

Ball State University  
Counseling Center  
Psychology Doctoral Externship

Fall and Spring Semesters

**Program Contact:**

Amanda McErlean, Psy.D., HSPP

Email: [CCTraining@bsu.edu](mailto:CCTraining@bsu.edu)

2000 University Ave., Lucina Hall Room 320

Muncie, IN 47306

Phone: (765) 285-1736

# Ball State University Counseling Center Training Program

---

## Information for Prospective Applicants

---

Thank you for your interest in our Psychology Doctoral Externship Program. The externship is designed to give trainees quality supervised training and experience in the practice of psychology. Professional learning and growth are facilitated through direct service provision, intensive supervision, and training seminars. Doctoral Externs are scheduled 16-20 hours per week at the Counseling Center, during which they manage a variety of responsibilities, including individual therapy, outreach programs, individual and group supervision, and administrative tasks.

## The Training

---

The Center is committed to providing generalist training that facilitates growth and competence. The Center integrates the application of current scientific and cultural knowledge, principles, and theories in the provision of professional services, including services that are preventive, developmental, and therapeutic. These services range from crisis intervention to more routine individual and group therapy services.

Training is provided in the areas related to clinical work, crisis intervention, suicide assessment and treatment, psychoeducational groups, outreach and consultation, diagnosis, and other clinical and professional issues. Trainees learn to apply their skills within an environment that emphasizes cultural competence and humility. Training related to treatment interventions, ethical and legal considerations, and client identity development and social location is infused throughout the program. Additionally, trainees are an integral part of our outreach and consultation program which provides information and training to our campus community. As a training program, we aim to support trainees throughout both their training placement and as they transition into behavioral health services.

## How We Do Our Work

---

The Counseling Center is here to help students grow and thrive. Identities, history, and experiences continuously shape each individual and the world. Therefore, we provide training, prevention, support, and behavioral health care that is responsive to each person's unique experiences so that students can live fulfilling and socially responsible lives.

## The Environment We Create

---

At the Ball State University Counseling Center, we are committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment where individuals from all backgrounds feel valued and respected. We strive to create a space where individuals feel comfortable expressing themselves and their concerns without fear of judgment or discrimination. We acknowledge the unique experiences and perspectives that each individual brings to our center and are committed to providing supportive services to all. We welcome feedback from our clients and the broader community to help us continually improve our services.

## The Clinical Staff

---

The Counseling Center staff is diverse in professional training and theoretical orientations. We view each trainee as a cultural being whose background and social locations closely influence their clinical development as well as their personal and professional identities. Throughout the externship placement we emphasize an increasing awareness of the trainee's own cultural background, their worldviews, and the interactions of those characteristics with those of their clients. The staff is committed to responding to the transitional and developmental issues of emerging professionals and supporting and mentoring trainees into the profession of behavioral health services.

## Training Placement Requirements

---

Psychology Doctoral Extern positions are open to doctoral students in Clinical and Counseling Psychology programs. All Trainees are required to fulfill a two-semester commitment (fall and spring semesters). Trainees participate in a weekly

## Ball State University Counseling Center Training Program

---

multidisciplinary group supervision and trainings on Tuesdays from 8:00-10:00 AM. Remaining training hours are scheduled based on trainee schedules and office availability.

Doctoral externs average 16-20 hours per week in their placement. Trainees are required to participate in weekly multidisciplinary group supervision and training on **Tuesdays from 8:00-10:00 AM**. A sample trainee schedule is included on the website.

**Note:** Trainees are sometimes required to use clinical information for academic purposes (e.g., comprehensive examinations or case presentations). The Counseling Center has specific policies and procedures for use of clinical information for academic purposes given the need to protect client confidentiality. All materials containing clinical information are reviewed by the program coordinator prior to their use outside of the Counseling Center to ensure sufficient de-identification. Video or audio recordings of sessions are not available for use outside of the Counseling Center. At no time are trainees allowed to recruit thesis or dissertation participants from Counseling Center clients.

### Important Information – Please Read

**Orientation is scheduled for the full week prior to the beginning of the Ball State University fall semester.**

**Participation in orientation prior to beginning a placement at the Counseling Center is required. Please plan your schedule accordingly.**

### Application Process

If you are interested in applying for a psychology doctoral externship position, please refer to the Extern Application and Interview Information section located on the webpage. The most current information regarding application requirements, deadlines, and the interview process is provided there. If you have any additional inquiries regarding our internship positions and/or the training program, please feel free to contact Amanda McErlean, PsyD or the Training Committee at [CCTraining@bsu.edu](mailto:CCTraining@bsu.edu).