

Psychology - Counseling

Michael DiFeo

Submitted by Leida Tolentino on behalf of the Psychology Department

Michael DiFeo is on a mission. A former chemical engineer, Mike returned to college in order to pursue an alternate career in psychology. In his determined quest to become a counselor, he sought wide exposure to the field and excelled beyond expectation in a variety of courses, while also holding the title of Psychology Club Vice President. Mike's intrinsic motivation, mature intelligence, and impeccable work ethic are a testament to his ability to succeed and makes him singular among his peers. Psychology faculty recommend him with the highest honors, and wish him the best in graduate school!

Michael's Words of Gratitude

Thank you so much to the SBCC Psychology Department faculty for honoring me with this award. This was completely unexpected, and I am grateful to have met such wonderful professors during my transition year to grad school. I would not have been accepted into a PsyD program without you! There are a few professors that have been especially instrumental in helping me achieve my goals that I'd like to recognize:

- 1) Dr. Joshua Ramirez – thank you for being an excellent professor in a class (Human Sexuality) that is very important to my career goals as a clinical psychologist – you made me question a lot of things I otherwise would never have considered. You also have been a fantastic advisor to me in the Psychology Club, and I am so thankful for the letter of recommendation that you wrote for me.
- 2) Dr. Spencer Sherman – you were an outstanding professor to have for General Psychology, and you helped broaden my idea of what it means to be a therapist beyond the traditional sense. I am also extremely appreciative of you for the letter of recommendation, and I am thankful to have learned about your experience in private practice! I am reading “The Gift of Therapy” as we speak.

3) Dr. Leida Tolentino – I am grateful to have had you for two classes this semester, as both have been extremely enjoyable. I appreciate the unique perspective you have taught me regarding movement/dance therapy, and you have provided helpful guidance regularly throughout the semester.

4) Professor Kim Mangel – you did a phenomenal job teaching a challenging class (Statistics) in a no frills, to the point, and straightforward manner. Your approach with multiple methods of instruction really helped the material stick with me, and you helped grow my interest in a subject I already appreciated. I can't recommend you enough!