



Name: Terry (Theresa) L. Sass

Hometown: NYC; Boston since 1986

Program and degree: Lynch School of Education, Counseling Psychology, PhD

Year: year of graduation 2011

Undergraduate institution: Yale University

How I found my way to Boston College: I was inspired to return to school as the next step in a journey that has included travel, all sorts of odd jobs, and years of work with adolescents and adults as a teacher, administrator, counselor and health educator (as well as having three kids!) I was interested in the work of several BC Counseling Psychology faculty members, and felt it would be a good match.

Summary of my research, teaching, service at Boston College: My research is within the Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture (ISPRC). I work on the annual Diversity Challenge Conference, as well as on research addressing the effects of racism, discrimination and social inequities on mental health – a particular area of interest is families and communities. My clinical work includes family, couples and individual therapy at a community mental health center, as well as leading girls groups in Boston area schools.

How I define being a representative of diversity: Being involved in an ongoing learning process, being open, and committed to social justice and inclusion.

How I define the word diversity: see above.

What I hope to do with my fellowship: Without this fellowship I would not be able to attend graduate school. I am taking this opportunity to develop skills in practice and research, and expand my thinking. With a PhD I hope to have greater impact in my work.