

# BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

## DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM



### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Behavioral Science Program ([program website](#)) at the University of North Texas immerses students in scientific inquiry to prepare them for roles as researchers and teachers at universities, or as researchers or consultants in industry or at medical schools or mental health centers. Faculty research interests include the broad areas of social, personality, and developmental psychology, cognitive and motivation science, neuroscience, psychophysiology, psychoneuroimmunology, critical race theory, and addictive behaviors. Most students who are admitted aspire to a position in academia. We particularly encourage individuals to apply who are members of groups that have been historically underrepresented in doctoral programs. The Behavioral Science PhD Program is currently accepting applications for Fall 2020.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

No single aspect of an applicant's background determines being extended an offer of admission. We consider achievements in context and how well applicants fit with faculty members' research interests. Motivation, ability, and enthusiasm are valued, as are interpersonal skills, research/statistical experience, and writing skills. For general admission requirements, visit the Toulhouse Graduate School website ([tgs.unt.edu](http://tgs.unt.edu)), and to initiate the application process, visit: [apply.psychology.unt.edu](http://apply.psychology.unt.edu)

Common background characteristics of successful applicants are:

- Bachelor's or master's degree in Psychology or a related field
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher for undergraduate coursework or a 3.5 GPA for Psychology-specific courses or for the last 60 undergraduate credit hours
- Cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher for graduate coursework (if applying as a master's student or with a master's degree)
- Research assistantship experience or other experience relevant to research
- Evidence of potential for scholarship, such as involvement in preparing a manuscript for publication or a poster for presentation, undergraduate or master's thesis work, or scientific essay writing associated with coursework

## HOW TO APPLY

The following materials must be received by December 1st:

- Graduate School application
- Psychology Department application
- Statement of Goals
- Curriculum vitae
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE scores

Please visit [apply.psychology.unt.edu](http://apply.psychology.unt.edu) to initiate the application process.

## PROGRAM FACULTY

**Adriel Boals**, Professor and Director of the Behavioral Science Program; PhD, North Carolina State University. Research interests: coping with stress and trauma, autobiographical memory, PTSD, and post-traumatic growth.

**Heidemarie Blumenthal**, Associate Professor; PhD, University of Arkansas. Research interests: etiology of anxiety and problematic substance use, co-occurring anxiety and alcohol use in adolescents, and developmental psychopathology.

**Casey Guillot**, Assistant Professor; PhD, The University of Southern Mississippi. Research interests: genetic, dispositional, and emotional vulnerabilities to addiction, the acute effects of substance use and withdrawal, and aggression and self-harm.

**Kimberly Kelly**, Associate Professor; PhD, University of Kentucky. Research interests: immune and endocrine systems involved in the stress response and their relationship with health.

**Yolanda Flores Niemann**, Professor; PhD, University of Houston. Research interests: effects and social ecological contexts of stereotypes (especially in academia), the psychological effects of tokenism, and microaggressions.

**Anthony Ryals**, Assistant Professor; PhD, Colorado State University. Research interests: explicit and implicit processes operating and interacting in episodic memory, executive functions and subjective awareness of memory in relation to behavior and quality of life, and electrophysiology (EEG and ERPs), eye tracking, neuroimaging, and neuropsychological assessments.

**Danica Slavish**, Assistant Professor; PhD, The Pennsylvania State University. Research interests: the behavioral and physiological pathways linking sleep, stress, and health over time, and the use of ecological momentary assessment, ambulatory psychophysiology assessments, and longitudinal data analysis.

**Rex Wright**, Professor; PhD, University of Kansas. Research interests: the determinants and cardiovascular consequences of effort, with focuses on fatigue, cognitive decline, and behavioral restraint.

