

Alex R. Wendel, Ph.D., LPC

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EDUCATION

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

- 2024 Ph.D. - Counselor Education & Supervision – Dissertation: “Finding Flourishing: Assessing the Relationship between Counselor Wellness, Compassion Satisfaction, and the Intellectual and Moral Virtues”
- 2022 Th.M - Master of Theology
- 2018 M.A. - Counseling: Specialization in Clinical Mental Health
- 2018 M.A. - Christian Apologetics

Louisiana State University

- 2015 B. S. - Psychology with a Minor in English

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- 2023 *L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary*
Paper titled “Tidings of Comfort and Joy: Trinitarian Processions, Participation in God, and The Holy Spirit’s Formation of Human Holiness” won 3rd place in the paper competition in conjunction with the [*Exploring Personhood: Human Formation*](#) conference.
- 2018 *James A. Headrick Award for Excellence in Christian Counseling*
Award is voted on by the Division of Counseling and given to one graduate per year to acknowledge significant academic and clinical achievement during their time in the Masters in Counseling program.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

- Assistant Professor of Counseling 2024 – Present
- Director of Clinical Training 2023 – Present
- Adjunct Instructor 2022 – 2024

Masters Courses Taught:

- “Trauma: Theories and Treatments”
- “Brief Approaches to Individual, Marriage, and Family Counseling”

“Counseling Theories & Treatment”

“Cognitive Behavior Therapy with Individuals and Families”

PhD Courses Taught:

“Leadership, Advocacy, and Counselor Identity”

Fuller Theological Seminary: 2024 – Present

Affiliate Faculty

Masters Courses Taught:

“Life Development and Career Counseling”

Regent University: 2024 – Present

Adjunct Instructor

Masters Courses Taught:

“Counseling and Christian Thought”

“Concepts of Family Systems”

California Baptist University: 2023 – Present

Adjunct Instructor

Masters Courses Taught:

“Family Therapy II”

“Advanced Psychopathology”

“Human Communication in Group Process”

“Psychopharmacology”

Undergraduate Courses Taught:

“Abnormal Psychology”

Leavell College: 2020 – 2023

Adjunct Instructor

Undergraduate Courses Taught:

“Intro to Psychology”

“Theological Implications of Mental Illness”

“Marriage and Family Issues”

PROFESSIONAL, CLINICAL, & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2023 - Present **Director of Clinical Training**, Counseling Division at New Orleans Baptist
Theological Seminary

- Provide clinical and administrative oversight to students in clinical practice
- Ensure CACREP guidelines for clinical internships are being met
- Participate in gatekeeping and remediation planning for students

- Manage and oversee clinical supervisors
 - Coordinate partnerships with external sites and distance students
 - Manage clinical training software, Tevera, for the department
- 2020 - 2023 **Associate Director** of the Leeke Magee Christian Counseling Center
- Supervise students in clinical training
 - Oversee and manage interns during the course of their clinical training
 - Maintain client waiting list and coordinate counselor-client placements
 - Manage electronic health record system (EHR), “Penelope”
 - Assist Counseling Division with CACREP accreditation process
 - Assist Counseling Division with annual grant and presidential reports
 - Oversaw reopening of the center following Federal COVID-19 guidelines
- 2021- Present Licensed Professional Counselor at “Refuge 18-2 Counseling Center”
- 2018-2019 Inpatient Therapist at Northlake Behavioral Health System
- 2017-2020 Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor at Northshore Family Counseling

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 “The Therapeutic Task of Theology,” *Theology in Research and Practice* Column in the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* [forthcoming]
- 2024 “Sufficiently Sapiential Soul Care: A Working Paper in Therapeutic Theology,” *Southeastern Theological Review* 15(1): 21-31.
- 2023 “The Theological Task of Therapy,” *Theology in Research and Practice* Column in the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* 42(4): 368-370
- 2022 “A Christian Psychology Approach to Counselor Wellness: Instilling and Improving Counselor Wellness in Clinical Supervision,” *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* 41(4): 265-277.
- 2022 “Trauma-Informed Theology or Theologically Informed Trauma? Traumatic Experiences and Theological Method,” *Journal of Reformed Theology* 16(1): 3-26.

Book Reviews

- 2021 “*Positive Psychology in Christian Perspective: Foundations, Concepts, and Applications* by Charles Hackney,” *Journal for Baptist Theology and Ministry* 18(2): 315-318.

- 2021 “*God on the Brain: What Cognitive Science Does (and Does not) Tell us about Faith, Human Nature, and the Divine*” by Bradley L. Sickler,” *Journal for Baptist Theology and Ministry* 18(1): 124-127.

Online and Other Published Work

- 2022 Review of: Dunnington, Kent. *Addiction & Virtue: Beyond the Models of Disease and Choice* Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011. For *London Lyceum* ([May 27](#)).
- 2022 “The Pains and Promises of Parenthood in Fredrik Backman’s *Beartown*” *Christ and Pop-Culture Magazine* ([March 2](#)).
- 2022 “Modern (Psycho)social Imaginaries: Towards a Taylorian Critique of Pop-Psychology,” *MereOrthodoxy* ([February 8](#)).
- 2021 “The Hole in our Soul Care: Searching for a Road Forward for Pastoral Care,” *MereOrthodoxy* ([April 12](#)).

Other Professional Activities

- 2023 Reviewer, *Christian Scholar’s Review*
- 2022 Reviewer, *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*
- 2021 Mental health consultant for *Wonderfully Made* Catechism small group series addressing body image issues in GenZ youth in the church for Feed Bible App at [OneHope.net](#).

PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 *Christian Association for Psychological Studies* “Emerge” Conference (Mar. 21-23)
- “Trauma-Informed Treatment Planning: The Role of Spirituality in the Treatment of Trauma”
 - Co-presented with Ashley Jamison, PhD.
 - “The God Image Clinical Matrix (GICM): A Clinical Conceptualization Tool for Addressing Spiritual Abuse and Relational Rupture with God”
 - Poster presentation with Josiah J. Robinson
- 2023 *Louisiana Counseling Association* (Oct. 10)
- “Gatekeeping as Counselor Educators and Supervisors: An Ethical Mandate and Opportunity to Serve”
 - Co-presented with Craig Garrett, PhD
- 2023 *Christian Association for Psychological Studies* “Emerge” Conference (Mar. 18-19)
- “King, Father, Friend, Bridegroom: A Scripture- and God-Image-Informed Clinical Framework for Addressing Relational Rupture with God”
 - Co-presented with Josiah J. Robinson

- “Values, Virtues, & Vitality after Trauma: Combining Core Principles of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy with Christian Virtue Theory to Encourage Post-Traumatic Growth”
- 2023 *Christian Counseling Symposium at Southeastern Seminary* (Mar. 11-12)
 - Participated in inaugural conference
 - Presented paper titled “Sufficiently Sapiential Soul-Care: A Working Paper in Therapeutic Theology”
- 2022 *New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Christian Counseling Conference* Theme: “Family Issues” (Nov. 5)
 - “Getting our ACT Together: Utilizing Acceptance & Commitment Therapy Interventions with Adolescents & Families
- 2022 *Louisiana Counseling Association* (Sept. 27)
 - “Get your ACT Together! Implementing Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Interventions with Adolescents”
 - “Counselor Wellness as a Professional Disposition: A Virtue-Based Approach to Instilling and Improving Counselor Wellness in Clinical Supervision”
- 2022 *Southwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society* (April 1-2)
 - “Fractured and Fragmented: The Depersonalizing Effects of Traumatic Experiences and the Repersonalizing Power of Christian Theology”
- 2022 *Christian Association for Psychological Studies* “Empowered” Conference (Mar. 18)
 - “Foundations of Counselor Wellness: A Christian Psychology Proposal for Instilling & Improving Counselor Wellness in Clinical Supervision”
 - “Psychotic and Spiritual: Faith Integration for Clients Experiencing Psychosis”
 - Copresented with Jamie Klemashevich, LPC, ThM.
- 2022 *Defend the Faith* apologetics conference, New Orleans, LA (Jan. 5)
 - “Trauma and Worldview: Traumatic Experiences and Apologetic Method”
- 2021 *New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Christian Counseling Conference*, Theme: “Adolescent Issues” (Nov. 5)
 - “Restoring Trust Between Adolescents and Parents: Moving Past the Lies”
 - Copresented with Jeff Nave, Ph.D.
- 2021 *Louisiana Counseling Association* (Oct. 19)
 - “You Better ACT Right! Utilizing Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Principles and Interventions with Adolescents”
- 2021 *Oxford Symposium on Religious Studies* (Aug. 2)
 - “Navigating the Nova: The Clarity of Christ in a Confusing Culture”
- 2021 *Christian Association for Psychological Studies* “Revived” Conference (Mar. 26)

- “Counseling as Liturgy: Demonstrating Doctrine in Christian Counseling”
- Poster presentation
- 2020 *Caring During COVID-19* counseling conference at NOBTS (Nov. 15)
 - “Diagnosis & Conceptualization of Addictions and Chemical Dependency”
-Co-presented with Jeff Nave, Ph.D.
- 2018 *Defend the Faith* apologetics conference, New Orleans, LA (Jan. 15)
 - “Theological Anthropology in a Secular Age”

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

- 2021- Present Licensed Professional Counselor
 - *Louisiana State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors*
- 2018 - 2021 Provisionally Licensed Professional Counselor
 - *Louisiana State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors*
- 2017 - Present Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Trained Clinician
 - *EMDR International Association*
- 2016 - Present Prepare/Enrich Certified
 - *Prepare/Enrich*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2021 - Present *Louisiana Counseling Association*
 - Member of Louisiana Association for Spiritual, Religious, and Ethical Values in Counseling (*LASERVIC*)
- 2021 - Present *Evangelical Theological Society*
- 2020 - Present *Christian Association of Psychological Studies*
- 2018 - Present *American Counseling Association*

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Virtue-based approaches to improving wellness for counselors-in-training within clinical supervision
- Traumatic experiences and theological and apologetic methodology
- A Thomistic approach to Interpersonal Neurobiology
- Examining and appraising Herman Bavinck’s theological psychology in therapeutic perspective

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Theological Foundations of Counseling
- Counselor Education & Supervision
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)
- Improving and maintaining counselor wellness