

## Social Psychology Curriculum

### Coursework:

- Psyc609 Univariate Statistics I
- Psyc611 Univariate Statistics II
- Psyc613 Multivariate Statistics
- Psyc723 Professional Issues in Psychology
- Any three "core" courses (numbered 700-710) which include Social Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Evolutionary Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychopharmacology, and Biological Psychology
- Elective courses to reach 48 credits, such as Stereotyping and Prejudice, Social Stigma, Attitudes, Intergroup Relations, Structural Equation Modeling, Children of Color, Stress and Trauma

### Research :

- Students must complete an empirical Master's Thesis; the MS degree is awarded en route to the Ph.D., when students have earned at least 24 graduate credits and successfully have defended the thesis.
- After completing the M.S., students complete the preliminary examination comprising a one day in-house examination of developing expertise in the theories and methods of social psychology AND either a NRSA-style grant proposal or Psychological Bulletin-type literature review.
- After successfully completing preliminary examinations, students complete an empirical Ph.D. dissertation.



## Department of Psychology Graduate Faculty

Terry E. Christenson, Ph.D., 1974, University of California, Berkeley. Comparative psychology, animal behavior in the field.

Paul Colombo, Ph.D., 1994, University of California, Berkeley. Physiological psychology, neuronal mechanisms of memory and aging.

David M. Corey, Ph.D., 1999, Tulane University. Functional magnetic resonance imaging of language areas.

Michael Cunningham, Ph.D., 1994, Emory University. Adolescent development in diverse contexts.

Jill M. Daniel, Ph.D. 2000, Tulane University. Hormones and behavior.

Gary P. Dohanich, Ph.D., 1981, Michigan State University. Steroid action, neurotransmitters, learning and memory.

Edward J. Golob, Ph.D., 1999, Dartmouth College. Cognitive neuroscience, memory, aging.

Jeffrey J. Lockman, Ph.D., 1980, University of Minnesota. Infancy, development of spatial representation.

Lisa Molix, Ph.D. 2007, University of Missouri. Intergroup relations; well-being among marginalized populations.

Bonnie K. Nastasi, Ph.D., 1986, Kent State University. Culturally appropriate health promotion and health risk prevention.

Laurie O'Brien, Ph.D., 2002, University of Kansas. Stigma, stereotype-threat, legitimizing myths.

Stacy Overstreet, Ph.D., 1995, Tulane University. Resilience in children exposed to violence.

Janet B. Ruscher, Ph.D., 1991, University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Prejudice and stereotyping in communication.

Lisa Szechter, Ph.D., 2003, The Pennsylvania State University. Spatial-graphic representation among children.

R. Enrique Varela, Ph.D., 2002, University of Kansas. Cross-cultural differences in anxiety expression.

C. Chrisman Wilson, Ph.D., 1976, University of South Carolina. Applied behavior analysis, psychopathology.



## Social Psychology



The Tulane University Department of Psychology offers the Ph.D. in Social Psychology. The social area graduate faculty share common interests in stereotyping, prejudice, social stigma, and intergroup relations. Their work is highlighted inside. Currently, all of the social area graduate faculty are accepting new graduate students.

On-line applications for admission are accepted through January 15th.

For detailed information about the Tulane University Psychology Department's Social Psychology area, please visit our website at: <http://psych.tulane.edu/graduate/socialpsychology.php>



## Graduate Faculty in Social Psychology



**Lisa Molix, Ph.D. 2007 University of Missouri**

Lisa studies intergroup relations, health and well-being among marginalized populations, and the intersections among these areas. Currently, her research investigates adaptive and maladaptive responses to intergroup experiences, as well as the generalization of intergroup attitudes and behaviors after intergroup contact experiences.

### **Representative Publications:**

Molix, L. & Bettencourt, B. A. (in press). Predicting well-being among ethnic minorities: Psychological empowerment and group identity. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*.

Bettencourt, B. A., Molix, L., Talley, A., & Eubanks, J. (2007). Beneficial outcomes for minority and majority members: cross-cut role assignments within cooperative group settings. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 43, 4, 553-564.

### **Contact Information:**

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**Laurie O'Brien, Ph.D. 2005 University of Kansas**

Laurie examines prejudice and stigma from the perspectives of both targets and perpetrators. Her research explores how lay people perceive (and fail to perceive) prejudice. In addition, Laurie is interested in the consequences of perceiving prejudice and stereotypes for people from both target and perpetrator groups.

### **Representative Publications:**

O'Brien, L.T., Crandall, C.S., Horstman-Reser, A., Warner, R., Alsbrooks, A., & Blodorn, A. (in press). But I'm no bigot: How prejudiced White Americans maintain unprejudiced self-images. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*.

O'Brien, L.T., Kinias Z., & Major, B.N. (2008). How status and stereotypes impact attributions to discrimination: The stereotype-asymmetry hypothesis. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 44, 405-412.

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**Janet B. Ruscher, Ph.D. 1991 University of Massachusetts at Amherst**

Janet focuses primarily on stereotyping and prejudice in communication, including linguistic biases and the development of shared stereotypes in conversation. Currently, she is examining the delivery of intergroup performance feedback, as well as unique communication patterns that emerge in response to temporary and recently-acquired stigmas.

### **Representative Publications:**

Ruscher, J. B., Cralley, E. L., & O'Farrell, K. J. (2005). How newly acquainted dyads develop shared stereotypic impressions of others through conversation. *Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*, 8, 259-270.

Ruscher, J. B. (2001). *Prejudiced communication: A social psychological perspective*. New York: Guilford Press.

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