

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

BRYN MAWR DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

DEI NEWS

WE'RE HIRING!

Do you want to help advance equity, inclusion and diversity within our department?

Emma Samstein ('23) is studying abroad this semester, so the DEI team is seeking a new student partner to step into this role. This is a one year commitment (Sp '22 - S '23). Students are compensated for their time. Interested students should email Professor Orvell at aorvell@brynmawr.edu for more information about how to apply.



SEEKING YOUR FEEDBACK!

The psychology department has been working on several initiatives this year to sustain a diverse, equitable and inclusive department. We'd like to know how you are experiencing these initiatives, and learn how else we can advance this important work. Please consider taking this 10 minute survey to share your thoughts with us ([link here](#) or QR code to the left) The survey is anonymous. Prizes will be offered as an expression of our thanks! Our doors are always open if you have additional thoughts, ideas or suggestions surrounding DEI in the department.

IN THE FIELD



In a recent interview, APA President Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt and Dr. Jennifer Richeson spoke about “the mythology of racial progress in America,” which refers to the perception that racial equality in the U.S is, and has been, on an upwards trajectory. Richeson describes her own research, where she found that a representative sample of Americans vastly *underestimated* wealth disparities between White and Black Americans over time, *overestimating* the extent to which the wealth gap had narrowed by 2016. Why do many Americans tend to misestimate racial disparities so greatly, and believe in the myth of racial progress? Richeson cites many reasons. One explanation may be that Americans want to think of the US as an egalitarian society, leading them to ignore disconfirming information while paying more attention to information that is consistent with this worldview. Richeson and her collaborators are currently doing research to understand how to disrupt these processes and reduce racial inequality. You can check out the full interview using this link or the attached QR code.

STUDENT VOICES:

Anne Tobin (HC, Psychology Major, Neuroscience Minor) and Sophie Daley-Harris (BMC, Psychology Major) reflect on Dr. Méndez-Díaz's course, Multicultural Counseling, which they took last semester.



1. What is your biggest takeaway from Multicultural Counseling?

Anne: There were two primary takeaways from this class. The first is that in order to help others, you have to understand yourself and your own sensitivities and strengths. The second is that it is important to recognize the different communication styles of different cultures. Treating everyone how you want to be treated may not lead to the greatest success. Instead, you should treat others how they want to be treated.

2. What did you learn about yourself as a result of taking this course?

Sophie: This course helped me understand how my own cultural history will influence me in my future work as a therapist.

3. How did this course reinforce, challenge, or change your view of psychology as a whole?

Anne: The class challenged me in being aware that multiculturalism is not treating everyone the same, but treating them with maximum respect for their culture.

Sophie: This class has been incredibly important in my studies because the field of psychology needs more focus and awareness about the importance of valuing and understanding how each individual's culture shapes who they are and how therapists should embrace and support these identities.

JOIN THE PSYCHOLOGY PARTNER PROGRAM!

Last semester we successfully launched "The Psychology Partner Program." This is a peer-to-peer partnership program designed to connect students with the goal of fostering inclusion and belonging within the psychology department.

It is open to all psychology majors and minors.

Partnerships can focus on academic or career centered mentorships, provide students with mutual support navigating the department, or just promote friendships! Students will be given autonomy to form and mold their partnerships in the way that best suits them and their partner.

If you are a new major or minor OR an upper-class-student, we encourage you to join! Partnerships will be created based on students' mutually expressed interests and goals for the partnership. After taking the preferences that you share into account, pairs will be created randomly and to the best of our abilities.

CLICK THIS [LINK](#) or Scan the below QR code TO SIGN UP by February 4th

