



# ***POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY***

## ***Syllabus***

The Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Neuropsychology requires a 12-24-month commitment for those who may be interested in seeking board certification in Clinical Neuropsychology. Though an informal training site, the program is set up to follow equivalent training experiences found in an APPIC member program. Each fellow will accrue 2000 hours of supervised experience each year, which will meet the professional experience requirements for licensure in most licensing jurisdictions, including meeting criteria for the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Fellows will spend a minimum of 50% of their time providing professional psychological services, with the remaining time spent performing other psychological duties (e.g., didactic training, report writing). The official title of APG fellowship trainees will be “Post-Doctoral Fellow in Neuropsychology.”

### **Requirements**

Minimum education requirements: completion of a doctoral degree in Psychology (PhD or PsyD). Doctoral degree must be completed along with completion of a pre-doctoral internship prior to the start of the fellowship year. Prior to the second year of fellowship, fellows are encouraged to take and pass the EPPP. **Although this is not a requirement for the fellowship, it is strongly recommended.**

### **Training Goals**

The training program follows a scholar-practitioner model that emphasizes the gradual and sequential development of professional competencies that are based on current research, scholarship, and practice. **End goal** of the training program is for candidates to become proficient in the assessment and conceptualization of neuropsychological disorders across the lifespan (i.e. pediatric, adult, and geriatric patients) with extensive experience in report writing skills.

It is expected the trainee will begin the postdoctoral fellowship at The Applied Psychology Group of Texoma with skills and knowledge; however, the fellowship program will further refine these skills in an organized and gradual manner, allowing for each trainee to accept an increasing amount of responsibility and demonstrating a greater level of proficiency as time progresses.

### **Training Activities**

Our clinic offers the fellow an opportunity work within a private practice setting with a generalist model. This will allow fellows to receive intensive training in assessment of developmental, neurological, and psychological disorders across the life span. Each fellow will be required to purchase the following books: Please have these purchased by the end of the first week of fellowship.

- Schoenberg, M. and Scott, J. (Eds). 2011. The Little Black Book of Neuropsychology
- Lezak, M. 2012. Neuropsychological Assessment.
- Ogden, J. 2005. Fractured Minds: A Case-Study Approach to Clinical Neuropsychology.
- Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5)

### **Didactics:**

Postdoctoral fellows will participate in formal structured didactics for 2 hours per week to strengthen their clinical skills. In addition, case review meetings will be held throughout the training years. Cases presented will be neuropsychological and/or psychological based cases with pediatric and adult clients, in order to review a variety of cases with different presenting problems and diagnostic impressions/conceptualizations.

In addition, each fellow will participate in distance learning courses provided by National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN), American Psychological Association (APA), International Neuropsychology Society (INS), and/or continuing education trainings provided locally in an effort to provide the fellow with the necessary and required training for future board certification.

In additional, each fellow will be required to complete the following during their first or second year of fellowship:

- 1: Completion of Neuroanatomy course available through NAN
- 2: 2nd course through NAN on a topic that is of interest for you
- 3: Conducting three presentations during the 2-year fellowship commitment to community organizations on a topic of your choice (i.e. school, doctor's offices, therapists, neurologists)

Didactic training is further enhanced through self-directed reading and learning experiences. The following topics will be covered during the first year of fellowship:

#### **NEUROPSYCHOLOGY DIDACTICS**

HX OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGY  
FUNCTIONAL NEUROANATOMY  
VASCULAR SYSTEM  
NEUROPSYCHOPHARM  
NEUROPSYCH OF BEHAVIOR  
NEURO-IMAGING  
ETHICS OF NEUROPSYCH  
NEUROPSYCH RECS  
NEUROPSYCH INTERVENTIONS  
MULTI-CULTURAL ISSUES  
NEUROPSYCH FEEDBACKS  
PSYCHOMETRICS  
SPEED/EFFECIENCY  
MOTOR/SENSORY  
ATTENTION/CONCENTRATION  
LANGUAGE  
VISUAL SPATIAL  
LEARNING/MEMORY  
EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING  
MOOD & PERSONALITY  
BX OBS

#### **ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURIES**

(STOKE, INFECTION, HYPOXIA, TBI)

#### **NEURODEGENERATIVE**

(DEMENTIA, PARKINSON'S, MS, HD, EPILEPSY)

#### **CHILDHOOD**

(LD, ADHD, PDD)

#### **MEDICAL**

CARDIO, RENAL, LIVER, CHRONIC PAIN, ANETHESIA)

### **Interdisciplinary Training/Shadowing**

Each fellow will have a 3-month rotation to shadow a neurologist in a private practice. In addition, our clinic maintains professional relationships with medical, mental health, juvenile detention, and department of family and protective services in the community. Each fellow will have an opportunity to be involved in cases that were referred from these agencies to further enhance their learning experience and expound on their clinical skills.

### **Research**

Fellows are required to participate in a research project within the field of neuropsychology. Our clinic will support the development of on-site research projects or continued participation in research activities with local or national programs.

In addition, fellows are encouraged to submit at least one poster and/or paper presentation at a local or national conference in their area of interest (i.e. APA, NAN, INS, etc).

## **Professional Development**

Fellows will have an opportunity to understand their understanding of a private practice structure. The program will offer opportunities for fellows who express an interest in private practice to understand the administration aspects of private practice models, including opportunities to learn about billing practices. During the fellowship years, our clinic and program emphasizes on providing a well-rounded experience, allowing our fellows future opportunities in multiple types of setting (i.e. university setting, community mental health, VA system, hospital setting, specialized clinics and rehabilitation facilities, etc.).

## **Supervision**

Postdoctoral fellows will have a full day of training during which they will have an opportunity to shadow their primary supervisor to strengthen their training in clinical interview, case conceptualization, observing and conducting feedback sessions, and individual report writing time. Total time spent in individual supervision will be minimum of 4 hours per week.

In addition, supervision is informally available with all clinical staff on a daily a basis and/or as needed to determine battery of tests to be administered or modified, intervening during difficult assessment administration, and/or to assistance with case conceptualization during a non-scheduled supervision meeting.

## **Current Supervisors & Staff**

### **Purvi Patel, Psy.D., LPC-S Licensed Clinical Neuropsychologist**

Dr. Patel is currently a licensed psychologist at APG as well as a Licensed Professional Counselor-Supervisor in the State of Texas. Specialties include psychotherapy with adolescent and adult clientele as well as psychological and neuropsychological assessments with an emphasis on adult neurological disorders, autism spectrum disorders, adult psychopathology, and personality disorders. Dr. Patel is the designated psychologist responsible for the program who possesses expertise in neuropsychology, the postdoctoral program's emphasis area.

She graduated from The Texas School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University Dallas in September 2011. She obtained her Master's in Counseling from Amberton University and a Bachelor's in Psychology from University of Texas at Dallas. She completed Pre-Doctoral Internship at San Antonio State Hospital, with rotations on the Adolescent Unit, Adult Acute Unit, and Forensic Unit. Additional clinical training includes post-doctoral fellowship at Applied Psychology Group of Texoma with an emphasis on child, adolescent, and adult assessments. Further, she completed one-year practicum at Southern Methodist University, Counseling and

Testing Center, providing brief psychotherapy to university students. Dr. Patel's background includes private and inpatient settings, non-profit organizations, and working for managed care organizations. She also facilitates psychology courses at University of Phoenix while maintaining a private practice in Plano and Sherman. She has been a Children's Program Coordinator at Hope's Door, a domestic violence shelter. She also has several years of working in both inpatient and outpatient settings with clients struggling with alcohol and drug dependence.

**Linda Chlipala, Ph.D**  
**Licensed Clinical Neuropsychologist**

Linda Chlipala, Ph.D. received her Doctorate and Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from the APA accredited Clinical Psychology Program at the University of North Texas. She also holds a Master's Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Texas Woman's University and a Bachelor's Degree in Education in the area of Speech Language Pathology from the University of North Texas. Dr. Chlipala is a secondary supervisor for the fellowship program, who supervises cases of fellows that are within her area of expertise in neuropsychology.

Dr. Chlipala has completed a two-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Neuropsychology and a Pre-Doctoral Internship at the Applied Psychology Group of Texoma, with rotations in Child Neuropsychological Assessment, Adult Neuropsychological Assessment, Adult Psychological Assessment, and Inpatient Psychiatric Treatment at Terrell State Hospital. She has clinical experience in various settings including a rehabilitation hospital, an outpatient rehabilitation center serving children and adults, hospital inpatient and outpatient, ICU, radiology, skilled nursing facility (SNF), long-term care facilities, medical specialty unit (MSU), ICF-MR Level V facility, and public schools.

Dr. Chlipala is an ASHA Certified Speech-Language Pathologist with specialized training in Fluency Disorders (Stuttering), Autism Spectrum Disorders, radiological assessment of swallowing function, and Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS).

**Kimberly Gajeton, Psy.D**  
**Licensed Psychologist**

Dr. Gajeton received her Doctorate and Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from the APA accredited Clinical Psychology program at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology & Social Behavior from the University of California, Irvine.

Dr. Gajeton completed her Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Grayson County Children's Advocacy Center and her Pre-Doctoral Internship at the Applied Psychology Group of Texoma. She specializes in the assessment and treatment of

children and adolescents, particularly those with a history of trauma.

Previous to coming back to APG, Dr. Gajeton served as the Clinical Director/Lead Clinical Therapist at the Grayson County Children's Advocacy Center, receiving specialized training in trauma-informed care. Her background also includes home-based behavior therapy, developmental and educational evaluations of autism spectrum disorder, forensic services, juvenile court services, parenting skills, career services, outreach services, and psychological assessment of children, adolescents, and adults.

**Apryl Harris, Psy.D**  
**Post-Doctoral Fellow in Clinical Neuropsychology (near completion)**

Dr. Harris received her Doctorate and Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from the APA accredited Clinical Psychology Program at John F. Kennedy University in the San Francisco Bay Area. She also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Dr. Harris is a current Post Doctoral Fellow in Clinical Neuropsychology at the Applied Psychology Group of Texoma, with an emphasis on child, adolescent, and adult assessment. She completed an APA accredited Pre-Doctoral Internship at the Wright Institute's Integrated Health Psychology Training Program with Contra Costa Health Services, where she completed rotations in neuropsychological assessment, evidenced-based individual and group treatment, and interdisciplinary consultation. Dr. Harris has clinical experience in various settings including integrated primary care, vocational rehabilitation, correctional facilities (men and women), and public schools. Her current interests include the assessment and treatment of individuals from diverse backgrounds with psychological and neuropsychological dysfunction.

**Evaluations**

Fellows will be formally evaluated twice per year on their performance and will receive ongoing evaluations throughout the fellowship year(s). Immediate concerns regarding job performance will be initially addressed informally, with the fellow, by the immediate supervisor. Fellows will also have the opportunity to discuss their concerns as well. However, should informal methods be insufficient to remedy the situation, supervisors will put their concerns in writing to the fellow. Should a negative performance continue after this point, fellow may be dismissed from the program.

**Grievances**

Fellows will have an opportunity to review APG Employee Manual and will be required to sign a document indicating they have read and understand the contents of the manual. Employee manual is accessible to all employees, including fellows, which highlights the grievance policies.