

Master of Science in Counseling with specialization in Clinical Mental Health

63 credits

Specific Program Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, or from an internationally recognized institution with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
2. Official transcripts from all previous undergraduate educational institutions.
3. Two letters of recommendation completed by professionals who can assess the applicant's aptitude for graduate education in counseling.
4. A 2–4-page personal essay describing the student's aptitude for graduate education in counseling.
5. A resumé or curriculum vitae (CV).
6. An Interview with a representative from Academics.
7. This program will not award transfer credits to students who have partially completed their degrees in other institutions.

Program Description

The Master of Science in Counseling with specialization in Clinical Mental Health is designed to prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary to work with clients presenting with a range of mental and emotional disorders, as well as to promote mental health and wellness. Students will gain knowledge and skills through a range of treatment, individual and group counseling, appraisal and referral and coordination with professional agencies/providers to support both individuals and families.

Program Objectives

1. To demonstrate knowledge about the philosophy, history, and current and future trends in the counseling profession.
2. To recognize, understand, and respond to social and cultural differences and change in our society.
3. To understand human behavior and development.
4. To be able to apply ethical practices in the design, implementation, counseling practice, and evaluation of program to ensure developmentally appropriate counseling interventions and programs.
5. To demonstrate knowledge and skills in the counseling process, career development, and consultations skills.
6. To be able to apply knowledge, theory, and skills to work effectively with clients in a variety of modalities (individual, group, family) and to use crisis intervention, brief counseling, and long-term approaches.
7. To perform individual and group counseling.
8. To demonstrate knowledge and skills in gathering, analyzing, interpreting, and presenting data about individuals.
9. To apply assessment techniques with individuals and groups.
10. To be able to read, critique, utilize and contribute to professional research literature and program evaluation.

Program sequence will be available at the time of enrollment.
The language of instruction and program delivery modality are subject to availability.

Programmatic Academic Achievement Requirements

1. Students must earn a minimum of C in all courses, except in the Practicum and Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling courses.
2. Students must earn a grade of "A" or "B" in Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC 607), Internship I in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC 608) and Internship II in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC 609).
3. Students can repeat Practicum and Internship Supervised courses Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC 607), Internship I in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC 608) and Internship II in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC 609), for a maximum of two occasions. Students may only repeat for the second and last time with the approval and recommendation of a Committee composed of the Program Associate Director, Practicum and Internship Coordinator and the Practicum/Internship Faculty Instructor of the Mental Health Counseling graduate program.
4. The student must pass the Comprehensive Exam. Accumulated Credits Required and Retention Index Accumulated credits are the sum of the credits corresponding to the courses the student registers in annually and those accepted as transfer. To complete a degree, a student must complete all academic requirements in a period of time not to exceed 150% of the total credit hours required to obtain the degree. The total of approved credits to complete the degree must meet a minimum average for graduation as established by major. Internship/externship and practicum requirements Students must abide with the required hours, procedures and policies set by the state and local agencies for internship/externship and practicum experiences. Also, students must comply with state and local certification requirements for the academic program, as applicable. Furthermore, students must comply with all requirements established by the internship/externship and practicum centers.

Program Curriculum

Core / Professional Courses		
Course	Title	Credits
COUN 500	The Counseling Profession	3
COUN 501	Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Counseling	3
COUN 502	Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy	3
COUN 503	Research Methods and Statistics	3
COUN 504	Human Growth and Development	3
COUN 505	Counseling and Advocacy with Diverse Populations	3
COUN 506	Theories and Counseling in Career Development	3
COUN 507	Comprehensive Assessment in Counseling	3
COUN 508	Communication Skills, Consultation and Collaboration in Counseling	3
COUN 509	Group Counseling: Dynamics and Practice	3
COUN 510	Crisis Intervention Counseling	3
Total		33
Specialization Courses		
Course	Title	Credits
CMHC 600	Introduction to Mental Health Counseling	3
CMHC 601	Psychopathology and Diagnosis	3
CMHC 602	Advanced Mental Health Counseling Approaches and Interventions	3
CMHC 603-A or CMHC 603-B	Applied Neuroscience and Psychopharmacology for Counselors or Human Sexuality*	3
CMHC 604	Counseling Children and Adolescents	3
CMHC 605	Couples and Family Counseling	3
CMHC 606	Addictions Counseling	3
Total		21
Internship and Practicum Courses		
Course	Title	Credits
CMHC 607	Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling**	3
CMHC 608	Internship I in Clinical Mental Health Counseling***	3
CMHC 609	Internship II in Clinical Mental Health Counseling***	3
	Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE)****	0
Total		9
Total credits		63

Notes:

1. *Students who are pursuing to become a licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor in Florida state are required to take the Human Sexuality course.
2. ** The semester will include a Practicum with 14 weeks (100 hours) and 4 additional courses of 7 weeks for a total of 15 credits.
3. *** The semester will include an internship with 14 weeks (300 hours), 3 additional courses of 7 weeks and a Comprehensive Exam.
4. **** The student must pass the Comprehensive Exam. This is a graduation requirement.
5. This program will not award transfer credits to students who have partially completed their degrees in other institutions.
6. It is the responsibility of the student to evaluate whether the Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling meets the licensure requirements particular to the state in which they plan to practice.