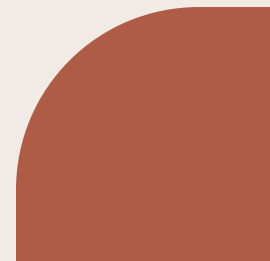
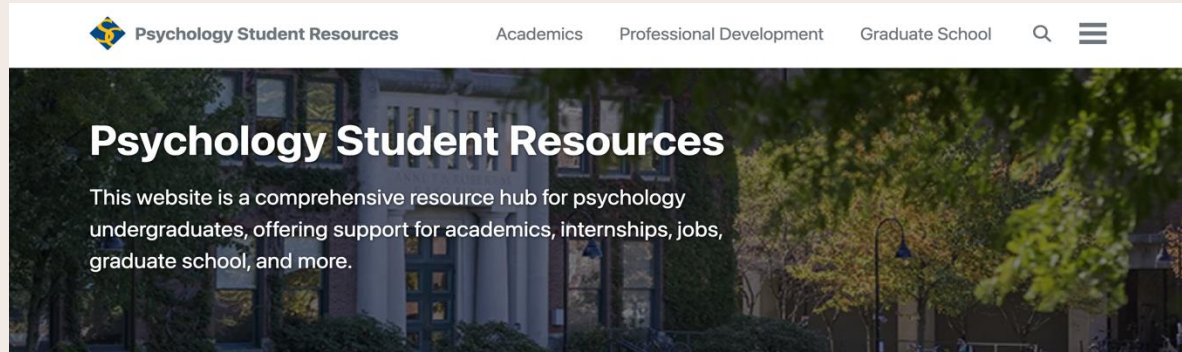


# **Clinical Psychology: Information & Resources**



# Resources at Smith



**Psy Club:** <https://smith-psychology-club.github.io/>

**Recorded panels about graduate school:** <https://tinyurl.com/smithclinpsyinfo>  
- These panels include people in other types of graduate training (social work, counseling psychology, school psychology)

**List of open positions/jobs:**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LuaMWjDd07UBR94SDn0MjhPqaB1gqrv0h3rPE2G73cA/edit?gid=1326096404#gid=1326096404>

## On this page

### Research

What is research in psychology

How to get involved in research

How to find jobs or internships in research

Psychology department mastersheet

### Extracurriculars

### Additional guides

How to: Write a CV

How to: Send cold emails

How to: Find funding

How to: Write a cover letter

How to: Request a letter of recommendation

How to: Build relevant skills

Tips for interviews

# Clinical Psychologists on the Smith Faculty:

## Patricia Marten DiBartolo

Caroline L. Wall '27 Professor of Psychology



Contact [pdibarto@smith.edu](mailto:pdibarto@smith.edu)

413-585-3913

Bass Hall 307

## Nnamdi Pole

Harold and Elsa Israel Professor of Psychology;  
Chair of the Psychology Department; Chair of  
Smith College Institutional Review Board



Contact [npole@smith.edu](mailto:npole@smith.edu)

413-585-3969

Bass Hall 407

## Stephanie Jarvi Steele

Assistant Professor of Psychology



Contact [ssteele@smith.edu](mailto:ssteele@smith.edu)

413-585-3986

Bass Hall 303

# Types of programs

- **Clinical science:** the primary focus is on the science of psychology through production of original research; students also receive clinical training (graduates are best suited for careers in academia)
  - Example programs: Harvard University; Michigan State
- **Scientist-practitioner model** (“Boulder model”): emphasizes well-rounded training in clinical science (research) and clinical training (clinical work/patient care)
  - Example program: UMass Boston (which also emphasizes social justice through their activist model)

**PsyD programs typically have a different model:**

- **Scholar-practitioner model** (“Vail model”): emphasizes practical training to produce clinicians; research informs clinical practice; students are primarily trained to be consumers of research
  - Example program: Rutgers University Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology

# Timeline

- After undergrad, most students work in the field (typically in hospital/university-based labs as “Research Assistants”) for 2-3 years
  - It is not common for students to be accepted to Ph.D. programs right out of undergrad (this does happen, but it is exceedingly rare)
- Graduate school is typically 5-6 years (most students have a stipend from the program to cover tuition and cost of living- or to partially cover costs)
  - On your way to the Ph.D., you earn a Masters degree, typically at the end of year 2
    - You complete a Masters thesis in years 1-2
  - You typically start clinical training (seeing patients) in year 2
  - Coursework is typically years 1-3; clinical supervision courses (called “practicum”) continue throughout training
  - Dissertation is typically/roughly years 3-5+

# Timeline

- **Internship:** all students are required to complete a year-long clinical internship; this is required for the degree and is based on a “match” system- you apply to internship programs, and if interviewed, rank them and they rank you- you “match” based on these rankings (you are paid on internship, but this “salary” is quite low)
- **Postdoctoral training:** it is typical for most graduates to complete clinical, research, or mixed postdoctoral fellowships from roughly 1-3 years (you are paid more as a postdoc than an intern, but still substantially lower than a first full position that is no longer considered part of “training”)
- **Licensure:** (this is not required if you don’t plan to see patients!) this process occurs separately from your graduate program (and costs money!)- clinical hours accrue once you start seeing patients- you need 3,200 supervised clinical hours (in MA)- most people have more than enough following postdoctoral training (others may have enough sooner)
  - This is quite a laborious process that involves studying (often for several months) for a long, timed exam that must be taken at a testing center, in addition to a “Jurisprudence” exam (state laws)

# Types of jobs

- **Research/grant-focused** (“soft money” jobs): typically in a large university or “teaching/training” hospital
- **Teaching/academia** (teaching + research): typically referred to as “hard money” jobs as they offer more security (through tenure and promotion) and are not entirely based on writing and receiving grants for your work
- **Clinical work across various settings**: inpatient, outpatient, partial hospital programs, community mental health, primary care/behavioral health, private practice, or a combination of these!
- **Assessment-focused work**: for example, primarily completing assessments (and then referring patients to others for treatment)- this is a common path for clinical psychologists who specialize in neuropsychology, forensics, etc.

This is not  
an  
exhaustive  
list!