# Meet our Full-time Faculty in the SMSU Psychology Program!

| Faculty | Academic Training | Courses/Research Interests |
|---|---|---|
|  **Dr. Christine Olson** Christine.Olson@smsu.edu | Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, Arizona State University, 1994<br><br>M.S., Counseling and Student Personnel Administration, Kansas State University, 1987<br><br>B.A., Psychology, Bethany College (Kansas), 1985 | COURSES: Health Psychology, Cross Cultural Psychology, Mental Health Topics, and Pre-Field Placement in Psychology<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Motivation and efficacy for civic engagement; eating disorders prevention / treatment; cross-cultural competency |
|  **Dr. Scott Peterson** Scott.Peterson@smsu.edu | Ph.D., Experimental Psychology, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1999<br><br>M.S., Experimental Psychology, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1997<br>M.S., Computer Sciences, Purdue University, 1987<br><br>B.S., Computer Science/Mathematics, Moorhead State University, 1985 | COURSES: Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences, Child and Adolescent Development, Developmental Psychology, Sensation and Perception, Adult Development and Aging<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Visual attention; Memory processes; Technology use and interpersonal relationships; Physical exercise and mental well-being; Assessment of civic engagement attitudes |
|  **Dr. Benjamin Anderson** Benjamin.Anderson1@smsu.edu | Ph.D., Cognitive Psychology / Neuroscience, Washington University in St. Louis, 2011<br><br>M.A., Cognitive Psychology / Neuroscience, Washington University in St. Louis, 2009<br><br>B.A., Psychology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2001 | COURSES: General Psychology, College Now Psychology, Biological Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Statistics Lab, Memory in Mind and Culture.<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Visualization and memory, effects of divided attention on memory, automatic vs. controlled memory processing, cognitive aging. |
|  **Dr. Laura Koenig** Laura.Koenig@smsu.edu | Ph.D., Personality, Individual Differences, and Behavior Genetics, University of Minnesota, 2007<br><br>B.A., Psychology and Biology, Luther College, 2001 | COURSES: General Psychology, Psychology of Personality, Abnormal Psychology, Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences, Positive Psychology, Research Methods<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Development of and influences on religiousness and spirituality (R/S), well-being and personality traits |
|  **Dr. Taleen Nalabandian** Taleen.Nalabandian@smsu.edu | Ph.D., Experimental Psychology, with a specialization in Social Psychology, Texas Tech University, 2022<br><br>M.A. General-Theoretical Psychology, Fairleigh Dickinson University, 2015<br><br>B.A., Psychology and Literature, American University, 2013 | COURSES: General Psychology, Psychology Seminar, Social Psychology, Close Relationships, Research Methods in the Behavioral Sciences<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Examining linguistic indicators and social processes underlying common mental health conditions; analyzing narratives and their reception to further inform the mental states and traits of authors and audiences |
|  **Dr. Shawn Carlson** Shawn.Carlson@smsu.edu | Ph.D. Developmental Science, with a Quantitative Endorsement, North Dakota State University, 2023<br><br>B.A., Psychology and Criminal Justice, Minnesota State University, Moorhead, 2015 | COURSES: General Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Child and Adolescent Psychology, Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences, Statistics Lab<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Optimal child development; self-regulation development in early and middle childhood, including executive function and emotion regulation; school readiness; prevention/intervention |
|  **Dr. Emma Mack** Emma.Mack@smsu.edu | Ph.D. Developmental Science, with a Quantitative Endorsement, North Dakota State University, 2022<br><br>B.A., Psychology, Minnesota State University, Moorhead, 2017 | COURSES: General Psychology, Field Experience in Psychology<br><br>RESEARCH INTERESTS: Sociocultural influences on body image and eating disorder development; influences on body dissatisfaction in adolescence and young adulthood. |