

JUSTIN M. RAMSDELL PSY.D

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7310 Maple Ave
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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

George Mason University | Fairfax, VA
Assistant Professor, Psychology Department

August 2015 – Present

Developed the Forensic Psychology Minor and Forensic Psychology Concentration for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences including curriculum, program structure, as well as the creation and implementation of six new courses. Responsible for program instruction, student advising, alumni relations, career counseling and overall day to day operations of the program.

Enrollment in the Forensic Psychology Minor and Concentration has grown to over 300 registered students in the three years since implementation and continues to grow, accounting for over 80% of the growth in the overall enrollment of the Psychology Department in the past three years.

Currently teaching seven undergraduate courses per year for the Forensic Psychology Minor and Concentration. Average teaching rating over 43 courses is 4.81 out of 5 and average course rating is 4.7 out of 5. Class sizes range from 25-205 enrolled students (average class size 59 students). Courses typically taught include:

- PSCY 380 - Introduction to Forensic Psychology
- PSYC 381 - Mental Illness and Criminal Justice
- PSYC 382 - Psychology of the Victim Experience
- PSYC 440 - Forensic Psychology: Science and Pseudoscience
- PSYC 441 - Criminal Behavior: Psychological and Neurological Aspects

Additionally, work with University partners to move forensic psychology course offerings to an online (or blended on-campus/online) format in a way that provides engaging content without sacrificing objective measurements of outcomes of student learning. University partners include the Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning (curriculum and course re-development), the GMU television production studio (producing engaging online videos that include lecture mixed with full animation and sound effects – examples available upon request), and outside partners including local law enforcement, district attorneys, public defenders, clinicians, and survivors of crimes to create interview-based mini-lectures covering a wide variety of topics).

Robson Forensic | Lancaster, PA
Associate - Expert Witness

September 2014 – Present

Provide case consultation and expert testimony on issues involving the interaction between psychological phenomena and the legal system. Areas of expertise include:

- Crisis Intervention Team implementation and training
- Police crisis de-escalation
- The interaction of severe mental illness and the criminal justice system
- Issues related to custodial interrogations
- Issues related to victims of crime
- Case presentation strategy
- Other issues as requested by counsel

Retained from September of 2014 through December of 2020 as a part-time independent contractor. Employed from January 2021 through present as a part-time employee.

CURRENT CONSULTING

JMR Consulting LLC | Takoma Park, MD
Trainer

March 2013 – Present

Provide training services to a variety of organizations including:

- **Fairfax County (Virginia) Police and Sheriff's Departments** (October, 2015 – Present)
 - Crisis Intervention Team Training - Provide regular training of law enforcement officers from Fairfax County and neighboring jurisdictions. Created and fine-tuned a practical, creative, and tailored training for law enforcement officers covering clinical pathologies and mental health states they may encounter while on duty, including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder and other disorders of interest to law enforcement. Training goals are to establish, and continually reaffirm, a standard of performance among officers that increases empathy, improves the prospect of jail diversion, and enables the law enforcement community to assist community members and family in resolving escalated situations while maintaining dignity and respect for individuals with mental illness, without the need for physical intervention or penal sanction whenever possible.
- **Provided training service to other organizations including:**
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - United States Secret Service
 - United States Office of the Attorney General (Southern District of

- Georgia)
 - United States Department of Justice
 - New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- **National Center for the Victims of Crime** (January, 2016 – June, 2020)
 - Various Consulting - Responsible for consulting on, and improving, the implementation of various grant funded programs serving the needs of victims of crime including victim services hotlines that serve the entire United States, programs dealing with homicide-related interventions for victims, and a national training program designed to train and assist law enforcement officers in interactions with victims of crime.
- **MacArthur Foundation** (November, 2019 – June, 2020)
 - Safety and Justice Challenge – Responsible for the creation of educational video series outlining the connection between victimization and participation in the criminal justice system. The video series involves recorded interviews with four individuals with a lived history of victimization and incarceration mixed with up to date research to emotionally and intellectually explain the concepts and relevant linkage.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE/VOLUNTEER WORK

George Mason University - Service | Fairfax, Virginia

- Term Faculty Affairs Committee, College of Humanities and Social Sciences – Chair (October, 2020 – Present)
- Undergraduate Committee - Member (August, 2019 – Present)
- George Mason University - Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence – Affiliate (December, 2018 – Present)
- Stearns Center Pivotal Pedagogy Course – Facilitator (September, 2020 – November, 2020)
- Clinical Term Faculty Search Committee – Member (January, 2021 – May, 2021)
- Term Faculty Ad Hoc Committee – Chair (September, 2019 – October, 2020)
- Teaching Excellence Awards Committee - Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning – Member (October, 2019 – April, 2020)
- Undergraduate Grade Appeal Committee – Member (October, 2020)
- Search Committee – Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Strategic Initiatives, College of Humanities and Social Sciences – Member (Summer, 2019)

- Search Committee – Term-faculty Position in Forensic Psychology, Psychology Department – Chair (Summer, 2019)
- George Mason University – Center for Psychological Services Steering Committee - Presenter (August, 2016 – August, 2019)

George Mason University – Volunteer Presentations | Fairfax, Virginia

- *The Effects of Childhood Trauma Into Adulthood* – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University- Presenter (February, 2020)
- *Saving Our Kids from Active Shooters* – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University- Presenter (June, 2018)
- *Spotting Psychopaths* – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University – Presenter (January, 2017)

Arlington County Government | Arlington, Virginia
CIT Trainer

March 2013 – Present

Provide CIT training (as outlined above) on a volunteer basis for Arlington County Police Department and Arlington County Sheriff’s Departments approximately six times per year.

American Psychology-Law Society | Washington D.C.
Research Reviewer

2015 – 2017

Served as volunteer submission reviewer for research presentation proposals for the American Psychology-Law Society’s National Conference.

Mental Illness/Criminal Justice Committee | Arlington, VA
Member

2013 – 2017

Served as the only civilian member of a committee comprised of judicial, law enforcement, and mental health related branches of the county government and tasked with evaluating how all aspects of the county government may work together to better serve individuals with severe mental illnesses who are involved in the criminal justice system. This is accomplished through a sequential intercept model which identifies key points in any crisis situation in which individuals may be diverted from the criminal justice system to more treatment-oriented services.

EDUCATION

Psy.D American School of Professional Psychology | Arlington, VA September, 2011
 APA-Accredited Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program
 Clinical Research Project – *When Old is New: Examining Psychopathy’s Past for Insight into Today’s Unanswered Questions*

MA American School of Professional Psychology | Arlington, VA August, 2008
Clinical Psychology

BA Argosy University | Arlington, VA August 2005
Psychology

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Stroz-Friedberg | Washington D.C. August 2015 – December 2016
Consultant

Provide psychological consultation services for a variety of governmental and private-sector clients involving threat assessment through the use of software-based psycholinguistic analysis of secure and non-secure digital communications.

Argosy University | Arlington, VA January 2012 – August 2015
Chair – Forensic Psychology Program

Chaired Forensic Psychology Program that offers Master's degrees to a diverse population of students (76 enrolled) working, or preparing to work, in the fields of law enforcement or homeland security, or seeking to pursue doctoral study in psychology. Responsible for all aspects of programmatic development, implementation, growth, and improvement, including curriculum development and the recruitment and selection of an inspired, diverse, qualified student body (ethnic minorities account for 64% of the student body). Taught four Masters level forensic psychology courses per year, as identified below. Mentored students, including supervising formulation of, research, and the crafting of Master's theses, and supervised students in civil and criminal forensic field placements throughout the tri-state (DC/Virginia/Maryland) metropolitan area. Recruited, managed and supervised faculty qualified to teach a broad forensic curriculum (6 current regular adjunct faculty members). Actively developed, implement and market strategic initiatives for the Forensic Psychology Program, with an aim toward expansion, improvement and broader recognition in the local forensic community. Identified and developed key beneficial relationships within the expansive local forensic community.

Increased enrollment of qualified students through community partnerships with local police, partnerships with the National Center for Credibility Assessment (NCCA), and coordinated University job fairs for law enforcement personnel. Achieved an average student rating of 4.95 (on a scale of 5) on the IDEA Teaching Effectiveness survey.

Courses Taught include:

- Ethical Practice in Forensic Psychology
- Research Methods
- Maladaptive Behavior
- Interviewing and Interrogation
- Psychology of the Victim
- Psychology of Criminal Behavior

- Consultation, Triage, and Testimony in Forensic Psychology

PREVIOUS TRAINING/CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Anne Arundel County Det. Center | Annapolis, MD September 2010 – August 2011
Pre-Doctoral Psychology Intern – 2000 Hours

Provided individual psychotherapy to general population inmates as well as inmates housed in the dedicated Mental Health Unit. Conducted psychological assessments with all inmate populations. Referral questions addressed in assessments included diagnostic clarification, level of intellectual and personality functioning, and treatment recommendations. Worked with a multidimensional treatment team to coordinate care for mentally ill and disruptive inmates. Screened mental health referrals for treatment consideration, suicidality, and/or placement on the Mental Health Unit.

Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center | Jessup, MD August 2008 – June 2009
Doctoral Psychology Extern

Conducted psychological assessments on individuals adjudicated Not Criminally Responsible (NCR) or Incompetent to Stand Trial. Referral questions addressed in assessments included risk of violent recidivism, diagnostic clarification, level of intellectual and personality functioning, and treatment recommendations. Provided individual psychotherapy to patients adjudicated NCR of violent felonies. Attended, and presented at, bi-monthly didactic training seminars for psychological staff on topics including malingering, psychopathy, and clinical cases.

Anne Arundel County Det. Center | Annapolis, MD August 2007 – June 2008
Member

Provided individual psychotherapy to inmates in a dedicated psychological treatment unit of a detention center. Assisted in conducting a weekly Dialectical Behavior Therapy-based group treatment program. Conducted a weekly psychoeducation group. Completed psychological assessments with individuals on the mental health unit as well as individuals in the general population.

HONORS AND AWARDS

University Teaching Excellence Award April 2019
George Mason University – 1 of 6 professors selected from over 1,400 faculty members (faculty driven nomination, special selection committee of previous award winners vote for recipients after reviewing teaching portfolios)

Career Connection Faculty Award March 2018
George Mason University (student driven nomination and voting)

Outstanding Faculty Award March 2018
George Mason University - Department of Psychology (Student driven nomination, departmental faculty vote for recipient)

Patriot Success Survey Recipient November 2017
George Mason University - Voted “person on campus who has helped students the most in their college success” (student driven nomination and voting).

Career Connection Faculty Award March 2017
George Mason University (student driven nomination and voting)

Patriot Success Survey Recipient November 2016
George Mason University - Voted “person on campus who has helped students the most in their college success” (students driven nomination and voting).

Exemplary Team Award June 2016
Arlington County, VA – For service to individuals who are homeless in Arlington County, VA. Presented by the Arlington County Community Services Board

Excellence in Teaching Award May 2015
Argosy University – As defined by student reviews of overall teaching and mentoring performance.

Excellence in Teaching Award May 2014
Argosy University – As defined by student reviews of overall teaching and mentoring performance.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association September 2006 – Present
Member

American Psychology-Law Society January 2010 – Present
APA Division 41 - Member

MEDIA

Television

- *Analysis of ‘Fight or Flight’ Response to Extreme Situations like Deadly DC Carjacking* – Good Day DC – Fox 5 WTTP (March 30th, 2021)
- *Working Conditions for Capital Police Following the January 6th Insurrection and the*

Recent Death of an Officer – Good Day DC – Fox 5 WTTP (April 5th, 2021)

Podcasts

- *Feedback Friday: “Help! I Married a Conspiracy Theorist”* – The Jordan Harbinger Show, Episode 457 (January 15th, 2021).
- *How to Detect and Disarm Pseudoscience* – The Jordan Harbinger Show, Episode 359 (June 2nd, 2020).
- *Rotten Psychology* – The Art of Charm, Episode 675 (March 15th, 2018).

Web Series

- *Connecting Victimization and Incarceration*, 4-part video series for the MacArthur Foundation’s “Safety and Justice Challenge” and the National Center for Victims of Crime (June-July, 2020).
- *Practitioner’s Perspective* – The National Center for Victims of Crime, Stalking Resource Center (August, 2017).

Radio

- *Chad Irwin and Suicide by Cop* – Air Talk with Larry Mantle – 89.3 KPCC (Los Angeles NPR Affiliate) (August, 2018).

Print Media

- *Reports of Stalking Spike So Far This Year* – GW Hatchet, by Elizabeth Lancaster (September, 2018).
- *Police Shootings: Oklahoma Cop Kills Deaf Man in Latest Attack on Disabled* – Newsweek, by Christal Hayes (September, 2017).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Ramsdell, J. M. (2021, April) *Problem Solving Crisis Intervention Team Program Implementation*. Pennsylvania Bar Association – Police Response Workgroup
- Brielamier, J. M., Lee, Y. C., Ramsdell, J. M., & Olesova, L. (September, 2020) *Strategies for Incorporating Peer Interactions into Online Courses*. Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference – George Mason University
- Ramsdell, J. M. (September, 2020) *This is Going to Hurt: Redesigning Courses with Previously Enrolled Students*. Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference – George Mason University
- Ramsdell, J. M. (September, 2020) *A Requiem for Exams, Discussion Questions, and Textbooks*. Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference – George Mason University
- Ramsdell, J. M. & J. Boardman (2019, March) *Traumatic Victimization: Its Importance to Law Enforcement, and Interview and Investigation Techniques to Improve Case Outcomes*. United States Department of Justice – Project Safe Neighborhoods with

National Center for Victims of Crime (Webinar).

- Olesova, L; Renshaw, K; & Ramsdell J. M. (2019, September) *Enhancing Case-Based Learning in Large Enrollment Online Courses*. 11th Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference, George Mason University – Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2019, July) *The Relationship Between Anger and Forgiveness in Victims of Crime and The Hidden Toll of Child Abuse and Exploitation*. Federal Bureau of Investigation – Victim Services Division, Eastern Group, Oklahoma City, OK.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2019, June) *The Relationship Between Anger and Forgiveness in Victims of Crime and The Hidden Toll of Child Abuse and Exploitation*. Federal Bureau of Investigation – Victim Services Division, Western Group, Oklahoma City, OK.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2018, September) *What is Traumatic Victimization?* National Center for the Victims of Crime’s National Training Institute, Orlando, FL.
- Ramsdell, J. M. & Cecchet, S. (2018, September) *The Case Against Anger?* National Center for the Victims of Crime’s National Training Institute, Orlando, FL.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2018, August) *What is Traumatic Victimization?* MacArthur Foundation – Safety and Justice Challenge, Through National Center for Victims of Crime, Washington D.C.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2017, June) *A Long Shadow: Understanding Survivors with a Harmful History*, New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Trenton, NJ.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2017, April) *A Glimpse to the Other Side: Mental Disorders and Strategies for Working with the Mentally Ill*, Office of the United States Attorney, Southern District of Georgia, Savannah, GA.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2016, September) *Perpetrators and the History of Abuse: Prior Victimization and Incarceration*, National Center for the Victims of Crime’s National Training Institute, Philadelphia, PA.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2016, May) *The Role of Bias in Managing Aggressive Behavior in Patients*, St. Elizabeths Hospital 3rd Annual Forensic Conference, Washington, DC.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2015, September) *Demystifying Schizophrenia in Order to Foster Empathy and More Effective Advocacy*, National Center for the Victims of Crime’s National Training Institute, Anaheim, CA.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2015, September) *Understanding Borderline Personality Disorder in Order to Foster Empathy and More Effective Advocacy*, National Center for the Victims of Crime’s National Training Institute, Anaheim, CA.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2015, July) *Attention, Bias, and the Effect on Examiner and Examinee in Polygraph Use*. United States Secret Service Polygraph Examiner Training, Nashville, TN.
- Ramsdell, J. M. (2014, September) *Demystifying Schizophrenia in Order to Foster Empathy and More Effective Advocacy*, National Center for the Victims of Crime’s

National Training Institute, Miami, FL.

- Ramsdell, J. M. (2013, February) *Identifying and Combating Bias in Criminal Investigations*, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, Washington D.C.

SUPERVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECTS

- *Environment and Relationships in Restricted Housing Units* – Nguyen, T. (Student), Rudes, D. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). April, 2021.
- *Racially Stereotypical Defendant Names: An Experimental Study of Racial Biases in Criminal Sentencing* – Anjaria, N. (Student), Winsler, A. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). April, 2021.
- *Racially Stereotypical Defendant Names: An Experimental Study of Racial Biases in Criminal Sentencing* – Anjaria, N. (Student), Redlich, A. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). May, 2020.
- *Delayed Disengagement in Specialized Population from Eye Tracking* – Breem, G. (Student), Peterson, M. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), & Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). November, 2019.
- *Mood and Thinking: Looming Provocation* Sharma, D. A. (Student), Riskind, J. H. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), & Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). May, 2019.
- *Defining “Knowing”: Direct Observation Versus Defendant Report of Plea Hearings* – Haines, K. (Student), Redlich, A. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), & Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). May, 2019.
- *The Role of Peer-Relationship Trauma in the Association Between Exposure to Domestic Violence and Suicide* – Clark, J. S. (Student), Esposito-Smythers, C. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), & Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). May, 2019.
- *Mental Health and Competency: An Analysis of the Disparity in Sentence Severity in Baltimore’s Criminal Justice System* – Williams, M. S. (Student), McKnight, P. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). May, 2017.
- *The Impact of Gender of Sentencing: When Does Gender Matter?* – Marquina Panduro C. A. (Student), Redlich, A. (Advisor), Ramsdell, J. M. (Member), & Chrosniak, L. D. (Director). April, 2017.

SUPERVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE INDEPENDENT AND SMALL GROUP STUDIES

- 1/20 – *Criminal Behavior: Psychological and Neurological Aspects Course re Design Group* (4 students)
- 8/19 – *Psychology of Crime Victims Course ReDesign Group* (3 students)
- 1/19 – *Mental Illness and Criminal Justice Course ReDesign Group* (4 students)

- 12/18 – *Outcome Research for Crisis Intervention Team Training in Law Enforcement* (1 student)
- 5/18 – *The Use of Terror Management Theory by Cult Leaders* (1 student)
- 5/16 – *Military Psychology: The Unique Case of Bowe Bergdahl* (1 student)

REFERENCES

- Available upon request.