

**School of Applied Health and Educational Psychology**  
**Counseling Psychology Ph.D. Program**  
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| Degree Program(s)<br>Assessed   | Assessment<br>Methods   | Number<br>of Individuals<br>Assessed |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Counseling<br>Psychology, Ph.D. | - <i>Passing grades of relevant coursework</i>                                | 45                                   |
|                                 | - <i>Passing grades on qualifying exams</i>                                   | 16                                   |
|                                 | - <i>Satisfactory evaluations in practica and internship</i>                  | 27                                   |
|                                 | - <i>Annual student evaluations</i>   | 45                                   |
|                                 | - <i>Alumni feedback</i>  | 27                                   |
|                                 | - <i>Success rates in obtaining internship placements</i>                     | 5                                    |
|                                 | - <i>Success rates in completing internship placements</i>                    | 8                                    |
|                                 | - <i>Passing rates on national licensure exam for psychologists</i>           | 27                                   |
|                                 | - <i>Accreditation of program by American Psychological Association (APA)</i> | 65                                   |

**Analysis and Findings:**

**Student grades on coursework:** 100% of students had passing grades in relevant coursework.

**Student grades on qualifying exams:** 92% of students had passing grades in qualifying exams.

**Practica and internship satisfaction:** 93% of all CPSY students were rated in the average to excellent range by their practicum or internship supervisor at the completion of their practicum or internship, with the large majority of ratings being above average or better.

**Annual student evaluations:** 92% of all CPSY students received satisfactory to above satisfactory ratings on their annual evaluations.

**Success rates in obtaining internship sites:** 80% of CPSY students who applied for full-time internship during 2002-2003 were placed, a placement rate that matched the national average. 100% of placements were at professionally accredited sites.

**Success rates in completing internship placements:** 100% of students completed their internship placement.

**Passing rates on national licensure exam for psychologists:** In a recent alumni survey, of 27 respondents, 18 had taken the exam, 17 (94%) of whom had passed the national licensing exam.

**Alumni feedback:** A survey was recently sent to alumni who have graduated from our program since the last site visit. Of the 32 surveys mailed out, we received 27 back, a response rate of 84%. Demographic description of the sample was 17 females/10 males, with 7 Native American/19 Euro American/1 African American. In light of the program's goal to train entry-level professional psychologists who can function in a wide variety of settings (e.g., academic, community agencies, and private practice), respondents were asked the following:

- a. initial and current employment settings of our graduates;
- b. information regarding licensure and results on the licensure exam;
- c. research activities;
- d. membership in professional societies; and
- e. perceptions regarding their level of preparation in the program

Results of the survey are as follows:

- a. Data on the initial and current employment of our graduates indicated that students' initial job placements as well as current placements are quite varied. Graduates of our program in the last seven years indicate they have worked in university counseling centers, academic teaching positions, independent practice, community mental health centers, medical settings, the military, and correctional facilities. These data provide excellent evidence that we are indeed meeting the overall goal of our training program.
- b. Of the 27 respondents, 18 (69%) have taken the national licensing exam, 17 of whom passed (94%). 14 are currently licensed, and 13 are in progress of being licensed. These data provide further evidence that the program is adequately preparing students for professional practice. The program also has sought to improve exam passing rates by incorporating multiple-choice items in many of its courses. It is hoped that passing rates will continue to improve by preparing students for the testing conditions of the EPPP.
- c. The research activities of our graduates were assessed by their number of presentations at professional meetings, number of publications, and current research activity. Of the 27 respondents, 11 (42%) had presented papers/posters at state/regional professional meetings, and 17 (63%) had presented papers/posters at national/international professional meetings. Mean number of presentations at state/regional professional meetings was 3.5, while mean number of presentations at national/international professional meetings was 3.35. Of the 27 respondents, 19 (70%) had published articles, and the average number of articles published was 3.21 (highest number published by an alumni was 11). Eighteen alumni (67%) have been involved in research activities since graduation.
- d. Of the 27 respondents, 25 were members of professional societies. Five alumni (19%) had served as officer or chaired a committee in a professional organization.
- e. Graduates were asked to rate their level of preparation in the program on a Likert scale ranging from very well prepared to very unprepared. Over 90% of program graduates indicated they have been prepared well for internship. Program graduates felt best prepared in the area of individual counseling/psychotherapy and ethical decision-making. Graduates felt least prepared in the area of consultation. This last rating may be a function of formal coursework offered by SAHEP not being offered in a consistent manner, due to SAHEP faculty changes. This issue was recently rectified by an agreement of the Educational/School Psychology area to offer EPSY 6323 Psychological Consultation on a yearly basis. The program also is exploring other ways to better meet this competency area, for example, by adding consultation material to CPSY 6543 Clinical Supervision, beginning Fall 2004.

The results of the alumni survey clearly indicate program graduates are active in both the science and practice of professional psychology. Further, activities of our graduates demonstrate an integration of science and practice in their daily professional lives. Written comments by graduates further add to our belief that our program not only prepares students for the professional challenges of psychology, but provides a collegial atmosphere for positive learning and the development of the person of the professional:

- "My time gaining a PhD at OSU ranks as one of the most valuable experiences of my life...superior and well-rounded instruction and mentoring..."
- "Overall, I have been pleased with the education I received at OSU"
- "Compared to my peers at internship and post-doc, I felt very well prepared in significant areas. Also, faculty is supportive and nurturing...Overall an excellent program" (emphasis original)"
- "The more I talk with others about their experiences in their doctoral programs, the more grateful I am for my very positive experience, especially regarding my faculty's appreciation for multiculturalism"

**Accreditation:** The Counseling Psychology program continues to be accredited by its professional organization, the American Psychological Association.

Summary Information:

The doctoral program in Counseling Psychology is doing well with respect to the outcome data presented here. Students are being retained in the program and have maintained above average to superior grades. Practicum and internship supervisors consistently gave CPSY students above average to superior ratings. Indeed, CPSY students were successful in obtaining competitive national internship placements. As well, students generally obtained positive annual evaluations from program faculty. Further data regarding the program also was reported, further demonstrating the effectiveness of our training program via current employment, student satisfaction ratings, and licensure rates. Improvements based on alumni feedback centered on consultation experiences. Curriculum changes have been incorporated as a result of this feedback. The Counseling Psychology program has been successful in maintaining appropriate accreditation, an excellent external review of program quality.

**Uses of Assessment Results:**

Assessment results were used to prepare the annual report to the American Psychological Association. The Counseling Psychology program is being reviewed for re-accreditation by the American Psychological Association in 2003, and assessment information gathered in 2002-2003 was used to facilitate this process. Faculty had the opportunity to review assessment results via the current report as well as the self-study report prepared for APA. Meetings with both faculty and students regarding assessment and re-accreditation issues were held this year, with the result of several changes made to our program requirements (e.g., program requirements for applying to internship, "lock-stepping" coursework for first and second years of the program, and improving assessment and consultation training experiences). Overall, faculty and students felt positively about the program's efforts to achieve its primary goal.