Dr. Samantha Broitman is an organizational psychologist with more than 15 years of experience as both an internal learning and organization development leader and external management consultant. She has held positions at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Warner Bros. Entertainment, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

What drew you to teach in MAPP?

I started out my career doing external consulting, and I also worked within organizations. When I learned about MAPP I thought it was a perfect fit for me: I was looking for the opportunity not only to teach but also to mentor those who are considering a career in organizational psychology. I am really here to support and guide the students in their careers, help them focus on where their passions may be, and really be able to connect them to the industry that I know.

Describe your class on group dynamics and leadership.

As it’s an advanced elective, I ask my students to examine leadership from both sides. They may be leading a team but if they’re not, they’re going to be members of teams and be able to influence the effectiveness of that team. If they are in a human resources or consultant role where they are able to provide insight into what could work better for the team, it gives them the language and the exposure to feel confident doing that.

What are career opportunities in organizational psychology?

Organizational psychology touches on all aspects of an organization: from teams within organizations to individuals and their career progression. Other aspects—such as organization design, strategy, and organizational change management—can exist in different business units, such as strategy or business development. These are divisions that could use somebody with our types of skills.

How does MAPP provide students with an edge in the job market?

The treatise opportunity sets candidates apart because it gives them depth in a particular area. Additionally, because the program is a Master’s in Science, it gives individuals the experience with research, providing more rigor and intelligence in terms of the evaluation of business problems or programs and offering solutions.

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