





Welcome to the Masters Professional  
Training Programme in Clinical  
Psychology  
at Rhodes University!

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## People

### Staff Portfolios

Clinical Programme Co-ordinator:	Prof Lisa Saville Young
Clinic Co-ordinator:	Nqobile Msomi
Clinic Administrator:	Mrs Nonkanyiso Maqanda

### Lecturers in the Psychology Department involved in teaching on the course

AF	Alan Fourie, Senior Lecturer, Clinical Psychologist and Jungian Analyst (On Sabbatical for 2020)
CY	Prof Charles Young, Associate Professor, Counselling Psychologist (HOD) and Programme Co-ordinator of the Counselling Programme
DB	Duane Booysen, Lecturer and Clinical Psychologist (On Sabbatical for first semester)
JA	Prof Jacqui Akhurst, Full Professor and Counselling Psychologist
JK	Jan Knoetze, Senior Lecturer and Educational Psychologist
LSY	Prof Lisa Saville Young, Associate Professor and Clinical Psychologist
LW	Prof Lindy Wilbraham, Full Professor and Research Psychologist
NM	Nqobile Msomi, Lecturer and Counselling Psychologist
SZ	Sizwe Zondo, Lecturer
TFK	Dr Tracey Feltham King, Senior Lecturer

### Clinical Associates of the Psychology Department involved in teaching on the course

SH	Prof Sue Hawkridge, Clinical Associate, Rhodes University and Consultant Psychiatrist, Western Cape Department of Health
MN	Prof Mo Nagdee, Clinical Associate, Rhodes University, Consultant Psychiatrist, Fort England Hospital and Associate Professor, Walter Sisulu University
IR	Iain Reid, Clinical Associate, Rhodes University and Principal Clinical Psychologist, Fort England Hospital

### Contract Lecturers and Supervisors

KvR	Kempie van Rooyen, Clinical Psychologist, Livingstone Tertiary Hospital
JAu	Justin August, Lecturer and Psychometrist, Nelson Mandela University
LB	Dr Lisa Brown, Clinical Psychologist in Private Practice
LC	Lauren Creese, Clinical Psychologist, Fort England Hospital
LQ	Lumka Qangule, Counselling Psychologist in Private Practice
PS	Pumza Sakasa, Clinical Psychologist, Fort England Hospital
RF	Raylene Flannigan, Clinical Psychologist, Fort England Hospital
VC	Verna Connan, Clinical Psychologist in Private Practice
YN	Yolanda Nongauza, Counselling Psychologist, SANDF

## Clinical Students 2020

Aimee Fouche  
Cinnamon Pieters  
Kurisha Munishvaran  
Pieter Bredenkamp  
Siphosethu Ngqamfana  
Thato Masia

## Clinical Interns 2020

Tsholofelo Khumalo  
Lubayna Moola  
Sibongile Matabese  
Mae Du Toit


## Counselling Students 2020

Lerato Manyike  
Mihlali Simokunda  
Nicole Keet  
Sandisiwe Nabo-Bazana  
Staci Francis  
Zuziwe Ndebele

## Counselling Interns 2020

Adeline Duiker  
Catherine Parkinson  
Jeslyn Goosen  
Moosa Maseko  
Thembela Zini  
Zizipho Ludidi

## The Definition of Clinical Psychology at Rhodes University

The shape and form of Clinical Psychology at Rhodes University is informed by the Minimum standards for the training of Clinical Psychology, as published by the Board in February 2019. It is also influenced by the Scope of Practice of the Profession of Psychology and the Scope of Practice of Clinical Psychologists promulgated in 2011 by the Professional Board of Psychology of the HPCSA, as well as South African literature on clinical psychology training (e.g. Ahmed & Pillay, 2004; Kagee, 2006; Pillay & Kritzinger, 2007; Pillay, Ahmed & Bawa, 2013) and recent reviews of mental health services in South Africa (e.g. Lund, Peterson, Kleintjes & Bhana, 2012). In particular, our vision is that the domains of practice of clinical psychology include: assessing, diagnosing and  intervening with individuals and groups with psychological and mental health disorders. Clinical psychologists work in a range of settings from primary health care contexts through to generally hospital and tertiary hospital contexts. Therefore, they need to be able to deliver services that are at times preventative and at other times remedial in nature; assessing and treating mental health disorders that range from mild to complex and severe with short- and long-term interventions respectively. Clinical Psychologists understand mental illness from a biopsychosocial perspective and are concerned with delivering high intensity interventions with a clear evidence base. They are also concerned with the promotion of community mental health through less traditional roles such as providing support and training to primary mental health workers, and getting involved in advocacy initiatives, public information campaigns and policy work. Finally, clinical psychologists are well versed in research practices that are locally relevant and directly influence clinical psychology practice.

The teaching of the clinical programme draws on a problem-based learning model, in other words, learning will largely take place around particular psychological disorders. In addition, the programme emphasises that professional identities are not isolated: rather your identity as a clinical psychologist will develop within the particular contexts in which you work, contexts that are often unique to South Africa and Africa. Thus, the programme emphasises contextualising problem-based learning within a South African context drawing on local case

examples in order to ensure that Clinical Psychologists remain responsive to the population of South Africa.

## Objectives and Outcomes

The Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology is a two-year degree course. The first 'coursework' year consists of a formal teaching programme alongside practical case work, and the second year consists of an internship at an HPCSA registered internship site. You will work on the research component of your degree continuously over the two years.

The aim of the Clinical Psychology programme is simple: to turn you, a former psychology honours student, into a competent and ethical Clinical Psychologist. This broad aim is achieved through the following three main components that make up the degree and build your applied knowledge and practical competence:

### Coursework

The coursework consists of a combination of a formal teaching programme and practical work. The seminars introduce the main concepts needed for applied work, while the supervised casework provides the opportunity to put the theory into practice and develop applied skills. Your understanding of the coursework is assessed continuously through written and oral assignments/tests, written and oral examinations, and through the ongoing evaluation of your casework (clinical and community) by your supervisors. All coursework requirements must be successfully passed before proceeding into the internship year.

### Research

As part of the degree, you are required to complete a research dissertation on a topic relevant to Clinical Psychology. To support this work, you will attend a series of seminars on research and you will be allocated a research supervisor.

## Internship

The internship year typically forms the second year of the training and also forms part of the degree. As an intern you will receive additional on-site training and ongoing supervision. However, you will be expected to work fairly independently much of the time and will function as a paid professional with considerable responsibility. At/towards the end of the internship, if your work meets the required standard and your research dissertation has been examined and passed, you will be able to take the HPCSA, Board of Psychology Examination. On passing this exam, you will be to proceed to your community service year at the end of which you will be eligible to register with the HPCSA, Board of Psychology as a Clinical Psychologist in Independent Practice.

## Coursework

### The Formal Teaching Programme

The formal teaching programme takes place throughout the year and consists of two-hour seminars with face-to-face facilitation by a lecturer. The morning session is broken up into two 2-hour sessions with a half hour tea break in between (Session 1: 8h30 to 10h30; Session 2: 11h00 to 13h00). The afternoon session begins at 14h15 and finishes at 16h30 allowing for a fifteen-minute comfort break. The timetable is available on Google Calendar and the URL will be shared with you. Seminars will take place in the following venues, as indicated on the calendar: PSR - Psychology Seminar Room in the Psychology Department and CSR - Clinic Seminar Room in the Psychology Clinic.

Seminar readings, slides and all other documents related to your course will be made available on RUConnected. We encourage students to read and work online as far as possible



to reduce the environmental impact of paper and printing. The university provides free WIFI in and around campus that supports online work.

The formal teaching programme offered at Rhodes has been carefully designed to increase your knowledge and applied skills in three key areas: i) Adult Assessment & Therapeutics, ii) Child Assessment & Therapeutics, and iii) Clinical Psychology Professional Practice.

### Adult Psychopathology, Assessment & Therapeutics

This module consists of two parts. Part 1 is focused on understanding the clinical signs and symptoms of psychological disorders in adulthood. The module begins with teaching students how to effectively interview a patient, perform a mental status exam and use a formal diagnostic system. Students psychological assessment skills are developed so that they are



able to provide an appropriate diagnosis and formulate the patient's distress in psychological terms. Part of these assessment skills consists of the ability to select, administer, score and interpret a core battery of psychometric tests that are aimed at assessing cognitive, personality and emotional functioning in

adults while remaining sensitive to the contexts in which these adults present. Students are also trained to administer more advanced, function specific/neuropsychological psychometric tests and are taught how psychometric test findings might be useful in forensic settings. Finally, teaching time is also devoted to learning how to meaningfully communicate the findings, in writing and orally, to different audiences.

Part 1 of the module consists of 40 seminars, broken down as follows:

<i>Subject area</i>	<i>Specific Topic</i>	<i>No. of Seminars</i>	<i>Lecturer</i>
Psychodiagnostics	Psychopathology: Clinical Signs & Symptoms	10	MN
	Neurocognitive conditions	4	SZ
Clinical Interviews	History Taking	1	YN
	Mental Status Examination	1	LC
Psychometric Assessment	Measurement & Psychometric Theory	3	JAu

	Intellectual (Screening tools & WAIS)	5	IR
	Neuropsychological tests	4	IR
	Personality tests (MMPI/MCMI)	3	KvR
	Emotional tests (BAI, BDI, CORE OM, Projectives)	2	RF
Communicating findings	Aetiological case formulations	1	LC
	Report Writing	1	LC
Forensic assessment		5	IR

The learning in this module is assessed through a class test in May, a written examination and oral assessment in June, supervision throughout the year, and an oral exam at the end of the year.

Part 2 of this module builds on the initial teaching of counselling micro-skills so that students develop the ability to construct theoretical formulations that explain the manifestation of mental health problems, and use these to form the basis for a variety of therapeutic interventions and specific therapeutic techniques. Students are exposed to a range of modalities that are supported by a strong evidence base.



Part 2 of the module consists of 36 seminars which are made up of the following:

<i>Subject area</i>	<i>Specific Topic</i>	<i>No. of Seminars</i>	<i>Lecturer</i>
Therapeutics	The Skilled Helper Workshop	6	LQ
	Cognitive Therapy	14	CY
	Psychodynamic Therapy (Short term)	5	LSY
	Intervening with complex cases (Dialectical Behaviour Therapy)	5	LC
	Group Therapy	6	LC & PS

Part 2 of this module is assessed through a written exam in November (Paper 3), an oral exam in November and in supervision throughout the year.

### Child Psychopathology, Assessment & Therapeutics

In Part 1 of this module students learn about the clinical signs and symptoms of psychological



disorders in childhood and adolescence. Students are taught how to assess children's and adolescents' current functioning in various domains and in different settings, including the forensic setting where criminal capacity assessment and risk assessment is emphasised. There are 21 seminars that make up Part 1 of this module as

follows:

<i>Subject area</i>	<i>Specific Topic</i>	<i>No. of Seminars</i>	<i>Lecturer</i>
Psychodiagnostics	Child Psychodiagnostics	5	SH
History Taking	Child/Adolescent interview	1	JK
	Parent interview	1	JK
Psychometric Assessment	Intellectual (DAP, RAVENS, Bender, WISC)	5	LSY
	Emotional (Projectives, Structured questionnaires)	2	JK
	Behaviour (Connors, Vinelands)	2	JK
Observations	School and Play	1	JK
Communicating findings	Report Writing	1	LSY
Forensic assessment		3	PS

The module is assessed through a written exam (Paper 2) and oral assessment in June (Paper 2), an oral exam in November and in supervision throughout the year.



In Part 2 of this module students learn about the theoretical foundations of, and therapeutic skills for, intervening with children, adolescents and their families. Seminars included here are:

<i>Subject area</i>	<i>Specific Topic</i>	<i>No. of Seminars</i>	<i>Lecturer</i>
Therapeutics	Play Therapy	5	LB
	Mentalization based Therapy	5	LSY
	Cognitive Therapy	5	LSY

The second part of this module is assessed through a written exam in November (Paper 4) and in supervision throughout the year.

### Clinical Psychology Professional Practice

This module engages with issues central to the professional practice of clinical psychologists in South Africa including the legal framework and principles that govern ethical practice. In addition, emphasis is placed on providing students with a variety of skills required for the effective management of cases in health settings and the specific skills required to effectively



apply clinical psychology in health contexts. The public mental health approach is taught with students required, as part of the course and under supervision, to design, implement and evaluate a psychologically based programme in the local community, aimed at intervening on a much broader scale than the individual. Finally, this module is aimed at increasing the sensitivity of trainees to the diversity

of socioeconomic status, culture, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability and language that typifies the South African population.

The module consists of 36 seminars as follows:

<i>Subject area</i>	<i>Specific Topic</i>	<i>No. of Seminars</i>	<i>Lecturer</i>
Case management	Professional Identity	1	DB
	Working in a Multi-Disciplinary Team	1	DB
	Psychological Emergencies	1	DB
	Liaison & Referral	1	DB
	Protocols & Contracts	1	DB
	Management of Patient inform	1	DB
	Case Presentations	1	LSY
	Conducting workshops	1	JA
Working with Diversity	Inequality, Poverty & Mental Health	1	NM
	Sexual and Gender identities	1	NM
	Clinical Psychology & Cultural diversity	1	DB
	Clinical subjects in postcolonial contexts	1	NM
	Working in Multilingual settings	1	DB
	Disability & Mental Health	1	NM
Clinical Psychology in Health Contexts	HIV/AIDS & mental health	2	CY
	Evidence based practice	2	DB
	Psychopharmacology	2	NP
	Non-invasive clinical skills	1	MN
Public Mental Health Approach	Introduction	1	LSY
	Designing, implementing & evaluating psychologically based programmes	8	LSY/DB
	Influencing policy, plans & budgets	1	LSY
Ethics & Legislation		5	IR

The teaching on Ethics & Legislation is assessed through the year through written examination (Paper 1 & 2), oral assessment and in supervision. The rest of the module is assessed through a written assignment on the Public Mental Health Approach (October), through written examination in November (Paper 3 & 4), in the oral exam (November) and in supervision throughout the year.

### Prescribed Texts

- Sadock, B.J., Sadock, V.A., & Ruiz, P. (2015) *Kaplan and Sadock's Synopsis of Psychiatry (11<sup>th</sup> Edition)*. Netherlands: Wolters Kluwer.

- Westbrook, D., Kennerley, H., & Kirk, J. (2017). *An Introduction to Cognitive Behaviour Therapy: Skills and Applications* (3rd Ed). London: Sage.
- Lemma, A., Target, M., & Fonagy, P. (2011). *Brief Dynamic Interpersonal Therapy: A clinician's guide*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Laher, S. & Cockcroft, K. (2013). *Psychological Assessment in South Africa: Research and Applications*. Johannesburg: Wits University Press.

All seminars will have prescribed readings set by the lecturer. The onus is on the lecturer to provide the details of these readings to you a week before the seminar. It is extremely important that you read the prescribed readings BEFORE the seminar concerned. As the first term is very full, you need to set aside additional time over the weekend and in the evenings to keep up to date with the reading material.

## Case work

### Assignment of cases

In the beginning of the second term you will be assigned your first client. You will gradually build up your caseload to a maximum of five clients. Cases are assigned to you at the weekly clinic meeting by the Programme co-ordinator in consultation with the Clinic co-ordinator. Co-ordinators will try to ensure that all students obtain a broad range of experience in both adult and child assessment and psychotherapy. Clients **MUST** be *contacted* within *1 week of allocation* and before the next clinic meeting. The telephone in the tea room (x7417) may be used to contact clients. In addition, we recommend that you set up a gmail account for all client correspondence. The first appointment should be arranged as soon as possible and certainly *within 2 weeks from allocation*.

Your work with each client will begin with an intake interview, a process that can take one to three sessions. **You must write an intake report for each client that you see as soon as the intake process is complete.** These reports should cover the client's presenting problems, history, diagnosis, case conceptualisation/formulation and treatment plan. The intake report must be finalised, endorsed and signed by the supervisor allocated to the case within one month from first contact.

In all cases the assessment, management decisions and treatment of clients must be closely supervised. Supervisors take clinical responsibility for the cases, so it is essential that you discuss the case material and your interventions fully and honestly with them and do not initiate interventions that have not been discussed with them first. Detailed notes should be made of sessions, and students must audio- or video-tape **all sessions** for supervision purposes. You should take your case files to supervision sessions – your supervisor will request to inspect them from time to time, so they should always be kept up to date. These case files will be submitted at the end of the year for inspection by the external examiner.

There are required and recommended psychometric tests that you will administer, score and interpret during the course of the year. You will be provided with a form to keep a record of these. Each student should expect to complete at least two full psychological assessments during the year. The intake interview will usually be followed by a battery of psychological tests that are planned and selected in consultation with your supervisor. **Assessment Processes should be concluded within 2 months of first meeting with client.**

### Case files

You will be responsible for keeping a clinic case file for each client. All case files should include an intake report, case notes, psychometric test protocols, client correspondence, other relevant reports and a termination report. All reports must be closely supervised by the case supervisor and only filed once she/he has approved it. Session records must be written immediately after all contact with your clients. You must also record all other contacts that might occur by telephone or e-mail. Once the case is closed, you must write a brief termination summary. These case files must be maintained in a professional manner and should be taken to supervision sessions. Case files should be retrieved from the Clinic Administrator for your sessions and for supervision, but should always be returned as soon as possible and stored securely in the Clinic. By the **30<sup>th</sup> October 2020**, all files must be thoroughly reviewed and updated and submitted to the clinic administrator. You will also be required to complete and submit statistics detailing your client work. Supervisors will come

into the Clinic to review your files. These evaluations may be used for moderation purposes in the examination process.

### Case supervision

The supervision you receive throughout the year is one of the most important ways in which you acquire the applied skills you need for professional practice. You will learn a great deal from the registered clinical psychologist who supervises your case work. You will be allocated a supervisor in the beginning of the second term when you are first given a case. You will receive 25 sessions of case work supervision. You may be supervised individually for an hour a week or in pairs for two hours a week.

From the second semester you will also begin working on your Public Mental Health Interventions – this work is also supervised in small groups of three, weekly for one hour.

Supervisors are required to complete an evaluation form three times a year commenting on your progress and attend three supervisors' meetings where your progress is discussed. These evaluations will be discussed with you. (See Guidelines for Supervisors booklet in the administrator's office/on RU Connected for further information)

**A note about supervision:** Although you will no doubt receive input from other psychologists and your peers on your cases in seminars and in case conferences, the allocated supervisor is responsible for your cases and you should under no circumstances conduct your cases in a way that disregards the guidance offered by this person. If you receive external guidance that is contrary to what your supervisor has been saying to you, you should discuss this with your supervisor.

## Case conferences and ward round attendance at Fort England Hospital

There are case conferences during the year when students and staff will present cases. All



students will present at least one case. The format will be explained to you early in the year. These case conferences are an opportunity for you to practice your oral

communication around cases and are formative learning experiences. The case conference is also an opportunity to get input from others about your case.

During the year you will also attend weekly ward rounds at Fort England Hospital. This will provide you with an opportunity to begin integrating theory with patient work at a tertiary psychiatric institution, and to become familiar with your future internship site.

## Case work time

You are responsible for making appointments with your clients and writing these appointment times in the Clinic Administrator's diary so that she can draw files timeously and receive clients. We require that you do not to make appointments for any reason within 15 minutes of the end of a scheduled seminar or workshop. We do not want students disengaging from the course material as they prepare mentally for a client appointment. To do justice to your clients you require space to re-orientate yourself from the academic task to the clinical task at hand, and to read case notes in preparation for seeing a client.

Your Public Mental Health (PMH) Intervention will take place on Wednesday mornings/afternoons depending on the community you are working with. From the second term, most afternoons are kept free of seminars (other than the PMH supervision on a Wednesdays) to ensure that there is time for your applied work. Your Saturday mornings should also be used for casework. It would be a good idea to get into the habit of reading and/or seeing clients on all Saturday mornings throughout the terms.

You are expected to be available in Grahamstown/Makhanda for client / course queries during office hours of a regular working week, and any deviation from this requires special motivation and permission from the Programme Coordinator.

### Registration with HPCSA

You will need to register with the HPCSA as a student psychologist in order to be able to start seeing clients. The onus is on you to complete this process timeously. The HPCSA will only register you as an intern psychologist in 2021 if you have been registered as a student psychologist the year prior. We do not take any responsibility for your registration status with the HPCSA.

### The Phelophepha Health Trains

The Department has secured the opportunity for our student psychologists to join the Phelophepha Health Trains from 16 to 27 March, either in Stutterheim or Ulundi. This is an excellent opportunity to gain primary-healthcare exposure in under-served, rural communities.

### The Test Library

According to the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974, only people who are appropriately registered as psychology practitioners may exercise control or have access to psychological tests. You are therefore legally obliged to take great care of the tests and ensure that access is strictly controlled.

The test library should remain locked at all times. You may collect the key when you need to use a test. Once you have collected the test, you should return the key and sign the test out. When you sign the test out, you should check that none of the components is missing. Once you have signed for a test, you are confirming that you have all the components and accept liability for any pieces that go missing. Under no circumstances may not collect or return a test on behalf of anybody else.

Access to the library is restricted to certain times that will be communicated to you. Please plan around these times. As is the case with client records and other confidential material, any breaches of the rules about access to the test library are a serious disciplinary offence.

### Coursework Mark Structure

<b>Coursework</b>  <b>Total = 66%</b>	Class mark, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class test: Psychopathology (5%) <i>20 May 2020</i></li> <li>• Research Proposal (5%) <i>1 June 2020</i></li> <li>• Oral Assessment (5%) <i>19 June 2020</i></li> <li>• Public Mental Health Assignment (5%) <i>21 October 2020</i></li> </ul>	<b>20%</b>
	Exam Paper 1: Child Psychopathology, Assessment and Therapy Part I (Assessment focus including Ethics) <i>15 June 2020</i>	<b>9.2%</b>
	Exam Paper 2: Adult Psychopathology, Assessment and Therapy Part II (Assessment focus including Ethics) <i>18 June 2020</i>	<b>9.2%</b>
	Exam Paper 3: Child Psychopathology, Assessment and Therapy Part II (Therapeutics focus including Professional Practice) <i>4 November 2020</i>	<b>9.2%</b>
	Exam Paper 4: Adult Psychopathology, Assessment and Therapy Part II (Therapeutics focus including Professional Practice) <i>11 November 2020</i>	<b>9.2%</b>
	Oral Examination <i>18 November 2020</i>	<b>9.2%</b>
<b>Research Thesis</b>  <b>Total = 34%</b>	A focused research project that is relevant to the area of Clinical Psychology	

Given that this is a professional training program you need to demonstrate basic competency in all areas of the course. In order to pass this course, you must obtain an overall pass mark of 50% for the whole course. You must also obtain a subminimum pass mark of 50% for each of the following separately: (1) each of the four exam papers, (2) the class mark, (3) the November oral examination, and (4) the research dissertation

The oral examinations take the form of a panel interview in which you will present to a team of examiners including the Programme Co-ordinator and the External Examiner in November. Before the oral exam you will be given something to prepare. For example, in previous years students have been shown a video of an assessment interview and been asked to present a diagnosis, case formulation and treatment plan. Information about the exact nature of your examination will be provided closer to the time, and the oral assessment in June acts as a good 'practice run'.

Unless otherwise specified, class assignments should be no more than 20 pages of typed A4 in length (double spacing excluding references). References must be cited and listed according to the format specified by the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Submission of work should be handed to the Clinic Administrator **before 12 noon** on the deadline date. Late submission will result in a deduction of marks.

## Research

Students will attend seminars facilitated by the Centre for Postgraduate Studies to obtain the necessary information and skills to conduct their research project. These seminars are compulsory, and are a good way of meeting other postgraduate students and becoming part of the broader Rhodes community. In addition to these seminars, you will be allocated a research supervisor who will guide your research and the writing of your thesis. You will be required to submit drafts of the various sections of your research thesis throughout the course of the year as negotiated with your supervisor. This module will be assessed by the external examination of your research thesis. Additionally, your research proposal, which is due on 1 June 2020, will be marked by your supervisor and a second marker, and this mark will count towards your overall coursework mark.

You are required to conduct research and write a thesis that comprises a third (34%) of the total mark for the degree and is on a topic of relevance to Clinical Psychology. In consultation with your supervisor you can submit your thesis choosing one of the formats below:

- o *Format A:* Students are required to submit a mini thesis, which should be approximately 50-80 pages of double-spaced text, excluding references and appendices.

**OR**

- o *Format B:* Students are required to submit their research in the format of a publishable journal article. This article must adhere to all the requirements of a specific journal. The relevant journal guidelines must be provided to the examiners.

Both formats are examined by two external examiners. Please consult the Humanities Higher Degrees Guide on the Rhodes University website for further information regarding the submission and examination process.

Please note that you will be expected to begin work on your dissertation early in the year to be able to present a well-prepared proposal to the Department's Research Proposal and Ethics Review Committee (RPERC) as soon as possible (this submission is a separate process



to the summative assessment of your research proposal). You will also be required to submit an ethics application to the Rhodes University Ethical Standards Committee. Only once the proposal has been approved by the RPERC and you have ethical approval can you begin collecting data and proceeding with

your research. It is a good idea to construct a time line for the various components of your research and work on it consistently throughout your degree. You should aim to submit your proposal and ethical application to the RPERC and RUEC respectively within the first semester or early in the second semester of your first year of your degree. Students who have a draft of their literature review and method logy and who have collected their data by the end of the first year are generally well on track to complete their thesis during their internship year. Please note that your time pressure (to complete your research so that you can write the Board exam – see section below) does not translate into your research supervisor's time pressure, so be sure to work consistently on your research. It is important to value your research from the very beginning of your degree - all applied psychologists are researcher-practitioners, and the development of your research skills is as important as any other aspect of your training.

## Internship

After successful completion of your first year you proceed to your internship. Fort England Hospital has six internship spaces linked to Rhodes University and you are strongly advised to accept one of these places. Those who do not wish to work at Fort England Hospital are advised to begin their search for an internship place elsewhere early in the year and to inform the Programme Co-ordinator early in the year. The University remains the collaborating university wherever you decide to complete your internship, and needs to endorse the suitability of your internship arrangements.

This program is linked to Fort England Psychiatric Hospital for the second-year internship component. **You are offered a provisional internship placement at the end of June provided that you have met all course requirements for the first semester.**

During the internship you will be evaluated quarterly by your supervisors who should discuss the report with you before placing it on file. This quarterly report is sent to the Programme



Co-ordinator at Rhodes, as the supervising university. At the end of your internship your supervisors must decide whether you have reached a basic standard of professional competence. If they decide you have, they will sign you off as having completed the



internship. If there are concerns about your standards of competence, you may be required to serve additional months until the required level of competence is reached. The Psychology Clinic must be in possession of four satisfactory internship reports from your internship year by the end of 2021. These are required for the HOD to sign the form that you have completed your degree, as is the successful completion of your thesis.

**Clinical candidates must write and pass the Professional Board for Psychology's examination before registering for a year of community service. Candidates are required to have passed their research thesis (not just submitted the thesis for examination) and all components of their coursework before being allowed to register to sit for this exam which takes place two/three times a year.**

To summarise then, **you cannot register as a community service psychologist until you have been awarded your masters degree AND passed the Board examination.** Once your community service year is complete, you may then register as a clinical psychologist in independent practice.

## Professional and Ethical Standards

### Stay in contact

The programme is a highly intensive professional training, and you are expected to adopt a professional attitude as a team member of the Department of Psychology and Rhodes Psychology Clinic. You are encouraged to see this year as a full-time job with regular working hours (08h00 to 17h00). Furthermore, you may need to be called in at short notice, for example, for a client in crisis, or a sudden change in the training programme. You therefore need to be contactable at all times during office hours when you are away from the Clinic or in the Department.

### Dress code

In keeping with your professional role as a training psychologist, you are expected to dress appropriately and professionally when at the Psychology Clinic or Psychology Department.

### Cordial and respectful relationships

Professionals must learn to work cordially with other professionals even though, at times, they may not agree with each other or even like each other very much. At all times class members are encouraged to view each other as co-professionals, and to work together in a supportive manner. Students should respect the fact that their fellow students will have their

own interests, strengths and areas of vulnerability and learn to be flexible and empathic towards their peers.

## Confidentiality and ethics

From the very first term you are going to work as a professional and need to uphold the highest standards of ethics in respect of your case work, and this includes exercising the highest standards of discretion with respect to the confidentiality of the case material you will have access to. Although this is a universal requirement for Clinical Psychologists, it is particularly important in a small town such as Grahamstown/Makhanda, and on a small university campus. Here are examples of the ways in which confidentiality can be broken quite unintentionally:

- You put a case file in your car and return to find that someone has broken into your car and taken it.
- You email a report and learn a few days later that the email was sent to the wrong person. Your confidential report has been read by the client's neighbour!
- You set off home with a pile of books and a case file. You inadvertently put the case file down in the Library and leave it there.
- You are worried about a case and you chat to one of your classmates about it while shopping at Pick 'n' Pay.

These kinds of events can have serious consequences and could even lead to a complaint against you being made to the Professional Board which could lead to a disciplinary hearing.

Take care that you are not the cause of any such unfortunate breaches of confidentiality.

All confidential electronic documents (including audio files) must be password protected. In addition, the recording equipment must always be used with confidentiality as a priority. The video cupboard must remain locked always when not in use.

## Clinic procedures

Please be advised that there are specific rules and procedures about the use of the Clinic's office facilities, including the use of the test library, photocopy machine and telephone which will be explained to you at the start of the course. You are expected to adhere to these rules

and procedures. There is a kitchen and tea room shared by students and staff at the Clinic, and you are asked to keep these shared spaces tidy.

### Clinic offices

You will be assigned a consulting room that you will share with one of your classmates. You should see clients, by arrangement with your office partner, in your consulting rooms, unless you need to use the play room, or a larger venue for a couple, family or group, or if you need space to conduct psychometric testing. Along with a key to your office, you will be given keys to the clinic. You are responsible for these; if you lose your keys, you may be liable for the cost of replacing the locks and everybody else's clinic keys.

### Personal therapy

Coursework and casework material often raise personal issues for students and therefore it is advisable, and strongly encouraged, to be in your own personal therapy during your masters year. As a student of the university you have access to the student counselling centre for short term work or you may choose to see a psychologist in private practice. The Programme Co-ordinator will also facilitate accessing therapy at a reduced rate from local practitioners, where possible.

### Ongoing evaluation and feedback

You will receive feedback on how you are progressing in your training on an ongoing basis. Your co-ordinator will meet with you individually at the end of the first, second and fourth terms to provide you with feedback based on your performance in the various assessments, your engagement in seminars and your case conference presentations. In addition to this, your supervisors will let you know how you are developing in terms of the assessment, formulation and interventions of your cases and will write feedback reports for a committee chaired by the Programme Co-ordinator. These reports will be discussed with you. Also, you will be regularly writing intake reports, assessment reports and termination reports as part of your case work and you will receive feedback on these reports from your supervisors, as these

reports typically have to be revised several times, especially the first two or three. If there are any serious concerns about how you are handling any aspects of the course these will be drawn to your attention by your supervisor and/or programme co-ordinator to give you a chance to address them.

Finally, you will also be asked regularly for written feedback on your experience of the seminars that make up the clinical programme. We ask that you provide this feedback honestly. The evaluation forms that you complete are taken seriously by the Programme Co-ordinator and lecturers concerned. You will also be asked about your experience of the programme in the individual feedback meeting with your Programme Co-ordinator that happen three times a year. In addition, a clinical psychology student representative will be elected early in the year, and the programme co-ordinator will meet every term with this student representative who should feel free to raise issues that perhaps you are not comfortable discussing personally and that pertain to the course.

## DP certificate

Attendance at seminars is compulsory and a DP requirement for this degree. If you need to miss any seminars for good reason, you must obtain permission from the Programme Coordinator in advance.

Before you can enter the examination process at the end of the year you must meet the DP (Duly Performed) requirements. For this training in clinical psychology, this means not only that you have attended all seminars and other components of the course and proved yourself academically competent, but also that you have shown yourself able to function professionally by approaching your work with commitment, working collegially with peers, forming meaningful relationships with clients, acting ethically, and acquiring the requisite skills in psychological assessment, psychological intervention and report writing.

This means that to meet these DP requirements which will allow you to take the written and oral examinations, you must demonstrate the following to your supervisors throughout the

year: consistently satisfactory professional conduct (ethical integrity, reliability, consistency, conscientiousness and quality of professional relationships); practical competence in both psychological assessment and intervention in your casework and public mental health intervention. In addition, the satisfactory completion of all intake and assessment reports and termination reports along with the appropriate management of the case file is a DP requirement. Students will not be allowed to write exams if their case files are not complete.

If the Programme Co-ordinator has concerns about your performance in any of these areas, she will usually give you feedback as soon as possible to give you a chance to address the problem. If the problems are not addressed satisfactorily in response to feedback, you could eventually be asked to leave the course. In cases of gross ethical misconduct, your DP certificate will be summarily withdrawn, and you will be asked to leave the course immediately.

## Plagiarism

Plagiarism refers to the practice of presenting as your own work material which has been written by someone else. Any use of material that is derived from the work of another person constitutes plagiarism, unless the source is clearly acknowledged.

The University and the Department take the issue of plagiarism very seriously and all students in the Department are assumed to be aware of this. If there is any indication that your work is similar to, or based on, another person's work (whether this person is in the same class, from a previous year, from a published or unpublished manuscript or from the internet), this will be treated as plagiarism and steps taken against you and the person you have copied from. You are strongly encouraged to become acquainted with the Plagiarism Policy.

Students are strongly advised to put all written that do not include confidential client information submissions through Turn-it-in, a text recognising program linked to RUconnected. There may be no more than 20% matching text, excluding the references (students are advised to submit their assignments to Turn-it-in without the references attached).

## The Time-Table

The time-table is available on page 29 of this booklet, and can be accessed via Google Calendar where any changes to the programme during the year will be recorded as well as the venue of the seminars. The web address will be provided to you. This is a very busy coursework programme, so good time management is essential.

## List of Policies relevant to the Clinical Psychology Masters Course

Plagiarism Policy  
Selection Policy  
Student Impairment Policy  
Student Academic Support and Development Policy  
RU Connected Policy

Electronic copies of these policies are available on RU Connected. Hard copies (for reference) are available in the Clinic Administrators office

## HPCSA documents relevant to training clinical psychologists

Ethical Rules (Annexure 12)  
Ethical Rules of Conduct for Practitioners Registered under the Health Professions Act, 1974  
List of Classified Tests  
Minimum Training standards for the training of Clinical Psychology  
Policy Regarding Intern Psychologists (Form 160)  
The Examination Policy for Psychologists, Registered Counsellors and Psychometrists (Form 255).  
The revised Policy Document on Business Practices.  
The HPCSA Good Practice Guide (HIV).  
Regulations relating to the registration of psychology students  
Regulation relating to the registration of intern psychologists  
Regulations defining the scope of the profession of psychology  
Regulations relating to the indemnity cover of psychologists

Electronic copies of these documents are available on the HPCSA website.