

CLINICAL/COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, MS

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Mission and Outcomes

The mission of the Master of Science program in Clinical/Counseling Psychology is to prepare students to be competent, ethical practitioners of psychological services in the community. Students will develop skills in psychological assessment, and in a variety of therapeutic modalities, including individual therapy with adults and children; as well as family, couples, and group therapy. Graduates of the program will be able to apply knowledge from various theoretical frameworks (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic, humanistic) to intervene effectively with a wide variety of clinical concerns related to mental and emotional wellness. The program's training philosophy emphasizes the importance of recognizing the uniqueness of each individual and the influence of culture and ethnicity when providing services to people from diverse backgrounds. Students will be expected to develop self-awareness, empathy, and compassion for people living with mental illness as well as other factors that contribute to emotional distress. This program prepares graduates to work in a broad range of mental health settings. In addition, the program prepares students for doctoral training in clinical or counseling psychology, specifically.

Graduates of the program will be able to:

- Use critical thinking skills to assess mental health and implement effective interventions using a variety of therapeutic modalities and theoretical approaches (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic, humanistic).
- Understand and apply ethical standards to the provision of psychological services in the community.
- Demonstrate knowledge and skills to intervene effectively with individuals from varying cultural backgrounds.
- Interpret and apply research methods and statistical techniques to advance the study and practice of clinical psychology.
- Use interpersonal and written communication effectively and professionally.

Additional Admission Requirements

In addition to the general requirement of the School of Graduate Studies, admission to the Master of Science in Clinical/Counseling Psychology program will be based upon the following:

- A completed undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. **Application deadline is March 15th (February 1st for International Applicants).**
 - New students are only accepted for fall semester. Applications received or finalized after this deadline will be considered for the next review period.
- A minimum of 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
 - Typical GRE score (combined Verbal & Quantitative) for accepted applicants is 280 or higher.
 - The GRE General test is required; scores for the psychology subject test will not be accepted.

- For applicants with a cumulative 3.0 or higher GPA from the applicant's degree-granting institution, submission of GRE scores is optional.
- For applicants whose cumulative GPA is 2.75-2.99 from the applicant's degree-granting institution, submission of GRE scores is required. Applications will not be reviewed without the submission of scores by the deadline.
- Statement of Purpose that is a maximum of two (2) typewritten pages, single-spaced. The statement should describe the applicant's pertinent and professional experience and education, as well as their interests and goals in pursuing the Master of Science in Clinical/Counseling Psychology degree.
 - A resume or curriculum vitae (CV) must also be attached to the end of personal statement.
- 2 letters of recommendation
 - Preferably from a previous faculty who can speak to the applicant's preparedness for graduate study. If a faculty member is not available, professional recommendations are acceptable.
- Foundational Coursework: Introduction to Psychology, Human Development, Psychological Statistics, Research Methods, & Abnormal Psychology
 - A grade of C or higher in each course and course credit cannot be more than 10 years old.
 - A minimum of 3 courses must be completed and reflected on the applicant's transcript at the time of application.
- A required interview with the departmental admissions committee (by departmental invitation only; all applicants will not receive an interview).

International Applicants Only

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores: Required for applicants who have not earned a baccalaureate degree from a United States institution and whose native language is not English. The minimum score on the written test is 550, 78 on the internet-based test, and 213 on the computer-based test.
- GPA conversion (if needed)
- Application Deadline is February 1st.

Requirements

In order to be awarded the Master of Science (MS) in Clinical/Counseling Psychology, a student will complete a minimum of 60 hours of coursework. Additionally, all students awarded the MS in Clinical/Counseling degree must successfully pass the comprehensive exam and complete 600 supervised clinical hours. *Please note that all students must complete and submit an electronic copy of a Master's Degree Plan of Study during the first semester of the program.* Modifications to the suggested plan of study may result in an increase in the length of time to graduation.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- a. Use critical thinking skills to assess mental health and implement effective interventions using a variety of therapeutic modalities and theoretical approaches (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic, humanistic).
- b. Understand and apply ethical standards to the provision of psychological services in the community.

- c. Demonstrate knowledge and skills to intervene effectively with individuals from varying cultural backgrounds.
- d. Interpret and apply research methods and statistical techniques to advance the study and practice of clinical psychology.
- e. Use interpersonal and written communication effectively and professionally.

Brian M. Goldman
 Christina Grange, Practicum Coordinator
 Pinar Gurkas
 Charlie Harris
 Chizara A. Jones
 Samuel Maddox
 Antoinette Miller, Department Chair
 J. Celeste Walley-Jean, Dean, School of Graduate Studies
 Eckart Werther

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Clinical/Counseling Required Courses		60
PSYC 5000	Advanced Development	3
PSYC 5020	Cultural Issues in Applied	3
PSYC 5040	Advanced Research Methods and	3
PSYC 5160	The Helping Relationship	3
PSYC 5350	Adv Psychopathology & Diag	3
PSYC 5170	Theories and Practice	3
PSYC 5190	Theories & Practice w/ Youth	3
PSYC 5110	Ethics in Clinical Settings	3
PSYC 5280	Dev. Disorders & Psychopath	3
PSYC 6120	Intro to Psychological Assess	3
PSYC 6520	Career Development Theory & Pr	3
PSYC 6800	Special Topics in Clinical Psy	3
PSYC 6885	Prof Identity & Practice	3
PSYC 5150	Group Therapy	3
PSYC 6500	Psychopharmac & Drugs of Abuse	3
PSYC 6510	Grief & Crisis Intervention	3
PSYC 6590	Clinical Practicum	3
PSYC 6591	Clinical Practicum II	3
PSYC 5180	Advanced Theories & Practice	3
PSYC 5200	Family and Couples Therapy	3
Comprehensive Exam (Required)		0
PSYC 6900	Clinical Comprehensive Exam ¹	0
Total Credit Hours		60

¹ The Clinical/Counseling program requires students to take the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) to assess proficiency of knowledge gained from matriculation in the program. The exam will be administered in the spring semester of the student's second year. Eligible students take the exam at the first available testing date. The exam covers the following areas: Human Growth and Development, Social and Cultural Diversity, Helping Relationship, Group Work, Career Development, Assessment, Research and Program Evaluation, Professional Orientation and Ethical Practice, and Psychopathology. All Clinical/Counseling students are required to successfully pass the comprehensive exam. More information on the CPCE can be found here: <https://www.cce-global.org/assessmentsandexams/cpce> (<https://www.cce-global.org/assessmentsandexams/cpce/>)

Faculty

Eric Bridges
 Mark Daddona
 Deborah Deckner-Davis
 Catherine G. Deering
 Nichelle Gause, Clinical Program Director