

## Education

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- **December 2020: Doctor of Philosophy, University of the Cumberland**  
**Major: Counselor Education & Supervision**
  - CACREP accredited
  - Graduated Chi Sigma Iota
  - Dissertation topic - “A quantitative study: The indirect effects of implicit bias on the relationship between participant social group affiliation and emotional experiences.”
- **May 2014: Master of Education, Oklahoma City University**  
**Major: Applied Behavioral Studies/Licensed Counseling**
  - Graduated High Honors & Phi Kappa Phi
  - Capstone research- The social, cognitive, and evolutionary psychology of membership in Caucasian hate groups.
- **May 2003: Bachelor of Arts, University of Oklahoma**  
**Major: Anthropology, Minor: Psychology**
  - Area of focus and capstone research in Cultural Anthropology

## Teaching Experiencing (5+ years)

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- **Fall 2022 – Present: Core Faculty, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center**  
Clinical Mental Health Counseling program (CACREP): virtual
  - Providing student advising
  - Member of multiple course curriculum committees
  - Teaching courses asynchronously and synchronously:
    - Introduction to Counseling & Ethical Development, fall 2022
    - Multicultural Counseling, fall 2022
    - Counseling Internship, fall 2022
- **Spring 2021 – Present: Adjunct Professor, Seton Hall University**  
Professional & School Counseling program: virtual
  - Writing standardized curriculum for Multicultural Counseling and Psychology
  - Teaching courses asynchronously:
    - Counseling Theories, spring & summer 2021, 2022
    - Counseling Practicum, summer 2021, 2022
    - Counseling Internship, fall 2021, spring 2022
    - Independent Study, fall 2021
    - Multicultural Counseling and Psychology, fall 2022

- **Spring 2017 – Present: Adjunct Professor, Oklahoma City University**  
Applied Behavioral Studies/Licensed Professional Counseling program
  - **2021 Excellence in Teaching Award for Adjunct Professor of the Year**
  - Teaching courses in-person and synchronously:
    - Advanced Counseling Techniques, fall 2017 & 2020
    - Behavior Pathology, spring 2019, 2020, 2021
    - Career Counseling, summer 2017, 2020
    - Counseling Practicum & Internship, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022
    - Group Counseling, summer 2019, 2020, & 2021
    - Marriage and Family Counseling, fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
    - Sociocultural Foundations, spring 2017, 2018, 2021, 2022
- **Fall 2019: Adjunct Professor, University of Central Oklahoma**  
Undergraduate Psychology program
  - Courses taught in-person:
    - Introduction to Psychology, fall 2019
- **Fall 2017: Teaching Assistant, Southern Nazarene University**
  - Licensed Professional Counseling Program
    - Professional Orientation and Ethics, fall 2017
- **Summer 2017: Teaching Assistant, University of the Cumberland**
  - Licensed Professional Counseling Program; Online
    - Theories and Techniques in Treating Addictions, summer 2017

### **Professional Certifications/Licenses**

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- **December 2015 – Present: Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) OK #5943**  
*Oklahoma State Board of Behavioral Health*
- **April 2018 – Present: Board Approved LPC Supervisor**  
*Oklahoma State Board of Behavioral Health*

### **Mental Health Professional Contributions (8+ years counseling)**

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- **November 2020 – Present: Therapist and Sole Proprietor**  
*David Pfaff Counseling, LLC*  
Owner and sole proprietor of David Pfaff Counseling, LLC, providing outpatient mental health therapy to the public and licensure supervision to LPC candidates. Primary theoretical approaches include Acceptance and Commitment, Emotion-Focused, and Solution Focused Brief therapies. Areas of focus: emotional regulation, trauma, grief, relationships, attachment, suicidality, self-harm, diversity, inclusion, identity, gender, and substance use.
- **August 2017 – January 2021: Therapist, Center for Counseling and Well-Being**  
*University of Central Oklahoma*

Oklahoma licensed outpatient mental health therapist providing treatment to university students within a university center for counseling and wellbeing. Services include intakes, assessment, individual and group therapies, and case management. Also provided outreach through advocacy, training, and guest lecturing.

- **June 2014 – August 2017: Clinical Coordinator Children’s Crisis Unit & Outpatient Therapist**

*Red Rock Behavioral Health Services*

Directing the day-to-day clinical operations of the Children’s Crisis Unit, an inpatient mental health facility for youth and adolescents experiencing acute mental health crisis. Also, served as a licensed and nationally certified outpatient mental health therapist providing treatment to youth and adults within a community mental health setting.

## Media & Print

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- **In Progress (2023): Book chapter author: Acceptance & Commitment Therapy**  
*Edited book, editor Bill Owenby, ABD, DCMHS, MC, LPC-S*
- **August 2022: Podcast interview: Why I Became a Therapist & Educator**  
*The Why I Network, hosted by Kojo Thompson*
  - Link: <https://www.thewhynetwork.com/271490/11089383-why-i-became-a-therapist-with-dr-david-pfaff>
- **October 2021: Podcast interview: Adverse Childhood Experiences**  
*Relatively Normal, hosted by Marc Piasant, Season 4 (84)*
  - Link: <https://anchor.fm/marc-paisant7/episodes/Relatively-Normal---S4---Ep84---Childhood-Trauma-with-Dr--David-Pfaff-e1891fb>
- **September 2021: Podcast interview: Problematic Substance Use & Addictions**  
*In the Weeds, hosted by Jacob Phelps*
  - Link: <https://anchor.fm/intheweedsokc/episodes/Addiction-and-or-Problematic-Substance-Use-e17cdvh>
- **August 2021: Podcast interview: Relationships and mental health**  
*In the Weeds, hosted by Jacob Phelps*
  - Link: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7dbnKF0U4CGzxm1cIeKmwX>
- **June 2021: Podcast interview: Depression and coping**  
*In the Weeds, hosted by Jacob Phelps*
  - Link: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0mMQSm9pYo5qYAtWen0sQ8>
- **May 2021: Podcast interview: Anxiety and coping**  
*In the Weeds, hosted by Jacob Phelps*
  - Link: <https://open.spotify.com/show/4D271AI2BJmKqhnDezntGn>
- **February 2021: Podcast interview: Suicidality and prevention**  
*Relatively Normal, hosted by Marc Piasant, Season 3 (62)*
  - Link: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2hm2hqWxuSj27T7cKEOTXj>
- **January 2021: Article interview: Suicidality and prevention**  
*Blunt Therapy, authored by Randy Withers*
  - Link: <https://www.blunt-therapy.com/therapists-share-their-thoughts-on-suicide/>
- **January 2021: Article interview, Motivation and self-care**  
*MyFitnessPal, authored by Julia Malacoff*

- Link: <https://blog.myfitnesspal.com/clever-ways-to-convince-yourself-to-work-out/>
- **December 2020: PhD Dissertation Study**  
*A Quantitative Study: The Indirect Effects of Implicit Bias on the Relationship Between Participant Social-Group Affiliation and Emotional Experiences.* [Link](#)
- **May 2020: Podcast interview, Mental health stigma**  
*Relatively Normal, hosted by Marc Piasant, Season 2 (33):*
  - Link: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5Og9iUXxpcIvZHd0oqlJ6n?si=nyShb-SuQ-69NsWueVypkg>
- **May 2017: Publication reviewer and contributor (acknowledged)**  
*Constructive Theories and Therapies, Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy in Context and Practice (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), by Rita and John Sommers-Flanagan*

## Community Contributions

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- **November 2022: Workshop Author and Speaker**  
*Oklahoma City University Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Program.*
  - Topic: Principles of Family and Relationship Therapy workshop,
- **March 2022: Consultant and subject matter expert**  
*Psychological support for Ukraine, virtual*
- **March 2022: Book proposal review**  
*Roman and Littlefield for the text: Modern Integrative Counseling and Psychotherapy*
- **August 2022: Clinical Preceptor**  
*Oklahoma City University Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Program.*
- **June 2021: Speaker and subject matter expert**  
*Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar, Oklahoma City, OK.*
- **January 2020: Speaker and subject matter expert**  
*U.S. Social Security Administration, Oklahoma City, OK*
  - Topic: Self-care and stress management during the pandemic
- **October 2020: Speaker, World Mental Health Day**  
*Root Insurance Company, national meeting, Atlanta, GA.*
  - Topic: Mental wellness and stigma in the workplace
- **April 2016: Discussion panel member and subject matter expert**  
*OKC Civic Center production of 'night, Mother*
  - Suicidality and mental health crisis prevention.
- **May 2015 – January 2017: Facilitator for Strengthening Families Program**  
*Red Rock Behavioral Health & Oklahoma Department of Human Services*
- **February 2016 & February 2014: Professional conference presenter**  
*Oklahoma Counseling Association Mid-Winter Conference*
  - Examined the intensifying concern of Caucasian hate groups within the US using a multidisciplinary approach framed through Sternberg's triangulation of hate theory.

## Awards and Recognition

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- **2021 Excellence in Teaching Award**  
*Center for Excellence in Learning and Education, Oklahoma City University*

- **2012 & 2013 Innovation Award**  
*University of Oklahoma Outreach*

## **Research & Interests**

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- Doctoral dissertation research: " A quantitative study: The indirect effects of implicit bias on the relationship between participant social group affiliation and emotional experiences." Utilized a quasi-Bayesian mediation design to study whether participant biases had a mediating effect on emotional valence and intensity in reaction to racial stimuli.
- Master's research into the affective components of hatred and social movement affiliation within hate groups, as framed through social, cognitive, and evolutionary psychological perspectives. Research included investigation of demography, composition, patronage, and social climates of where these groups and their membership originate and subsist. This research has continued, with findings presented at the Oklahoma Counseling Association conferences in 2014 and 2016.

## **Professional Memberships/Affiliations**

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| • American Counseling Association                                 | • Chi Sigma Iota National Honors Society, |
| • Oklahoma Counseling Association                                 | Counseling Academics & Professionals.     |
| • Oklahoma Association for Multicultural Counseling & Development | • Phi Kappa Phi National Honors Society   |

## **Professional Development**

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- **Telehealth Certification Training for Mental Health Professionals**  
*PESI, April 2020*
- **Advanced Addiction Severity Index and American Society of Addiction Medicine**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, October 2019*
- **Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Addictions**  
*Edmond Counseling Institute, April 2019*
- **Acceptance and Commitment Therapy**  
*Edmond Counseling Institute, June 2018*
- **Mental Health First Aid Instructor Certification**  
*National Council for Behavioral Health, June 2018*
- **Bringing in the Bystander Instructor Certification**  
*NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, January 2018*
- **Adaptive Leadership Training**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, April 2017*
- **Motivational Interviewing**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, June 2016*
- **American Society of Addiction Medicine Criteria Training**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, February 2016*
- **Oklahoma Forensic Competency Evaluator Training**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, January 2016*

- **Collaborative Assessment to Suicide Risk (CAMS)**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, January 2015*
- **Addiction Severity Index (ASI)**  
*Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, September 2014*
- **Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)**  
*Oklahoma Child Trauma Training Program, June 2014 (basic) and May 2015 (advanced)*