



2011 - 2012 New Faculty

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Donna Polelle, PhD, CCC-SLP, Clinical Instructor, comes to USF from Chicago where she was Assistant Professor in CSD at Saint Xavier University. There she taught courses and provided clinical education in the CSD graduate program. Donna received her doctoral degree from the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2010. Her doctoral research focused on acquired disorders of reading in adults and aphasia.

Andrea Smith, Instructor, has been a working practitioner for over 14 years in the greater Tampa Bay area. She completed her interpreter training at both Hillsborough Community College and St. Petersburg College in 1995. Upon completion, she received her Florida state Quality Assurance level 2 and soon after, in 1999, received her national certification from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf in 1999. She continued her professional development, focusing on interpreting within the legal setting. She received her Specialist Certificate: Legal in 2008. She continued her formal education at the University of South Florida, eventually receiving her Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences in 2003 and her Master's degree in Adult Education in 2009. She is currently working towards her PhD in Adult and Higher Education.

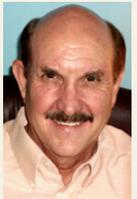


Criminology

Remy Cross, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor, teaches courses on foundational theory and methods courses, as well as more specialized offerings on law, violence, and deviance. He has broad interests in organizations, social movements, deviance, law and social psychology, particularly as it pertains to issues of hierarchy and decision making in small groups, and the effects this has on politics. Specifically he is interested in how groups make the decision to engage in illegal or violent activities for the advancement of their shared goals. Additionally he has an interest in how new technologies, especially communications and social media, affect the political process and group dynamics.



Rick Steinmann, JD, MS, Visiting Instructor, has a law degree and master's in criminal justice and worked in various criminal justice positions prior to entering teaching at the university level. He has now taught for over twenty five years and has a particular interest in studying the topic of the "wrongfully convicted." In fact, this semester he's teaching a seminar course on the "wrongfully convicted."



Mental Health Law & Policy

Brett Hagman, PhD, Assistant Professor, received his PhD in Public Health with a concentration in behavioral sciences from a joint program at Rutgers University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He received his master's degree in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in assessment and treatment of substance abuse disorders. Prior to joining the faculty in the Department of Mental Health Law and Policy, he completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Center of Alcohol Studies at Rutgers University. His current research interests include an emphasis in diagnosis of alcohol use disorders in young adults and applications of item response theory to the assessment and measurement of alcohol-related negative consequences.



Jason Hall, PhD, Assistant Professor, was a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Mental Health Law and Policy Department. He received his BA degree at Emory University, where he worked with Dr. Scott Lilienfeld, and completed his graduate studies in clinical psychology at the University of Minnesota, under the supervision of Dr. Christopher Patrick. Prior to coming to FMHI, Dr. Hall completed his pre-doctoral clinical internship at Hennepin County Medical Center, a large urban hospital in downtown Minneapolis.



Rehabilitation & Mental Health Counseling

Christina (Tina) Dillahunt-Aspillaga, PhD, Assistant Professor, received her PhD in Rehabilitation Science from the University of Florida. She is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), a Certified Vocational Evaluator (CVE), a Certified Life Care Planner (CLCP), a Certified Brain Injury Specialist Trainer (CBIST), and a Certified Information and Referral Specialist (CIRS). Tina is employed as An Assistant Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling in the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences at the University of South Florida. She is the former State Director of Family Programs and Services for Brain Injury Association of Florida, Inc. She has recently served as an Adjunct Professor in the Brooks College of Health in the Mental Health Counseling Program and the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. Her interest and research areas include employment for persons with disabilities with an emphasis on traumatic brain injury (TBI) and community capacity building in the State of Florida. She has interests in working with Veterans with post-deployment TBI and related sequelae. She has served a task-force member of the Veterans Affairs and Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury Community Integration Task-force for community integration for Veterans with TBI and SCI. She is currently serving as a Board Member at large for the Florida Rehabilitation Association.



Social Work

Manisha Joshi, PhD, Assistant Professor, recently completed her PhD in Social Welfare from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy and Practice. She also holds an MPH degree from Harvard School of Public Health (2004) and an MSW from the University of Delhi, India (1998). Her research interests primarily focus on domestic violence against women in the U.S. and globally. Dr. Joshi is teaching social work macro practice seminar to MSW students this Fall. She will also serve as the faculty advisor to the social work/public health dual degree seeking students.

David Kondrat, PhD, Assistant Professor, received his MSW and PhD in social work from The Ohio State University. Prior to receiving his PhD, David worked as a case manager for persons with severe mental illness, and as an emergency department psychiatric social worker. His research interests include recovery in severe mental illness, mental illness stigma, and case management practice. David comes to the University of South Florida, School of Social Work, by way of Utah State University, where he worked for three years as an assistant professor of social work. David is proud to be a USF Bull.

Guitele Rahill, PhD, LCSW, Assistant Professor, research interests focus on reducing health disparities among underserved populations, including Haitian and Latino immigrants and residents of the rural U.S. She was recently awarded a National Science Foundation RAPID award for a project entitled Re-Housing Urban Haiti after the Earthquake: The Role of Social Capital. The other Principal Investigator is Dr. N. Emel Ganapati who is Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Administration in the College of Arts and Sciences at Florida International University. The main objective is to enhance scientific knowledge concerning the role of social capital in the early recovery process following the January 12, 2010 Haiti earthquake in the Port-au-Prince (PaP) metropolitan area. The specific aims are to assess and document the impact of culturally defined pre and post disaster social capital on the housing recovery process in three socioeconomically diverse Port-au-Prince communities.