

University of Hartford
Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology
Diversity Statement

The Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology is committed to affirmative diversity, defined as upholding the fundamental value of human differences and the belief that positive acceptance of and respect for individual and cultural differences in all forms serves to enhance the quality of educational and interpersonal experiences. These differences include, but are not limited to: age, physical or intellectual disability, psychiatric or learning difficulties, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, indigenous status, national origin, gender identity, language, religion, and culture. The program strives to understand how these individual and cultural differences intersect and are reflected in the identity of each person. In pursuit of affirmative diversity, the program strives to recognize the need for clinical psychologists from a variety of backgrounds to serve in roles as service providers, supervisors, researchers, and teachers, as well as mentors and role models. This also involves acknowledging unique histories of oppression and working to support graduate students within their cultural contexts.

The program aims to emphasize the following values:

- Support and encourage a student body that is socially and politically aware, informed, and alerted to issues of social justice through the integration of diversity issues throughout the doctoral curriculum.
- Prepare students to attend to underserved populations within the larger community with cultural humility and awareness of individual biases and areas of growth as part of their professional development.
- Support and encourage faculty members to model and foster awareness of and commitment to these values.
- Provide enriching educational and clinical training opportunities with diverse professionals who will serve as role models in the delivery of culturally competent psychological services in clinical settings with diverse clientele.
- Maintain policies that promote recruitment, retention, and graduation of students from diverse backgrounds through equitable provision of academic, financial, emotional, and social support.
- Encourage recruitment, support, and retention of faculty (core, affiliate, and adjunct) from diverse cultural backgrounds to address the need for representation among staff.
- Emphasize the shared responsibility of faculty, staff, and students in creating a learning environment abreast of historical and current diversity issues and that is conducive to continued reflection on areas of program development and future growth.

GIPP's Diversity Statement is considered in the ongoing evolution and understanding of considerations related to matters of DEIJB and we partner with our accrediting body (APA) to be informed and influenced by emerging considerations such as those found here:

- [APA Guidelines on Equitable and Respectful Treatment of Students in Graduate Psychology Programs](#)
- [Multicultural Guidelines: An Ecological Approach to Context, Identity, and Intersectionality, 2017](#)