



Michael Kenney, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work and Human Services. He is a recent transplant to the Atlanta Metro area, having relocated from Chicago where he was a psychotherapist in both agency and private practice. Michael earned his B.A. in psychology at the University of Chicago, and both his MSW and PhD in Clinical Social Work at Loyola University Chicago. For the past 12 years, Michael worked at the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago where he provided psychotherapy for individuals who did not have health insurance or could not afford to see a therapist in private practice. Michael's work experience as a psychotherapist has afforded him the opportunity to assist clients in coping with a diverse range of mental health challenges including depression, anxiety, recovery from abuse and trauma, psychosis, and relationship issues. He is mindful of how issues of oppression can psychologically impact a client's self-esteem, particularly if one is labeled by others as "different." He has extensive experience working with clients who identify with the LGBTQI community from an affirmative perspective. He believes that the struggle to find fulfillment and inner peace is a universal challenge for all human beings and that psychotherapy can serve as a means of developing a compassionate stance towards oneself and others. In addition to his work as a

psychotherapist, Michael was an adjunct faculty member in the School of Social Work at Loyola University Chicago prior to working at KSU. Michael's academic interests include psychoanalytic theory, attachment theory, gender discourse, integrative models of psychotherapy, qualitative research methods, mindfulness, and neurobiology.

