.

Supervision:
Individual supervision by a licensed clinical psychologist is provided weekly for therapy cases (and assessment, if applicable). Seminars, guest lecturers, and supervision are part of the practicum. In addition, weekly case conferences provide didactic training regarding disorders and issues particular to the patient population (e.g. psychosis).

Time Commitment:
Students are expected to spend one full and one half day (12 hours per week) at the practicum. The optional assessment practicum requires students to commit additional time. The practicum can be arranged for most days of the week.

 Eligibility:
A background in cognitive, neuropsychological, and personality testing is helpful, but not required. Students must have completed one year of practicum training, and have a clear interest in working with severely mentally ill patients.

Typically Utilized By:
Adult Track

University of Miami, Department of Neurology (UMH Neuropsychology)

Setting:
UMH Neuropsychology is located in the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center. This setting is a training site for learning about a broad range of neurologic and neuropsychiatric conditions including dementia, Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke, movement disorders, age related memory loss, depression and learning disorders.

In addition, practicum students will have a chance to participate in neuropsychology rounds, epilepsy and deep brain stimulation and imaging case conferences with members of the Department of Neurology. Clients reflect Miami demographics and range in age from young adults to the elderly.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Practicum students are trained to conduct assessments, which include standardized testing, clinical interview, case conceptualization, report writing, and provision of feedback. Practicum students are also trained in neuropsychological and psychoeducational assessment. The key clinical supervisor is Dr. Bonnie Levin. Supervision:
Trainees receive 1 - 3 hours per week of individual supervision per case. In addition, practicum students are required to attend a weekly 2-hour case conference/group supervision.

Time Commitment:
Time commitment is 15 hours per week for two semesters.

Eligibility:
This practicum site is open to advanced students, typically in their third or fourth year in the program, with at least one year of supervised practicum experience. Some basic knowledge of brain anatomy and neuropsychology is helpful, but not required to participate in this practicum.

Typically Utilized By:
Health Track

SECONDARY PRACTICUM SITES

Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic (ASAC)
Setting:
The Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic (ASAC), located in the Flipse Building, Coral Gables campus, provides comprehensive diagnostic evaluations to children, adolescents, and adults who are seeking clarification about an autism spectrum diagnosis. Clients come from the South Florida community, as well as other states and countries. Services include assessment, school observations as needed, and written reports with in-person feedback with families. Bilingual testing is available.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Practicum students will participate in the entire autism diagnostic process. Test administration, interpretation, and report writing are completed by teams of practicum students, as well as supervising psychologists. The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) consultants, behavior analysts, and speech and language pathologists (as needed) are also frequently involved, providing student the opportunity to work with multidisciplinary teams. Assessments incorporate a variety of cognitive measures, the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS), the Autism Diagnostic Interview, Revised (ADI-R), academic achievement as needed, adaptive behavior scales (e.g., Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales, Second Edition), parent/teacher rating scales, language assessments, and systematic reviews of previous evaluations. Training on the ADOS and ADI-R will be provided. Students will learn how to choose appropriate tests, interpret test data, provide appropriate treatment recommendations based on best practices strategies, work with behaviorally challenging children, and provide difficult diagnoses to families. Students also have the opportunity to participate in school observations and feedback sessions with families. Because clients in ASAC are extremely diverse, trainees gain experience in working with clients from many different countries, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds.

Supervision:
Practicum students are supervised by clinical faculty and licensed clinical psychologists. Students receive a minimum of one-hour group supervision per week. Licensed psychologists, provide supervision. Additional ongoing group and individual supervision are available as needed.

Time Commitment:
Practicum students typically spend 6-8 hours per week working at this site. Students must be available on Tuesdays or Wednesdays between 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. for testing. Report writing, feedbacks, school observations, and additional supervision are scheduled at other times during the week, depending on students’ schedules. Student teams are expected to complete two full assessments per month. Students may participate in this placement for one or two semesters.

Eligibility:
Students are eligible for placement at ASAC after completing one year of a supervised assessment practicum (e.g., Psychological Services Center). Students should have experience administering and scoring cognitive, behavioral, and academic measures.

Typically Utilized By:
Child Track

Oliver-Pyatt Centers South Miami (http://www.oliverpyattcenters.com)

Setting:
The Oliver-Pyatt Center in South Miami is a Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) and Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for adolescent girls and women with anorexia, bulimia, binge-eating disorder and exercise addiction. The program provides comprehensive care and structure for individuals with eating disorders who find that traditional outpatient treatment is not sufficient. The program emphasizes the integration of treatment into real life and combines individual therapy with group settings, family therapy, exposure techniques, nutritional therapies and community outings. Patients who need higher levels of care are referred to inpatient settings.

Main Aspects of the Placement:
Trainees have several therapy and assessment opportunities. Opportunities exist for participation in individual therapy, group therapy, supported meals, exposure sessions, and community outings. Students also participate in the intake process with new clients and conduct assessments. Students can participate in staff meetings and case conferences.

Supervision:
Practicum students receive weekly supervision by a licensed clinical psychologist who works closely with the center.

Time Commitment:
Practicum students are encouraged to be on site for a minimum of 10 hours per week. Students begin practicum in the fall (August/Sept); a 2-semester commitment is required.

Eligibility:
This practicum site is open to advanced students, typically in their third or fourth year in the program, with at least one year of supervised practicum experience.

Typically Utilized By:
Adult Track and Child Track

Memorial Healthcare System

Setting:
Memorial Cancer Institute at Memorial Regional Hospital in Hollywood, FL and Memorial West in Pembroke Pines, FL. This site serves cancer patients and aims to decrease distress throughout treatment. (http://www.memorialcancerinstitute.com/) Main Aspects of this Placement:
This practicum placement is therapy-based. Trainees are required to attend 2 days of hospital orientation prior to starting. Orientation also requires shadowing cancer specialists in medical oncology, radiation oncology, oncology nursing, oncology social work and oncology dietitians.
as well as learning about cancer-specific issues. Diagnosis-specific specialties at Memorial include nationally accredited Breast Cancer Center, Bone Marrow Transplant team, Thoracic Oncology, and Neuro-Oncology. We see a high volume of patients and are one of the largest public hospitals in the nation. You will see patients in all stages of illness, treatment, and recovery. Trainees will likely see patients with end-stage disease who may be disfigured as a consequence of their illness and treatment. Patients are seen as outpatients for scheduled appointments, in treatment areas receiving chemotherapy, or as inpatients. It is expected trainees participate in the Bone Marrow Transplant program at Memorial West. Inpatient rounds are conducted every morning, outpatient and treatment area schedules thereafter.

Predominant therapy orientation is mindfulness-based, cognitive-existential using the consultation-liaison model. Supervision is provided by licensed psychologists.

**Time Commitment:**
Trainees are expected to spend a minimum 10 hours per week at this site. A minimum of one hour regularly scheduled individual weekly supervision is required for all trainees to attend.

**Eligibility:**
This practicum site is open to advanced students, typically in their third or fourth year in the program, with at least one year of supervised practicum experience. Familiarization with cancer and behavioral medicine and/or existential psychotherapy is advised but not required when considering this site. Trainees should be highly motivated and willing to work as part of an interdisciplinary team.

**Typically Utilized By:**
Health Track