



Information for Prospective Doctoral Students
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Thank you for your interest in applying for the Clinical-Community Psychology Ph.D. program at UofSC! Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about our program and my lab that might be helpful.

Are you taking a student for fall 2023?

Yes! I do plan to take a student this cycle.

What projects will your lab be working on in academic year 2023-2024 and beyond?

- Our main focus currently is developing a parent-based preventive intervention to address parent stress, promote positive parenting, and support children's socioemotional and physical health. This project is being conducted with parents who have children aged 3-9 and who are dealing with major life stressors (including parental trauma history, mental health difficulties, substance misuse, HIV/chronic illness, racial discrimination, and/or financial strain). The outcomes of interest include children's socioemotional well-being (mood, behavior, and relationships) and healthy lifestyle behaviors (sleep, screen time, and physical activity). Community input is being gathered to inform what the program will include and how it will be delivered.
- We are currently wrapping up data collection on another project called the PATH Study – Parents And Teens staying Healthy, which is a needs assessment evaluating the strengths and challenges of parents living with HIV and their 10-17 year old children. We are partnering with HIV clinics around South Carolina for this study. Data from this study (primarily qualitative) will be available for students to analyze and write up.
- We are also partnering with other UofSC faculty on a study using ecological momentary assessment (EMA) to understand how Black/African American parents' daily experiences of racial discrimination are related to their stress levels, parenting, and young children's sleep. The faculty member leading this study is Dr. Elizabeth Adams (UofSC Dept. of Exercise Science).
- I am also open to supporting new projects initiated by students as long as they are within the general umbrella of what we study.

What do you look for in a graduate student applicant?

- Here are a few of the main factors I consider when evaluating graduate student applications:

- Research fit: One of the most important factors is showing a strong fit between your interests/experiences and the work that we do. You don't have to have research experience in the exact topic that we work on, but it's helpful to show how and why your interests and goals align with what we do as a lab and the program at UofSC more generally.
- Commitment to and interest in conducting research: UofSC is a research-focused program, and being interested in community-engaged/clinical research is an important factor for my lab.
- Commitment to community engagement: Our research is community engaged, meaning we strive to conduct research that is in line with the goals, desires, needs, and strengths of the communities we work with. Applicants who have an interest in engaging and partnering directly with families would be a good fit. Having experience working in the community in some capacity is one way (but not the only way) to show this commitment.
- Commitment to equity and dismantling racism: Equity, cultural humility, and antiracism are values that guide our lab's work. I don't see these as an endpoint but rather a constant work in progress that requires us each to continually learn, grow, and hold one another accountable. Being committed to these values, dedicated to taking action to dismantle racism through our work, and open to growth and accountability are key.
- Motivation/perseverance: It's helpful to show an ability to learn new things, persevere through challenging tasks/situations, be self-directed (with mentorship), and/or have a high level of motivation.
- Keep in mind that you can demonstrate these characteristics in lots of different ways! There is not a one-size-fits-all way to get to grad school and I expect that students will be coming in with varied backgrounds, experiences, and strengths.
- I especially encourage applications from prospective students from historically marginalized or under-represented backgrounds.

Where can I learn more about the work you do?

- My faculty page is here:
https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/psychology/our_people/directory/goodrum_nada.php
- My google scholar page is here:
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=xVI1CSEAAAAJ&hl=en>
- My website is here (though not always the most up to date):
<https://nadagoodrum.com/>
- The UofSC Clinical Community Psychology program page is here:
https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/psychology/study/graduate/clinical_community/index.php

What should I do if I have more questions?

- Please feel free to email me! ngoodrum@mailbox.sc.edu