Training Philosophy

VCCS training program is committed to the growth of its training staff. A balance of clinical work, primary prevention, supervision and professional development characterizes our training program. Through applied experience, diversified supervision and professional development training, training staff experience and learn the multifaceted nature of clinicians' roles in a college setting. To facilitate training staff development, we emphasize clear communication, personal responsibility and training staff empowerment.

Vassar College Counseling Service (VCCS) provides a variety of services to Vassar students such as individual, couples, and group counseling, crisis intervention, educational programming, consultation, assessment, and referrals to off-campus mental health professionals.
What we value:
The training program follows a practitioner-scholar model of training. We emphasize the role of the clinician as an educated and thoughtful helper. Critical thinking, thorough assessment, and awareness of and appreciation for human diversity are hallmarks of the services we offer.

An understanding of the impact of culture is integrated into every aspect of the work we do in indirect services, training, scholarly activity and research. We define culture and diversity broadly, allowing our definition to encompass racial and ethnic differences, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, nationality, acculturation, religious affiliation and ability status. Our staff sees comprehensive understanding of the impact of culture as an integral component or part of competent psychological practice.

What we offer:
- Conduct brief individual and group psychotherapy
- Ongoing outreach opportunities
- Weekly individual and group supervision
- Ongoing professional development, training seminars and clinical case consultation

Located in Poughkeepsie, NY, we welcome applicants from all backgrounds and are especially interested in diverse applicants. Please contact us directly with questions about the Training Program at 845-437-5700 or you can contact the Assistant Director of Training, Shenette, at shscille@vassar.edu

Visit us at:
https://offices.vassar.edu/counseling-service/

Training Program Objectives:
1. To focus on the development of college students;
2. To intervene in appropriate areas within the institution;
3. To be self-aware and sensitive to social constructions, to issues related to identity, group membership;
4. To integrate theory, practice, and research;
5. To develop identities as ethical counselors who are socialized into the profession and contribute to the profession and to society.

What to Expect:
By the end of the program, training staff will demonstrate growth in the following areas:

*Proficiency in providing psychotherapy, assessment and crisis intervention
*Deeper understanding of cultural and individual differences and diversity
*Greater sense of professional identity

Psychology post-doctoral candidates and 2nd year MSW students are invited to apply.