

Nicole L. Kinney, MA, LPCA, NCC
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EDUCATION

Columbia International University (CIU) | *Ph.D., Counselor Education & Supervision* Exp. Aug 2026

- Dissertation: *Students' Experiences of Spiritual Abuse in Evangelical Christian Higher Education*

Columbia International University (CIU) | *Master of Arts, Clinical Counseling* May 2023

University of Delaware (UD) | *Master of Arts, Linguistics* May 2015

University of Delaware (UD) | *Honors Bachelor of Arts, Linguistics and German Studies* May 2014

- Member, *Phi Beta Kappa*

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

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- South Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (#8559) July 2023 – Present
 - National Certified Counselor, *National Board for Certified Counselors* June 2023 – Present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Counselor & Owner | Ember Counseling, LLC | Columbia, SC Mar. 2026 – Present

- Provide individual mental health counseling in-person and virtually with an emphasis on mood disorders, spiritual issues, and identity development.
- Oversee business operations, including client scheduling, billing, marketing, and HIPAA-compliant clinical documentation.

Associate Professor, School of Counseling | CIU | Columbia, SC Jan. 2026 – Present

- Courses taught: Professional Orientation and Ethics (residential, Spring 2026); Assessments (residential, Spring 2026); Practicum (residential, Summer 2026).
- Update and implement curriculum changes and course content.
- Serve as faculty advisor for graduate student group (Grad Life Council) by attending and overseeing student meetings and activities, mentoring student leaders, transitioning leadership, and ensuring university policy compliance.

Associate Counselor | Lexington Christian Counseling | Lexington, SC Nov. 2024 – Mar. 2026

- Provided mental health counseling to community members with an emphasis on mood disorders, spiritual issues, and identity development.

Adjunct Instructor, School of Counseling | CIU | Columbia, SC Aug. 2024 – Dec. 2025

- Courses taught: Career Counseling (residential, Fall 2024); Assessments (residential, Spring 2025); Practicum (virtual, Summer 2025); Foundations of Clinical Mental Health Counseling (residential and virtual, Fall 2025).

Program Therapist I, Day Treatment Program | Prisma Health | Columbia, SC Aug. 2023 – Oct. 2024

- Facilitated group, family, and individual counseling sessions for adult and adolescent behavioral health and substance use patients in partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient programs.
- Scheduled and facilitated biopsychosocial assessments to determine appropriate level of care.
- Documented and maintained HIPAA-compliant patient records.
- Completed chart auditing for accreditation compliance.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Counseling | Campbell University | Virtual Jan. 2024 – Mar. 2024

- Facilitated virtual experiential group meetings for masters-level group counseling course.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- **Kinney, N.** (2026, June 24). *Recognizing, Preventing, and Healing Spiritual Abuse* [Presentation]. Lexington Christian Counseling Training Series, Lexington, SC.
- Roudkovski, K., Klemashevich, J., & **Kinney, N.** (2026, March 26-28). *The State of Research on Spiritual Abuse: Key Findings and Clinical Implications* [Conference session]. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Columbus, OH.
- **Kinney, N.** (2025, August 5). *Recognizing, Preventing, and Healing Spiritual Abuse* [Presentation]. CareCola Monthly Gathering, Columbia, SC.
- **Kinney, N.** and Herzel, K. (2025, March 20-22). *Transforming our Campuses: Recognizing, Healing, and Preventing Religious Abuse in Christian Higher Education and Training Programs*. [Conference session]. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
- Scott, S. L. and **Kinney, N.** (2024, March 21-23). *The Implications of Context-Dependent Learning for Faith Integration Practice in Counseling* [Conference session]. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Scott, S. L. and **Kinney, N.** (2024, March 21-23). *Program Characteristics that Produce High-Quality Faculty for Faith-Based Graduate Counseling Programs* [Poster presentation]. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Nanna, G. and **Kinney, N.** (2023, March 30-April 1). *Facilitating Post Traumatic Growth with Clients Recovering from Religious Trauma and Spiritual Abuse* [Conference session]. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Louisville, KY.
- **Kinney, N.** (2023, March 30-April 1). *The Prevalence and Severity of Spiritual Abuse in the Lives of Counseling Students at a Christian University* [Poster presentation]. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Louisville, KY.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Christian Association of Psychological Studies (CAPS)
- Association of Counselors, Counselor Educators, Supervisors, & Students (CAPS - ACCESS)
- American Counseling Association (ACA)
- Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACA – ACES)
- Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACA – SACES)
- South Carolina Counseling Association (SCCA)
- American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR) Training, *Zero Suicide Institute* Mar. 2024
- Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training, *Crisis Prevention Institute* Feb. 2024
- TF-CBTWeb2.0 Certificate, *Medical University of Southern California* Apr. 2022
- Rational-Emotive Behavior Therapy (REBT) Primary Practicum, *Albert Ellis Institute* Feb. 2022