Denver FIRST: The Denver Forensic Institute for Research, Service & Training

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Denver FIRST
University of Denver
Graduate School of Professional Psychology

Postdoctoral Fellowship

2027-2028

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DENVER FIRST

Founded in 2014 to serve as a regional hub for forensic mental health education, practice, and consultation, Denver Forensic Institute of Research, Service and Training (Denver FIRST) fosters community and university partnerships through a host of service-learning opportunities for graduate students working with underserved forensic populations in the local community. Denver FIRST is integrated with the Masters in Forensic Psychology (MAFP) Program and the Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) Program at the University of Denver's Graduate School of Professional Psychology (GSPP), supported by core GSPP faculty under the leadership of Director Neil Gowensmith, PhD, and staffed by GSPP students. Primarily, Denver FIRST serves as a go-to setting for forensic evaluation, outpatient competency restoration, research, grants, and consultation in forensic mental health in the Denver metro area and beyond.

We are pleased to announce Denver FIRST's twelfth annual postdoctoral fellowship position at the University of Denver. The fellowship provides opportunities for forensic practice, supervision, research, and teaching. Primarily, the fellowship offers a blend of forensic evaluation practice and academic duties.



UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

The University of Denver (DU) is a top-ranked university in a thriving city at the base of the Rocky Mountains. The Graduate School of Professional Psychology (GSPP) at DU was created in 1976 to house one of the first PsyD programs in the country, under the then-new Vail training model (practitioner-scholar). The PsyD program is the nation's second oldest and has been continuously accredited by the American Psychological Association since 1979. GSPP provides four specialized master's programs: sport coaching, sport and performance psychology, forensic psychology, and international disaster psychology. The school also has an affiliated, APA-accredited internship consortium and in-house service clinics. All programs provide comprehensive training for applied work within an academic environment of cooperation and collaboration that fosters critical thinking and self-determined functioning; we are committed to providing cultural competence for all our students. We use our knowledge of multiculturalism and individual differences to make our program as welcoming and inclusive as we can to all students, staff, and faculty.

As a professional college, GSPP is focused on high level integration of applied practice, theory, research, and scholarship. Denver FIRST adheres to the practitioner-scholar philosophy and emphasizes real-world learning and applied research endeavors. For more information about GSPP, please consult the website: www.du.edu/gspp

DENVER AREA

Recently named as the best place to live in the United States, Denver is home to a wide range of world-class museums, award-winning restaurants, trendy clubs and shopping areas, several decorated universities, and seven professional sports teams. The ethnic and cultural diversity of the Denver Metro area includes a Latino/Hispanic population that represents about a third of the population, a strong and visible African American community, a diverse array of Southeast Asian refugees and immigrants, and a similarly diverse population of refugees and immigrants from East Africa. Add to all of this, one of the nation's largest city park systems, 650 miles of paved bike paths, and surprisingly moderate winters and you realize why Denver is the place to be.

Get enviable access to some of the best recreational activities and destinations in the world. In every season - and for every kind of outdoor enthusiast - the Rocky Mountains offer endless opportunities for fun, adventure, and pure relaxation. Colorado offers:

- More than 30 world-class ski resorts
- 15 national parks, monuments, and historic sites
- More than 40 state parks and countless open space recreation areas
- 300 days of sunny skies annually
- Exceptional whitewater kayaking, rafting and fly fishing
- Miles of trails for hiking, mountain biking, camping, backpacking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and just plain wandering

FELLOW SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

The University of Denver is committed to enhancing the diversity of its faculty and staff and encourages applications from women, minorities, members of the LBGT community, people with disabilities and veterans. The University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Minimum Qualifications

Prior to beginning the Denver FIRST Postdoctoral Training Program in Forensic Psychology, all doctoral degree requirements must be completed, and candidates should hold a doctorate (PsyD or PhD) in clinical psychology, forensic psychology, or a closely related discipline. In addition, applicants must have completed or currently be in the process of completing an APA-approved predoctoral internship. Due to the forensic nature of this fellowship, candidates must be able to pass a background check.

Preferred Qualifications

Candidates should be able to document a strong history of interest, training, and experience in the forensic arena. Areas of particular interest include assessment, competency evaluation and restoration, correctional psychology, research, teaching, and supervision. Prior teaching experience will be helpful but is not required.

The University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology and Denver FIRST are committed to building a diverse and inclusive educational environment. We encourage knowledge of, respect for, and development of skills to effectively engage with diverse individuals and communities. Applicants are requested to include in their cover letter information about how their knowledge and/or experience will advance this commitment.

To apply, please submit the following four items to the DU online at https://jobs.du.edu/en-us/job/498494/postdoctoral-fellow-denver-first. The online system is limited to uploading 5 files. Please combine content if necessary to get all content uploaded. Once within the job description online, please click New Resume/CV at the bottom of the page to begin application.

1) A cover letter describing your fit with this position, including a statement of professional interests, experience, and training. The University is committed to building a diverse and inclusive educational environment. Please include in your cover letter information about how you will advance this commitment through your service, teaching, and research.
2) A curriculum vitae.
3) Unofficial graduate transcript(s).
4) Syllabi of any courses you have taught (optional).

Also, please submit three letters of reference, at least one of which should be from a direct clinical supervisor in a forensic setting and one of which should be from your primary internship supervisor, to: Neil Gowensmith at neil.gowensmith@du.edu.

We are offering up to two fellowship positions in 2027-2028. Although the positions will have substantial overlap, the delineation of tasks between fellows may vary based on experience and interest regarding brain injury screenings for competency-related services.

All materials should be received no later than January 4, 2027. If invited for an interview, applicants must supply a psychological evaluation or other assessment report (written by you and de-identified to protect client confidentiality) prior to the interview date. Interviews will be conducted at the end of January / beginning of February.

We are participating in the uniform acceptance date of February 16, 2027, along with several other forensic postdoc programs. **This means that we will make an offer to the candidate by February 9, 2027, and require acceptance on February 16, 2027**. This uniform acceptance date is designed to allow candidates to consider multiple offers without pressure to accept one offer before another is given. Questions regarding this position can be directed to Neil Gowensmith, Denver FIRST Director, at neil.gowensmith@du.edu or to Dr. Jennifer McMahon, Denver FIRST Director of Programs, at jennifer.mcmahon@du.edu.

Several fellowships, including Denver FIRST, recognize that the process of obtaining a postdoctoral fellowship is a major undertaking that is stressful for both the programs offering positions and those making application. In an effort to remove some of the uncertainties for all involved, Denver FIRST has agreed to the following acceptance process, adopted by several other forensic psychology postdoctoral fellowships as well:

1. Denver FIRST will extend offers to selected candidates on or before the Universal Acceptance Date (UAD) at 10am Eastern Time.
2. Denver FIRST will immediately notify all remaining candidates once we have filled our opening for the coming postdoctoral training year, whether this occurs on or before the UAD.
3. Upon receipt of an offer, a candidate must take one of three actions:

    A. The candidate may choose to **Reject** the offer, in which case that candidate will be removed from the candidate list of the site that extended the offer.

    B. The candidate may choose to **Accept** the offer. The candidate must be aware that accepting an offer represents a verbal agreement with the program that extended the offer, and it is expected that the candidate will

then **immediately notify all other programs to which the candidate has applied** that another offer has been accepted.

C. The candidate may choose to **Hold** an offer until the UAD at 10 a.m. This option could be exercised if the candidate wishes to determine if she or he will receive an offer from one or more programs that the candidate would prefer to attend.
    1. If a candidate has held an offer and receives an offer from another site or sites, **prior to the UAD,** the candidate must decide within 24 hours (but no later than 10 a.m. on the UAD) which offer to hold. The candidate must then inform the other program(s) that they will not be accepting their offer. In other words, if candidates receive multiple offers prior to the UAD, they may hold only **one** offer at a time (with the caveat that they can take 24 hours to decide, or until 10 a.m. on the UAD, whichever comes first).
    2. Candidates who receive an offer may inquire from other programs about their status. Similarly, programs can let candidates know their status (e.g., how high up they are on the waitlist).
    3. Candidates who have received an offer prior to the UAD must make a decision by 10 a.m. on the UAD.
    4. Some candidates may receive an offer on the UAD (this typically occurs when other candidates decline an offer on the UAD, opening up slots). A candidate must acknowledge an offer that is extended on the UAD within one hour and may hold that offer for no more than two hours. The candidate must notify the program extending the offer of his or her intent to either accept or reject the offer within the two-hour time frame.
    5. In order to facilitate this process, we ask that all candidates who have not accepted an offer prior to the UAD provide a reliable means of communicating with them at 10 a.m. Eastern Time on the UAD.

3. Programs will **immediately** notify all remaining candidates once the program has filled its openings for the coming postdoctoral training year, whether this occurs on or before the UAD.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

The 12-month (4-quarter), full-time postdoctoral fellowship positions will be conducted under the auspices of Denver FIRST. Each fellow will complete a minimum of 2000 hours of training over the course of the year, with at least 500 hours (25%) of that time spent in the direct provision of professional forensic psychological services such as assessment (e.g., competency to proceed, legal sanity, violence risk, and other types of psycholegal evaluations), treatment, and consultation. Training will be supervised by a licensed psychologist, with a minimum of 2 hours of onsite, in-person supervision per week. All reports submitted to the court will be cosigned by the primary supervisor. Fellows will be formally evaluated on a semi-annual basis pursuant to a written evaluation process that outlines progress over the course of the year, including identification of strengths and limitations of each fellow's skills as an early career forensic psychologist. The GSPP follows a practitioner/scholar model, and the fellows will be presented with numerous opportunities for both didactic and applied training, clinical work, teaching, and research.

Fellows are considered trainees and may not be paid on a fee-for-service basis. There are up to two positions available. Each fellowship is a 12-month, full-time position with an expected average work week of 40-45 hours. Because the fellowship program is demanding, outside employment is strongly discouraged. Each postdoctoral fellow will be paid at least $63,480.00 for the 2027-28 training year (exact salary is TBD but will be tied to the 2027-28 NIH postdoctoral fellow salary requirement). Additional compensation and benefits in the form of health insurance, paid vacation and sick leave, and liability coverage for program-related on- and off-site activities will be provided. Given the requirement that the fellows attend the annual AP-LS Conference, leave will be provided accordingly. Limited funding may be available for professional development activities, and authorized leave time for these activities may be possible (but is not guaranteed).

Fellows will have an office and access to various resources from DU. Each fellow will have a computer with word processing software, access to printers, e-mail, and law and psychology databases through the university library.

Certification. Upon completion of the postdoctoral training, fellows will receive documentation clearly delineating the year the fellow participated in the training program.

CORE REQUIREMENTS

The goal of the fellowship is to produce psychologists with knowledge of the interaction between the law and psychology, and who are able to assume positions in a variety of settings. The fellowship emphasizes training in forensic evaluation and academia. The training program is therefore designed as an integrated experience in the practice of forensic psychology, incorporating treatment and assessment experiences, as well as research, teaching, supervision, and didactic trainings. Core didactics are provided through a structured, written curriculum with clearly defined training goals and objectives overseen by the training director. These may take the form of formal courses or a regular series of seminars. Content will include case law, ethics, and sociocultural/ethnic factors in the context of forensic assessment and treatment. Didactics will be offered in collaboration with other local postdoctoral fellowships in forensic psychology and forensic psychiatry. The requirements of the fellowship are designed to fulfill the requirements for postdoctoral psychology licensure in the state of Colorado and to satisfy Colorado statutory requirements regarding qualifications to conduct sanity and competency to proceed evaluations.

Forensic psychology encompasses a range of practice areas far broader than any single training program could address. The fellowship program at Denver FIRST emphasizes certain core competencies, while also providing elective experiences, which are described later. It is our philosophy that a forensic psychologist can expand upon the core competencies in order to maintain a high standard of work in whatever areas are chosen for future forensic practice. For example, the ability to search for and apply case law regarding a clinical issue is broadly applicable across jurisdictions and practice areas.

The fellowship program at Denver FIRST has been formally determined to meet the criteria for the American Board of Forensic Psychology (ABFP) five-year experience waiver (see here).

Competencies

By the end of the fellowship year, we expect our forensic fellows to have mastered the following core competencies, which align with the ABPP/ABFP functional and foundational competencies:

Functional Competencies

- Assessment
- Intervention
- Consultation
- Research and Evaluation
- Supervision
- Teaching
- Management/Administration
- Advocacy

Foundational Competencies

- Relationships
- Individual and cultural diversity
- Ethical and Legal Standards
- Professionalism
- Reflective Practice/Self-Assessment/Self Care
- Scientific Knowledge and Methods
- Interdisciplinary Systems
- Evidence-Based Practice

CORE EXPERIENCES

Duties will include a combination of clinical experiences and academic responsibilities. Current clinical service opportunities include conducting forensic mental health evaluations through Denver FIRST. Additional clinical experiences may be obtained in line with the fellows' stated interests (i.e., work in a local correctional facility, community corrections office, treatment agency, etc.). Each fellow will also supervise GSPP students at the doctoral and/or master's level in their provision of forensic services; this supervision will, in turn, be supervised by a licensed psychologist. All activities will run concurrently throughout the training year.

Academic responsibilities will include teaching multiple graduate-level forensic psychology courses, participating in research, assisting with program evaluation, attending and participating in didactics, and providing trainings and workshops as opportunities arise.

Toward the goal of achieving the core competencies listed above, the fellowship program provides a series of core experiences, including supervised practice in forensic evaluation, didactic seminars, teaching and supervision, and research.

Forensic Evaluation

The majority of the fellows' training will be derived from conducting forensic mental health evaluations with defendants/patients under the expertise of a clinical supervisor. Training experiences will progress in a graduated fashion depending on the fellow's knowledge of and expertise in forensic psychology. For example, a fellow may initially observe other forensic psychologists as they conduct evaluations. Subsequently, the supervisor will observe the fellow's initial forensic interviews and offer constructive feedback. As fellows' skills increase, they will likely require less intense supervision.

Each fellow will conduct numerous evaluations during the course of the training year. Throughout the training years, each postdoctoral fellow will complete a minimum of 20 forensic assessments. These evaluations will most often address competency to stand trial (CST), criminal responsibility / mental condition, juvenile justice-related matters (e.g., juvenile transfer/waiver evaluations, *Miller* resentencing evaluations), court-related capacities (e.g., *Miranda*-related evaluations, etc.), mitigation, immigration/asylum, and animal maltreatment. Evaluations will vary in terms of complexity and intensity; while some routine CST evaluations may be completed relatively quickly, *Miller* and juvenile transfer evaluations are likely to be more extensive and take longer to finish. Fellows may also conduct other types of evaluations as requested and assigned, depending on interest, needs, and the fellow's skill level.

All evaluations include a review of available records and an interview with the defendant. Collateral interviews and psychological testing will be conducted, as needed, on a case-by-case basis. Fellows can expect to gain experience with the administration, scoring, and interpretation of numerous psychological assessment instruments, especially instruments geared toward forensic practice. Each fellow will integrate behavioral observations, clinical interview results, collateral information, and test interpretations into clear and concise written reports to the court. There is a strong focus during the fellowship year on acquiring the necessary skills to communicate with the court professionally and effectively. A significant amount of time in supervision is focused on the process of writing forensic reports and fine-tuning written and verbal communication skills. Successful fellowship applicants will have excellent writing skills.

Forensic evaluations are available in the following areas of the fellowship:

Denver FIRST: Denver FIRST will serve as the primary, and required, placement for the fellowship. Denver FIRST serves as a repository for forensic mental health expertise in Colorado. Each fellow will conduct a plethora of forensic mental health evaluations through Denver FIRST, under the supervision of licensed psychologists with significant forensic evaluation experience. Fellows will conduct some of these forensic evaluations in the Denver metro area; however, travel will be required to facilities outside of the metro area.

Colorado Mental Health Hospital in Pueblo (CMHHIP): The CMHHIP is Colorado's only state-operated inpatient hospital housing a forensic population. The hospital conducts evaluations of competency to proceed and sanity, houses persons found incompetent or legally insane, and employs a large cache of forensic evaluators throughout the state. The Denver FIRST fellows may have an opportunity to conduct inpatient CMHHIP evaluations during their training year.

Risk Assessment: The CMMHIP houses persons who have previously been acquitted Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI). By Colorado statute, each of these individuals must undergo an annual risk assessment. The Denver FIRST fellows will be expected to complete these risk assessments on a regular basis using a standardized assessment protocol.

Additional clinical experiences

Although forensic evaluation will be the primary source of clinical opportunity, the fellows will be exposed to other clinical training opportunities. These experiences will round out the training year and serve to help customize the training year for the fellow.

Outpatient Competency Restoration Program (OCRP): A subdivision of Denver FIRST, the OCRP serves as the region's only university-based outpatient competency restoration program and has successfully contracted with the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) for its fourth year. The program provides outpatient competency education and restoration for low-risk, court-ordered adult defendants and juveniles in the Denver metro area. Restoration services are provided by masters' and/or doctoral-level students under the supervision of licensed psychologists with significant competency-related experience. The fellow will provide supervision to one or two students (and will in turn receive supervision) and may elect to carry a small caseload of these defendants.

Brain-Injury Programming: Denver FIRST has opportunities to serve defendants with suspected traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) in the Colorado competency system and to enhance TBI-informed interventions. Our programming has also extended opportunities to provide screening evaluations and cognitive remediation therapy (CRT) to Veterans and military-involved individuals. The fellow may be involved in delivering direct care and providing clinical supervision and mentorship to master's- and/or doctoral-level students, facilitating CRT or screening for traumatic and acquired brain injuries and cognitive dysfunction. Fellows may also have opportunities participate in program evaluation, applied research, policy advocacy, and dissemination efforts across outlets.

Supplemental rotations: Fellows may express interest in obtaining additional clinical experiences during the fellowship. These will vary from fellow to fellow but may include clinical work (therapy and/or assessment) in local correctional facilities, providing services in local community corrections agencies, providing services in local treatment agencies, and the like. These experiences cannot be guaranteed and are not required. However, we will attempt to facilitate such opportunities at the fellow's request.

Seminars and Educational Opportunities

Each fellow is provided with a host of educational opportunities throughout the training year. Primarily, the core didactic series is provided through a structured, written curriculum with clearly defined training goals and objectives overseen by the training director. Content will include case law, ethics, and sociocultural/ethnic factors in the context of forensic assessment and treatment. In addition, the fellows will attend other regularly scheduled training opportunities as well as intermittent or one-time opportunities as they arise throughout the year.

- **Didactic seminar series:** The weekly didactic seminar series is co-led with two other local forensic mental health fellowships. These include CMHHI-P's forensic psychology fellowship (headed by Drs. Josh Francis and Laura Serrano-Amigo) and the University of Colorado's forensic psychiatry fellowship (headed by Dr. Richard Martinez). Seminars meet every Friday from 10-1pm and cover a predetermined list of topics.
- **Mock Trial**: In collaboration with the University of Denver Law School, the fellows will undergo mock trial during their seminar to assess their ability to provide expert testimony in a clear, articulate manner, consistent with ethical and practice guidelines.
- **Additional trainings**: The fellows will receive several other training opportunities, including mock trial experiences through the DU Law School, invited presentations and workshops, attendance at forensic mental health workshops hosted by Denver FIRST and/or DU, and others.

Teaching and Training
The fellow will be expected to teach multiple courses during the fellowship year through the GSPP. The number of courses to be taught will be determined at a later date, but 2-3 courses are likely to be required. Examples of courses taught by the fellow include Ethics, Group Therapy / Intervention, Scholarly Writing, Practicum, and Forensic Assessment. Additionally, the fellow may offer consultation services and external trainings/workshops through Denver FIRST as requested.

Supervision
Each fellow will supervise a small number of GSPP students at the doctoral and/or master's level in their provision of forensic services; this supervision will, in turn, be supervised by a licensed psychologist.

Research
Submitting a proposal for the annual American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS; APA Division 41) conference is encouraged, and attendance at the conference is required. Participation in research during the fellowship year is required, either by supplementing existing research agendas in the GSPP or continuing with the fellows' individual research area.

Typical work week / month
In a sample work week, a fellow will likely spend three days on clinical services, one day on research and teaching, and one day for didactics and supervision. This will of course vary week to week, depending on pressing duties. We strive to meet the fellows' training interests and can carve out time for additional clinical work in various settings, research, or teaching. A typical month will likely see each fellow completing two evaluations under supervision, conducting supervision, working on research, and preparing or actively teaching a weekly course in the GSPP.

Although two evaluations per month may be a smaller amount than most fellowships average, applicants are reminded that the variety of evaluations at Denver FIRST accounts for much of this difference. In addition to standard CST evaluations, the fellows will conduct other evaluations that are lengthier and more time-intensive (juvenile transfer, sanity, *Miller*, risk assessments, *Miranda*, etc.). The fellows will also have the unique opportunity to administer brain injury screening measures to defendants in the Colorado Competency system. The fellows should exit the fellowship year with solid evaluation skills among these different types of evaluations. This experience is particularly helpful (and marketable) when considering future private or public practice involving forensic evaluation, as the Denver FIRST fellows will have experience with a wide variety of evaluation types.

A successful fellow will be able to work autonomously. Although supervision is a consistent part of the fellow's experience, the work of a postdoctoral fellow demands more independence and autonomy than what is found in a pre-doctoral internship program. The Denver FIRST fellowship offers a robust and complex set of training opportunities, with no set schedule or structure aside from the didactic seminar. Instead, it approximates an academic and clinical position. Therefore, time management, initiative, and organization are key. Essentially, fellows will operate as junior faculty in our academic department.

The fellowship also demands a great deal of communication between the fellows and various professionals. Most often this comes in the form of communicating regularly with attorneys. Fellows (under supervision) will set the scope of the evaluation, gather, and clarify information, present findings, and potentially testify on any of the cases on which they work.

ELECTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Denver FIRST provides an environment of rich clinical opportunities and a wide variety of qualified psychologists, each with areas of interest and expertise. Elective experiences may be drawn from this variety and are arranged in consultation with the Director according to the fellow's previous experience, goals, and time demands. It should be noted that all elective experiences are subject to the requirement that the fellow be "on track" with acquiring the core competencies described above.

- **In-Service Trainings**: One of the benefits of Denver FIRST's university setting is the quality and relevance of departmental and university trainings available to psychology staff and trainees, including the fellows. Fellows will be notified of all available opportunities during the fellowship year. Most of these trainings are eligible for psychology CE credits.

- **Outside Conventions and Workshops**: Fellowship faculty members will keep the fellow apprised of local, regional, national, and international conventions and workshops. These may include presenting their research projects at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association (APA) and/or the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS), in addition to campus research summits and the Colorado Psychological Association's annual conference.

SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION

The fellowship provides each trainee with the required supervised experience to meet licensing regulations in most states. The requirements of the fellowship are designed to fulfill the requirements for postdoctoral psychology licensure in the state of Colorado and to satisfy Colorado statutory requirements regarding qualifications to conduct sanity and competency to proceed evaluations. The fellowship is a one-year full-time training experience. The fellowship is designed to meet the experience requirement waiver from ABFP for postdoctoral fellowships.

In order to comply with APA and state standards for supervised experience, fellows are provided with at least the following core supervision hours:

- One hour per week of individual supervision with their primary supervisor
- At least one hour per week with another qualified supervisor

Fellows are formally evaluated at the beginning, middle, and end of each training year; supervisors are expected to review their evaluations in person with each fellow prior to submission. The evaluations of each supervisor are integrated and summarized by the Fellowship Director and discussed in person with the fellows. A written summary of the feedback is prepared and signed by the Director and fellows. The six-month evaluation is particularly detailed and takes stock of the accomplishments in the first half of the fellowship year and the goals for the second half.

Fellows are asked to participate in the formal evaluation of the fellowship at the end of the year and are surveyed after graduation from the fellowship as part of the program's ongoing self-study process.

FELLOWSHIP CORE TRAINING STAFF AND FACULTY

***Neil Gowensmith,* Director of DENVER FIRST/Professor, Ph.D. Colorado State University**
American Psychology-Law Society President Elect (2026-27)
Areas of Interest: Forensic assessment, forensic psychology in public mental health systems, insanity acquittees, reliability of forensic assessment, correctional psychology, insight and identity of forensic populations and professionals, risk assessment, stigma of forensic populations
Professional activities include: Member of the American Psychology-Law Society, American Psychological Association, and National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors Forensic Division (Academic Liaison); continual consultation on forensic mental health systems
Publication areas: Forensic assessment, field reliability of forensic examiners and examinations

***Jennifer McMahon,* Director of Denver FIRST Programs/ Research Assistant Professor, Ph.D. John Jay College**
International Association of Forensic Mental Health conference co-chair (2027)
Areas of Interest: Forensic assessment, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, capital cases, competency evaluation and restoration, brain injuries in the competency system, perceptions of sexually inappropriate behaviors, juvenile justice, juvenile transfers, developmental psychology, student supervision, and ethics and forensic psychology
Professional activities include: Member of the American Psychology-Law Society, American Psychological Association, American Psychological Association Rehabilitation Psychology (Division 22) and Clinical Neuropsychology (Division 40), and The Association for the Treatment and Prevention of Sexual Abuse (ATSA)
Publication areas: Perceptions of Sexual Behaviors, Sexual Offending, Brain Injuries, and Criminal Competency

***Lavita Nadkarni*, Professor; Associate Dean/Director of Forensic Studies, Ph.D., Adelphi University**
Areas of interest: Forensic psychological theory and practice; forensic issues involving children, adolescents, and families; domestic violence in child custody situations; competency issues; psychoanalytic psychotherapy; cross-cultural treatment; identity formation within a cultural context; entitlement; domestic violence; truancy and school violence; child custody and visitation; abuse and neglect; and asylum and refugee mental health.
Professional activities include: APA, American-Psychology Law Society, NCSPP, CPA
Publication areas: Forensic report writing, entitlement, child custody guidelines, truancy, domestic violence, education and training, and multicultural training issues.

***Lynett Henderson Metzger*, Clinical Associate Professor / Director of Forensic Studies, Psy.D. University of Denver, and J.D. University of Denver College of Law**
Areas of Interest: Forensic Psychology, social justice, domestic violence, attachment, systems theory, student training issues and self-care; developmental differences; law and psychology.
Professional activities include: American Psychological Association; American and Colorado Bar Associations.
Publications areas: Intimate violence and gender; legal publication areas: race and congressional redistricting.

***Kim Gorgens*, Clinical Professor, Ph.D. Southern Illinois University**
Areas of Interest: Rehabilitation psychology and clinical neuropsychology, adjustment to illness & injury (both for medical patients and their families/support systems), terminal illnesses and cognitive behavioral therapies/interventions in inpatient settings. Forensic interests include the psychology of criminal behavior, neuropsychological assessment, and malingering.
Professional activities include: American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) Board Certification in Rehabilitation Psychology, Board Member, Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund, State of Colorado; Registrant, National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology; Member of American Psychological Association (Division 22, Rehabilitation Psychology and Division 40, Clinical Neuropsychology), Colorado Neuropsychological Society, National Academy of Neuropsychology, CDIP, and American Association of University Women.

FELLOWSHIP AFFILIATE TRAINING FACULTY

Denver FIRST fellows will also receive supervision on various cases and specialty areas from our collection of Denver FIRST Affiliates. Denver FIRST Affiliates are hand-picked early-career professionals with whom we have worked and/or trained. Many are previous Denver FIRST postdoctoral fellows who are now in private practice or employed in other settings. This unique arrangement allows fellows the opportunity to receive additional supervision styles as well as network with other successful forensic professionals. Denver FIRST Affiliates include:

Dr. Karen Grabowski
Dr. Kate McCallum
Dr. Elizabeth Christiaens
Dr. Cassandra Bailey
Dr. Joshua Francis
Dr. Hailey Allo
Dr. Caitlin Lefebvre
Dr. Kristin Yeager



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