

**PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL-CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY/SOCIAL WORK
INTERNSHIP/EXTERNSHIP AND CLINICAL PRACTICUM PROGRAMS**

SUSSEX COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

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SUSSEX COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL-CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY/SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIP/EXTERNSHIP AND CLINICAL PRACTICUM PROGRAMS

The Sussex County Technical School offers a predoctoral internship as well as part-time externship and clinical practicum programs that focus on evaluating and treating adolescents and their families who have a variety of behavioral, emotional, and learning difficulties. Student involvement will be dependent on graduate training, clinical/school experiences, and recommendations from supervisors and professors.

SETTING AND FACILITIES

The Sussex County Technical School's child study team and school based youth services program evaluate, diagnose, and treat adolescents with learning, developmental and behavioral disorders. Utilizing an interdisciplinary team approach, the staff provides a spectrum of diagnostic and assessment services. The staff of professionals represents the following disciplines:

- Learning Disability Teacher-Consultant
- Nursing
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Special Education
- Speech/Language
- Guidance Counseling
- Substance Abuse

Following a Child Study Team comprehensive evaluation and/or mental health or substance abuse assessment, diagnostic impressions are made and/or eligibility for special education and related services is determined and recommendations are given to parents, schools, and/or other agencies. Sussex County Technical School can often provide therapies for adolescents and families including, but not limited to:

- Assistive Technology
- Augmentative Communication Systems
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Individual, Family and Group Psychotherapy
- Parent Counseling
- Special Education Tutoring
- Speech/Language Therapy
- Support Groups for Parents

SUSSEX COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

PHILOSOPHY

The importance of a quality education cannot be overemphasized. In today's competitive job market, graduates must be equipped to adjust to rapid technical changes. Even more, state-of-the-art technical skills and knowledge must be enriched and complemented by a solid foundation of academic skills in communication, math and science. Sussex County Technical School provides an excellent comprehensive technical and academic education.

Established in 1968, Sussex County Technical School is now enjoying its 31st year of dedicated service to Sussex County and the state of New Jersey. As the only full-time comprehensive technical high school in the county, Sussex Tech prepares its graduates for work, college, or both. In a safe and secure environment conducive to learning, Sussex County Technical School provides a state-of-the-art curriculum through an integrated system of instruction.

Creative and cooperative partnership between members of business and industry and dynamic staff at Sussex Tech guarantee the continued growth and development of exciting programs designed to prepare graduates for careers in the 21st century. As the school and the community work together, academic and technical curricula are enhanced. English, math and science are infused into technical curricula through an integrated system of learning.

High standards and expectations characterize Sussex County Technical School. It is a school, which places a premium on the value of learning. It is a place where students succeed. With the strong support of the business community, each technical program has business and industry advisory sponsors. A superior faculty promotes the pursuit of excellence.

MAJOR AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

- Air Conditioning - Heating - Refrigeration
- Automotive Services
- Automotive Technology
- Building Trades
- Carpentry/Cabinetmaking
- Clerical Skills
- Office and Business Technology
- Commercial Baking
- Commercial Foods
- Computer Aided Drafting & Design (C.A.D.D.)
- Cosmetology/Barbering
- ⚙ Diesel Technology
- ⚙ Electronics
- ⚙ Engineering Technology
- ⚙ Environmental Horticulture Technology
- ⚙ Medical/Laboratory Science
- * Commercial Art
- * E-Commerce
- ⚙ Print Communications/Graphic Design
- ⚙ Welding

INTERNSHIP/EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the Professional Psychology and Social Work Internship and Externship Programs are to enhance the development of interns and externs and to provide a diverse and comprehensive training experience within the Sussex County Technical School setting. There will also be seminars, outside meetings, and training courses. Various disciplines allow interns to attend meetings within their specialty area(s). The focus of the program is to offer supportive guidance and supervision within an experiential learning environment. Interns and externs will develop the theoretical underpinnings of the psychotherapeutic process as well as conducting social and/or psychological assessments. They will be exposed to various orientations and approaches. The student will gain experience in understanding normal adolescent development and how learning, emotional, behavioral, and familial problems can impact on the developing adolescents' lives. They will begin to learn about developing a healthy objectivity and how students' academic performance can be directly related to their social, interpersonal, and family life.

In addition to learning and applying theories of diagnosis and treatment, students will begin to learn how to work effectively within complex county and state programs/systems including but not limited to the courts, probation, DYFS, child study teams, police, juvenile justice, hospitals, and outpatient mental health and substance abuse clinics.

A major goal is to foster the development of well-rounded and effective professional psychologists and social workers. The specific objectives of the program are as follows:

- To develop competence in the delivery of advanced and innovative services within the high school setting.
- To promote professional competence in methods of diagnosis, assessment and a variety of psychotherapeutic interventions.
- To promote skills in working collaboratively with other disciplines and an understanding of the role of psychotherapeutic practice within a specialized technical high school.
- To foster high standards of ethical practice and professionalism, high standards of quality of care, and an understanding of the impact of legal, governmental, and grant/funding systems on psychological/social work practice.
- To promote research and evaluation skills.
- To encourage commitment to ongoing professional self-development and an ability to recognize and cope with personal issues that impact on professional functioning (i.e. transference and countertransference).

TRAINING MODEL

The model of training that is used to achieve the above objectives is based on five key principles:

1. The intern's program is individualized to fit his/her needs and interests. There is flexibility that allows students to make choices.
2. The intern's caseload is designed to maximize learning. Interns carry a moderate responsibility with an emphasis on the quality of care rather than volume.
3. The intern is provided with plentiful and diversified supervision.
4. The programs have a strong didactic component and offer a wide variety of seminars that integrate theory with clinical practice.
5. Interns are encouraged to feel they are part of a professional community that respects their work and fosters their clinical skills and personal development.

DIDACTIC SEMINARS

Interns and externs are encouraged to attend monthly clinical case conferences and IEP meetings with the Child Study Team. Each student should also attend state and local association trainings and seminars. These lectures are made available for practicing health care providers who work in the county or state. The objective is to update professionals on new advances in research related to clinical/school practice in a number of subspecialties. SCTS also holds its own in-service lectures on specific topics relevant to SCTS faculty. Students can participate in reviewing referrals of prospective students to SCTS and for counseling and may be involved in treatment team meetings/conferences. They may receive training in substance abuse, child abuse, sexual abuse and offending behaviors, firesetting behaviors, psychotropic medications, ADHD, school advocacy, sexuality and HIV, as well as, learning disabilities and ethnic and cultural sensitivity training. All students will be required to read relevant books and articles and be able to discuss them.

SUPERVISION

A Licensed Psychologist/Certified School Psychologist, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Certified School Social Worker or other mental health clinicians and substance abuse specialists will provide supervision within a variety of theoretical orientations and clinical techniques. Interns and externs are provided with a minimum of two hours of weekly individual supervision to discuss ongoing clinical issues in assessment and treatment. Interns and externs are also encouraged to participate in weekly group supervision, during which a variety of subjects are discussed, including a component on ethics and legal issues in the professional practice of psychology or social work.

CLINICAL SERVICES

Out-Patient/On-Site Psychotherapy

Interns/externs will gain most of their experience in clinical work providing on-site psychotherapy to diverse populations with a range of psychological problems. Individual psychotherapy, parent counseling/child guidance, family therapy, and group therapy are all offered at the Sussex County Technical School through the Student Center. Specialized psychotherapy in the areas of eating disorder, sexual abuse and sexually reactive/offending behaviors, as well as intensive substance abuse is available off-grounds.

STUDENT CENTER

The Student Center, which is located on the Sussex County Technical School campus, is a facility designed to provide students with a feeling of comfort when dealing with emotional stress.

The Student Center offers a variety of student activities and services to help students adjust to the adult community whether they choose to continue their education after graduation or enter the employment market. The Center is open 12 months, and staff is available before, during, and after school hours as well as several evenings each week.

Recreational activities sponsored by the Center include bus trips to sporting events, overnight camping trips, dances, and special events.

Technical and job-related services are also available and include workshops aimed at helping students prepare for the employment market. Examples are how to write a resume, how to prepare for a job interview, and how to make decisions about accepting a job. Also, it is possible in some cases to arrange on-site interviews with employers in the Student Center.

Counseling services are varied to meet the needs of students and their families. Individual, group, and family sessions are offered. The Center is a place where both students and their families can come to discuss their concerns in a supportive atmosphere.

Medical screening can be conducted through the Student Center, and students are referred for follow-up care with medical specialists if there is a need. Also included in some cases in the health aspects of the program are dental exams.

The Student Center is a comprehensive program. All students can come to the Center and apply for services to get involved in any activity that the Center sponsors. Students are usually referred to the Center by SCTS staff. After a student is referred, the Center staff contacts parents to obtain permission to work with their children and/or family.

The Student Center provides:

- Mental health/support counseling
- Substance abuse evaluation/counseling
- Job/employment training/counseling
- Recreation facilities
- Family planning
- Referral services
- Consultation with school personnel such as teachers, Child Study Team, and administration as necessary
- Financial assistance for school supplies as well as medical and dental procedures when appropriate

Staff

The staff at the Student Center is specially trained in appreciating the problems of adolescents, young adults, and their families. All clinicians have at least a Masters Degree in counseling, psychology, or social work. Clinicians participate in continuing education and specialty training in related areas to enhance their skills.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is a crucial aspect of the therapeutic relationship, particularly for adolescents. Parents' understanding and cooperation in this regard is appreciated. There are, however, certain life threatening situations and safety issues where confidentiality is breached. This can be discussed further with the individual clinician.

Community Outreach

The Student Center at Sussex County Technical School works cooperatively with many local social agencies to arrange for any additional psychological support for students. The staff will arrange appointments with community agencies whenever necessary.

Hours

School Hours:

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Evening hours available by appointment only.

Summer Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

24-hour emergency coverage

All services are free of charge.

CHILD STUDY TEAM RELATED SERVICES

DIAGNOSTIC-PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS

Psychological evaluations are provided as one component of the triennial assessment with students classified as eligible for special education and related services to determine a child's current functioning levels and needs. Psychological evaluations are tailored to respond to the referral question where intellectual and social-emotional status is determined. Single psychological evaluations may be provided if it is determined that a comprehensive evaluation is not necessary.

SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS

Social assessments are conducted by meeting with student's parents and identifying the family constellation/dynamics that impact academic progress. Each intern/extern works with a diverse range of referral questions to ensure that he/she develops skills in using a broad range of assessment approaches. A strong emphasis is placed on producing well-written reports and on developing skills in interpreting test results to other professionals, students, and their families (parents).

SECTION 504 ACCOMMODATION PLANS FOR ADHD AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) display inappropriate degrees of inattention, impulsiveness, and hyperactivity. This neurobiological disorder affects up to 5% of American children. Students with ADHD at Sussex County Technical School are provided with an individualized plan that integrates behavior management, supportive parent counseling, educational planning, social skills training and, if indicated, recommends medical treatment. These services are provided by an interdisciplinary team including but not limited to a developmental pediatrician, child psychiatrist, nurse, social worker, psychologist, and learning specialist. The diagnostic and therapeutic efforts of this team are coordinated with the student's parents, teachers, school nurse, and pediatrician.

GUIDANCE

There are three guidance counselors. Each student is assigned to one counselor. The Guidance Department's primary function is counseling students so that they may know and understand themselves, attain personal satisfaction, and be aware of their choices, thus becoming responsible adults.

The Guidance Department provides an essential service in the educational programming for each student. Students needing help in career planning, scheduling, major field of study, individual difficulties and other school related areas might seek help from the counselor assigned to them.

Sussex County Technical School provides different attendance patterns in an attempt to meet the vocational needs of a diverse student population. The Full Time and Shared Time options offered are available to all high school students in the county at no cost. In addition, transportation is provided by the local school district.

Full Time provides the students with a complete high school education in a vocational technical environment. The student is transported directly to SCTS where he/she receives all the necessary instruction and course offerings to meet state requirements.

Shared Time permits a student to attend his/her local high school for one half of the day for specific courses required for graduation. The student is transported to SCTS for the other half of the day to receive instruction in one of more than 20 different technical areas.

RESEARCH

Interns are encouraged to pursue research/dissertation interests as they relate to their own personal interests/needs. There is a range of possibilities, including on-site shop programs. The facility has potential as a subject population. If interested in conducting research, submission must be made in accordance with SCTS Research Guidelines/Board of Directors/Superintendent and be approved.

REQUIREMENTS

Applications for the SCTS Professional Psychology/Social Work Internship/Externship Program should be matriculated in a graduate program in clinical, counseling, school, or social work. Applications for the part-time externship and clinical practicum experience need not have completed all course work. Applicants for the internship program should have completed their required course work and practicum experiences.

If interested, please send your graduate school transcript, resume, two letters of recommendation from previous supervisors, and a letter from your Program Director indicating your readiness for internship/externship to:

Eric S. Herschman, Psy.D.
Licensed Psychologist/Certified School Psychologist
Sussex County Technical School
105 North Church Road
Sparta, NJ 07871
Tel. (973) 383-6700 Ext. 236
Fax: (973) 300-5225

PROGRAM STAFF AND SCTS FACULTY

Cheryl Braun is a certified school social worker. She is also a member of the SCTS crisis and child study teams. She is the liaison to CP & P (formerly the Division of Youth and Family Services) and other social service agencies in the county.

Eric Herschman, PsyD. is a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist in New Jersey. He is a member of APA, NJPA, SWASP, NASP, NJASP, and the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology. He is the psychologist for the SCTS Child Study Team, the SCTS Crisis Team Coordinator, and clinical supervisor for the School Services Program (The Student Center). He conducts psychological evaluations, student/teacher/parent consultations, and crisis interventions at SCTS.

Suzanne Sarner, MA, LPC has a Master's in Counseling Psychology and is the director of the Student Center. She is a licensed professional counselor and is a member of the New Jersey Professional Counselors Association in Mental Health. She conducts individual and group counseling and has training in teen issues. Mrs. Sarner is a mental health clinician at the Student Center and a member of the SCTS crisis team.

Anne Nedelka, MA, LPC is a clinician at the school based youth services program, The Student Center.

Heather Morgan, MA, LPC is a clinician at the school based youth services program, The Student Center.

Christine Morales, MA, LPC is a clinician at the school based youth services program, The Student Center.

Bina Varkey, MA, LPC has a Master's in Psychological Studies and is a certified school counselor. She is also a licensed professional counselor and has an Ed.S. in Marriage & Family Therapy.

Maggie Centrelli, RN received her BSN in 1986 and NJ State School Nurse Certification in 1995. She also has her Red Cross CPR Instructor Certification.

Noelle Herczku, MA, LPC earned her Master's in Counseling from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She has experience working with adolescents and families with a primary focus on relationships, grief, trauma, and crisis work. She was trained and certified in Psychological First Aid and Post Traumatic Stress Management. Noelle is the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator and spends extensive time working individually and collectively with adolescents in unhealthy relationships. She is dedicated to helping adolescents work toward achieving goals to maintain healthy relationships and enhancing their ability to make pro-social decisions which will aid in their growth and development to attain success.

Ada Guarcello, MA has a Master's in Counseling and is a certified student assistance counselor. She also has her school counselor certification and is the school's anti-bullying specialist.