

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES NEWSLETTER

FALL EDITION 2021

The Fall 2021
Edition will
include:

Faculty Spotlight

Student Spotlight

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Partner Spotlight

Eagle Eye Field
Trip

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Certificate

Annual Career &
Networking Event

Zoom Workshop
on Mental Health

Community Partner Spotlight: Square One!



Square One's programs include early education and care at centers in Springfield, home-based care settings located throughout greater Springfield, and out of school time care for elementary school age children. Our parent education, support and training programs are offered through groups, home visitation and personalized case management to help parents access whatever services are needed to be successful in their role as their child's first teacher. Square One loves having BPU students as interns!

Child Psych major Audira Cave and Communications major Cora Swan painted this wonderful mural to honor retiring Square One President & CEO Joan Kagan. This will be showcased in the Square One school in Springfield MA.

Faculty Spotlight!



Dr. Sheila Foley began her teaching career as an adjunct professor in 2002, and was appointed associate professor in 2019. She teaches in the Psychology Department and the Criminal Justice Department and is a member of the Honors Program faculty. Foley's interdisciplinary view provides a foundation for teaching throughout many disciplines including criminal justice, psychology, sociology, and liberal arts, focusing on research and writing. In addition, she serves as the Chair of the IRB Committee.

Dr. Foley received her master's degree from Westfield State University. She completed a PhD in Business Administration with a specialization in Criminal Justice at Northcentral University. Dr. Foley brings 22 years of experience working in state government. Her work included involvement with a number of initiatives committed to social change; identifying challenges faced by young people and developing comprehensive strategies to address those issues. In addition she has worked in police training providing education and policy development. Dr. Foley continues to work with the State 911 Department training emergency dispatchers. To ensure students learn the fundamental content of a course and develop a strong foundation for lifelong

learning, her teaching emphasis is placed on fostering critical thinking skills and engaging in experiential learning opportunities. Dr. Foley's passion for research and writing is evident throughout her teaching. She recently developed a new program titled HHS 400:Health and Human Services Capstone. This exciting new course provides students from all majors in HHS the opportunity to synthesize knowledge learned in previous courses through the development of a community health/human service initiative that aligns with their career goals. Partnering with a mentor from a local organization, students are guided through every aspect of program development from the research and planning phase to the presentation and evaluation.

Dr. Foley is a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Honor Society for Women Educators, the Golden Key International Honour Society, and the National Criminal Justice Honor Society. She is also a member of the American Psychological Association, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and the Western Mass Chiefs of Police Association. Dr. Foley enjoys rooting for the home team, has a soft spot for animals, and most importantly treasures the time spent with her daughter.



My name is Kamryn McCorison and I am a senior health science major with a minor in psychology and a certificate in integrative health. At Bay Path I am a captain of the softball team, the social media coordinator for the SAAC board, a Student Ambassador for Admissions, and I am a student worker in athletics. I also used to be on the cross country and basketball teams. Once I graduate in the spring I plan on pursuing a career in physical therapy by becoming a physical therapist assistant and then going into a graduate school program. Over the summer I completed my internship as a softball counselor at Camp Taconic where I used my softball experience to coach kids aged 7-16 in baseball and softball. This was a great experience that helped me realize how much I enjoyed coaching and helping teach kids the correct ways to do the exercises to avoid injury. I'm excited to finish up these last two semesters with all of the friends I've made here at Bay Path!

Autism Spectrum Studies Certificate

The Autism Studies Certificate Program is designed to prepare professionals to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure the academic, social, behavioral, and emotional needs of students identified as having Autism are met. This Certificate seeks to provide individuals with the skills, knowledge, and creativity needed to support students' success in the classroom and the community. In addition, the Certificate provides depth in particular areas of educational practice, policy, curriculum, and state-of-the-art inclusionary best practices. The Autism Certificate includes 4 three-credit courses, all online.

Courses for the Autism Certificate include: (12 credits)

- Teaching Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Advocacy, Collaboration, & Problem-Solving for Students with Autism
- Supporting Communication and Social Development for Students with Autism

To learn more about adding this Certificate to your program of studies, contact your Academic Advisor!

Eagle Eye Field Trip!

Students from the Psychology Department and those pursuing a certificate in Youth Development were joined by Dr. Foley and Dr. Percy on a trip to explore the Eagle Eye Institute. Eagle Eye believes in the right of all people to a healthy environment and a positive relationship with nature, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic status. Their mission is to ensure equitable access to nature so that all people are empowered to be environmental leaders and decision-makers.

The day was spent hiking the trails and learning about the organization. The students walked away enriched and with "tools for their toolboxes". The experience was led by Program Director Cass Pastorelle and Chris Cato.



Annual Career & Networking Event

Wed Dec 1 @ 6-7:30 pm, via Zoom. Join Dr. Kathy Wiezbicki-Stevens and a panel of OT and healthcare professionals who will share their career journeys and offer advice for making the most of your time while at Bay Path.



Dia's Corner



Hi, my name is Dia Arias and I am the Student Assistant in the Psychology Department. I am currently a junior majoring in Communications and minoring in Sociology and I enjoy traveling whenever I have the opportunity. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions at hhs@baypath.edu.

Zoom workshop on Mental Health: More than the Individual

Did you know that nearly 1 in 5 Americans experience a mental illness? This workshop was offered Oct 20 by Ysabel Garcia, MPH and a BPU alum, to help students build awareness, knowledge, and sensitivity to this important issue. Topics included:

- Expanding our definition of mental health through a social justice lens
- Understanding the concept of oppression and its multiple forms
- Recognizing practical examples of how oppression and its multiple forms influence mental health
- To learn more about the important work that Ysabel does for our community, visit her website: www.estoy-aqui.org

