



**WILLIAM JAMES
COLLEGE**

Fall 2023 Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter



MVP and TVTV Newsletter

Your newsletter for all important updates related to Military and Veterans Psychology and the Train Vets to Treat Vets Programs.

Welcome to William James College! Whether you are an incoming student or a fourth year student, we encourage you to take part in the Military and Veteran's Program if you have any interest working with the military population. The MVP has come a long way over the last several years and we are looking for student leaders to join our team! The available resources in this concentration are valuable to students by fostering leadership skills and preparing you for a career catering to military members. Keep reading to see how you can become involved!

[Visit our MVP Website](#)

Announcements

**Division 19 - Society for Military Psychology
Presentation at APA Conference - August 2023**

Congratulations to our MVP and TVTV Div 19 team for their recent poster presentations at the August 2023 APA Conference in DC. WJC seeks to bridge the gap between clinicians and the military community, continue reading for

further details on the student group and faculty's poster presentations.

"Warrior Healers: Training the Next Generation of Veteran Psychologists Treating Veterans" A student group under the direction of Dr Sonia Suri published and presented on how the MVP concentration extends field education training by offering core curricula in military culture, continuing education programs, research opportunities, and outreach events.

"Development and Implementation of Veterans Continuing Education Series in the Community" A faculty group consisting of Dr. D'Olympia, Dr. Taveria-Dick, and Dr. Suri highlighted the importance of development and implementation of Veterans continuing their education.



In this photo: Zach Ginsburg, Sara Wall, Michaela Soper, M.A. and Erica Merrill, M.S.

Not in this photo: Jose De Ramon, M.A.



In this photo: Dr. Jenny D'Olympia, PsyD, Dr. Angela Taveira-Dick, PhD, and Dr. Sonia Suri, PhD

WARRIOR HEALERS
WILLIAM JAMES COLLEGE
 Training the Next Generation of Veteran Psychologists Treating Veterans

<p>Leadership & Professional Development</p> <p>Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student veterans participate in course development for MVP. • Health Education Scholarship Program (HESP) Student Program was created and facilitated by students. • HESP scholarship supports for student with application preparation and travel expenses. • MVP F&S is an online program, including webinars, quarterly newsletters, and webinars. • Webinars offer peer networking to colleagues, veterans and peers. • Student veterans and college students who share strong interests in a career in psychology, receive peer-to-peer mentorship opportunities through various online programs for training development, and on-field training. <p>Field Placement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows students to choose from 21 veteran practice sites. • Offers an alternative to the military/veteran experiential and culture. • Experienced graduate students to expand their clinical knowledge and acquire practical career skills. <p>Workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive veteran-focused trainings led by students, outside practitioners, practitioners, and outside veterans. 	<p>Research</p> <p>Program Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military and Veterans Program (MVP) Director of Veterans History Project (VHP) • High Conflict Forensic Center (HFCF) • American Civil War of Middle and South (ACWS) • M&V F&S • Graduate Psychology Individualized (GPI) Specialized Program (SP) of Health Resiliency and Service Advancement (HRSAA) • R&D/Op/Health <p>Examples of Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection, analysis, and measurement of data • Report and grant writing • Service development • Program development and evaluation • Presentations • Technical writing and grant writing • Grant writing and grant writing 	<p>Cultural Intelligence</p> <p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Intelligence (CI) training throughout the program. • Field Placement • Ability to engage supervisors and clients with diverse backgrounds. <p>Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WJC offers a cultural intelligence seminar through the Cultural Intelligence Center, which is open to all students who participate in research. This training allows students to gain their knowledge of others' backgrounds and combine it with their knowledge of military culture to more accurately assist the clients they serve. • Changes • MVP courses cover unique perspectives and challenges faced by the military/veteran diaspora. • Increase CI in non-veteran students by connecting them with the experiences of veteran students and instructors.
<p>Community Education & Outreach</p> <p>Field Placement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies clinical knowledge to veterans in the community through sites such as the VA and Vet Centers. <p>Continuing Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events opportunities to connect with experts in the field. • Train providers to offer culturally sensitive services to veterans who do not go to the VA for behavioral health. <p>Camp Resiliency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resiliency design and lead services on psychosocial/behavioral issues relevant to veterans needs. • Networking • Connection to the national network of military and veteran providers through VA's Division 16. 	<p>Growing Edges</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outreach for students without military affiliation is limited. 2. The curriculum and currently presented for the population they are working with, which includes veterans or military-associated families. The current format focuses on the veteran population in a broader context. 	<p>School Culture & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William James College provides a supportive learning community for student veterans, family and friends of military personnel, and those interested in working with veterans and military families. • Student faculty are connected to the military. • MVP provides and lead on connections to the support network and establish connections not seen in other organizations.

Army STARRS-LS Study

William James students have the privilege of undergoing training for and later conducting interviews with research participants in support of The Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Soldiers-Longitudinal Survey (Army STARRS-LS) study. Students will also assist in the qualitative analysis of interview transcripts, which will be used in the study's findings. This project is being led by Dr. Katherine Koh with support from Dr. Jenny D'Olympia, along with students Sara Garde, Zach Ginsburg, Tanjira Spaulding, and Kelly Re. The Army STARRS-LS is a longitudinal research study being conducted by Harvard Medical School in collaboration with University of Michigan. This qualitative interview study is of veterans who previously participated in Army STARRS while on active-duty Army service who went on to report becoming homeless after leaving active service in one or more STARRS-LS surveys. This study intends to gather information from these previously homeless veteran participants via qualitative interviews, with the hopes of using that information to prevent homelessness and improve services and resources for the homeless veteran population.

Time2Track Tags

Tag! Tag! Tag! When it comes to entering your clients on Time2Track, we are emphasizing the importance on adding tags for our military community! Adding tags that indicate military affiliation allows for students to highlight their clinical training with a population that is underserved, highlighting the importance of social justice issues and the responsibility to meet the mental health needs of a diverse society. For any students in specific concentrations such as Military and Veteran Psychology (MVP), tags are critical to ensuring that students are meeting with clients who are part of this population, hence allowing students to develop competencies (under supervision) in working with and treating these special groups.

Get Involved!

Experiential Groups

Groups now forming! Experiential groups are a great way to connect and network with fellow students and faculty with military interests. This is a great first step to get involved with the MVP concentration or if you are just curious about the military population. The MVP concentration students are required to participate in an experiential learning group, but all students in the William James College community are invited to participate! These are a unique opportunity for added support and learning about military culture. Groups meet weekly for 1-hour throughout the year, resulting in 15 sessions per semester. These groups are facilitated by a MVP faculty member and consist of non-military and military and veteran students in our community.

Meetings for Fall 2023 will be held on Mondays at noon starting Monday September 11th on campus in room 311. Please contact Dr. Haddad at David_Haddad@williamjames.edu if you have any additional questions or plan to join. If Monday meetings do not work for you, please contact Corey New at corey_new@williamjames.edu to explore online opportunities.

Camp Resilience



See how we have been involved!

Camp Resilience retreats help New England's service members, veterans, first responders and their loved ones recover and maintain their physical, psychological, and emotional well-being by using 3-4 day long retreats combine peer-to-peer support, life skills workshops, and outdoor experiential learning activities. Multiple students from WJC had the opportunity to be involved with Camp Resilience this past May, so stay tuned for future

opportunities to join!



[Camp Resilience Website](#)

Connect with Us on LinkedIn

Join our Military and Veteran community on by following us on LinkedIn!

[Follow Us Here](#)

CE Events

Upcoming CE Events

Suicide Prevention for Military Veterans Through Lethal Means Counseling

Date: September 08, 2023 at 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Cost: \$80 - space is limited, register now!

(Cost is discounted in registration process for students, alumni, faculty and staff)

Location: On campus at William James College

This program will provide clinicians with the background knowledge about firearms, safe firearms storage, firearms safety and the laws of firearms ownership in Massachusetts to improve their knowledge, vernacular and confidence, when discussing suicide prevention as it relates to firearms and safer firearms storage with military and veterans in the community. This training will also discuss the relationship between veterans and firearm ownership. It will provide an overview of tools for suicide risk screening and will offer specific questioning and scenarios related to risk of death by suicide with firearms demonstrated and practiced through role play.

[Register Here](#)

Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide in Servicemember, Veteran and Families Annual Conference

Save the date! On October 20th, 2023 at William James College from 9:00am - 3:45pm. WJC is hosting the annual conference. "Serving Those who Serve: Moral Injury or Lethal Means, Rethinking veteran suicide, exploring indicators practices roadblocks". The conference is sponsored by Massachusetts Department of Public Health and will be free to attend including continuing education credits. Stay tuned for further details!

If you would like to review any previous CE events, you can find the links to recordings on our website.

In The News

Military and Veterans Psychology Suicide Prevention Training Highlighted on WBUR

Date: July 24, 2023

WBUR highlighted our Military and Veterans Psychology program's Military Veterans Through Lethal Means course which provides clinicians with background knowledge about firearms, to improve their confidence, when discussing suicide prevention as it relates to firearms and safer firearms storage with the military and veteran community.



[Link to view this news article!](#)

Still have questions about the MVP/TVT programs?

Watch our recent MVP/TVT informational video and get to know Dr. Jenny D'Olympia, Associate Chair and Assistant

Professor in the Counseling and Behavioral Health Department, and Director of the Military and Veterans Psychology and Train Vets to Treat Vets Programs. Dr. D'Olympia shares her personal experience as an Air Force Veteran, and provides information about our Military and Veterans Psychology program for military, veterans, and civilians. The program will provide students with the tools, hands-on experiential learning, and cultural awareness to deliver services to the military, veterans, and their families. For more information, please visit www.williamjames.edu/mvp

[Watch the Video Here!](#)

Contact Us!

If you are interested on how to become a part of our military programs at WJC or have any inquires, please view the MVP points of contact below or email mvp@williamjames.edu

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We hope you will join us for our future training events. We provide quarterly newsletters, so please stay tuned for our next edition. Thank you for following us and being a part of our community!

[Visit our MVP Website!](#)

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