# SHP Student Interns for Research and Scholarly Activities Project Proposal Form

## Instructions:

**Please fill each box to the right of the required fields, obtain the required signature and return via email to** Michele Sisco (mcoral@shp.rutgers.edu) **by March 24, 2025**.

If you are sending attachments, please ensure your contact information is added to all your forms.

## Faculty Contact Information:

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|---|---|
| Date submitted: | 3/13/2025 |
| Faculty Name: | SunHee Eissenstat |
| Department/Program: | Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions |
| Telephone number: | 814-321-2429 |
| E-mail: | Sj643@shp.rutgers.edu |

## Project Detail:

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| Project Title: (56 characters max) | Development and evaluation of AI simulation space for teaching key counseling skills |
| Hypothesis: | Participants in counselor education will show increased self-efficacy in key counseling skills after practicing them with AI-powered role-play simulations. |
| Description: (Include design, methodology, data collection, techniques, data analysis to be employed, evaluation and interpretation methodology for research component) | Health professions, including counseling, are increasingly integrating AI into practitioner training, particularly for skill development through AI-powered role-play simulations (Maurya, 2024). This project aims to develop and evaluate an AI-driven learning platform that offers modules focused on key counseling skills. Master's-level counselor education students will be recruited as participants and will engage with the AI-based educational module for one month. This quantitative study will assess the effectiveness of the intervention by comparing participants' pre- and post-intervention counseling skill self-efficacy scores using the Counselor Activity Self-Efficacy Scales (CASES; Lent, Hill, & Hoffman, 2003). A paired-sample t-test will analyze the data to determine any significant improvements. Evidence of increased self-efficacy would support the effectiveness of AI-powered simulation in training future counseling professionals. |

| Specific Student Responsibilities: | Student will work on:<br>1) Updating literature on AI application in training health profession practitioners.<br>2) Assisting in developing skill topics with specific description of each for AI programing<br>3) Building AI workspace with the developed prompts<br>4) Testing learning modules for improvement<br>5) Developing an online survey for pre and post evaluation |
|---|---|
| Start / end date of project: | 5/15 – 7/15 |

| WHAT OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS?<br>(e.g., journal club, seminars, clinic, rounds) | Student will be provided with AI related conference and seminar opportunities. Student will be instructed how to build an online survey on Qualtrics. Student will also be provided with weekly meeting for instruction of the project process. |
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| WHERE DO YOU PLAN TO PRESENT OR PUBLISH THE FINDINGS WITH THE STUDENT?<br>(e.g., national or state meetings, newsletter or journal, SHP poster day) | The findings will be submitted as a proposal in national conferences in the counseling field. This applicant is already invited to American Counseling Association and New Jersey Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association to present with this topic with a high interest of the audience and plan to present this project in those conferences again that will provide empirical evidence.<br>It will also be documented for a publication in peer-reviewed journals in the counseling field. |

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## CHECK ALL APPROPRIATE BOXES BELOW AND PROVIDE REQUESTED INFORMATION.

This project is: ☐ clinical   ☐ laboratory   ☐ behavioral   ☐ survey   v☐ educational

☐ Other: please specify_____

☐ vThis project involves the use of human subjects (including chart review, retrospective studies and questionnaires).

Pending v☐      Approved ☐      IRB Protocol Number: Pro2025000372

*IRB approval must be obtained by June 2025*

Signed by:

_____          3/21/2025 | 11:26:52 EDT
733668523314404...                                    _____
Signature of Department Chair                          Date