

Multicultural Suicide Research Center (MSRC) Research Group

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MSRC Overview

Current evidence-based practices of suicidology lack integration with knowledge regarding cultural variations in suicide, increasing risk for misdetection or mismanagement of risk in diverse populations. The goals of the Multicultural Suicide Research Center are to advance the field of multicultural suicidology through projects investigating suicide assessment, prevention, and management.

Examples of current MSRC projects include the Cultural Assessment of Risk for Suicide project which aims to create and test a brief evidence-based clinical tool (CARS; the Cultural Assessment of Risk for Suicide instrument) for culturally-competent suicide risk detection that complements and improves existing assessment procedures for use with African American, Asian American, Latino, and LGBTQ populations. Students will be closely involved in the process of modifying and testing this tool.

The MSRC is a collaborative research group led by Drs. Bruce Bongar, Peter Goldblum, and Joyce Chu. Students apply to and are matched with 1 of the 3 primary advisors, but have access to all 3 faculty members. In addition, all MSRC students work collaboratively as a group.

Openings: 3 to 6 openings to join the group in Fall 2010. You will be expected to start your work in the research group starting the Spring of 2009, through the Summer quarter.

Apply: Students interested in joining the group starting 2010 are asked to submit the following items to either Dr. Bongar, Chu, or Goldblum (choose a primary mentor for your application) by 5pm on the PAU uniform research group application date.

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. One or two page essay discussing past research experience, how and why the student became interested in suicide and diversity work, and specific research and clinical interests in cultural suicide studies.
3. Your research proposal written in PAU's Research Methods course.

Notification: Students accepted into Ethnic Minority Mental Health Research Group for the 2010 cycle will be notified by email by the PGSP uniform notification date.