

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION - CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program offers a Master of Arts in Education. This degree program requires the successful completion of 60 credit hours of graduate education. Completion of the MAE in Clinical Mental Health Counseling provides graduates with the academic requirements toward mental health licensure in Nebraska. Along with the MAE degree, graduates who successfully pass the National Counselor Examination (NCE) will be prepared to apply for the provisional Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (PLMHP) license in Nebraska.

Graduate Counseling Program Mission

The mission of the CSC Graduate Counseling Program is to prepare quality professional counselors for careers with state, regional, or national public and private mental health agencies, mental health institutions, and educational systems. We are committed to producing ethically and culturally competent counselors who demonstrate professional leadership with a purposeful commitment to client advocacy, and social justice, for the western High Plains States and the broader pluralistic nation.

Graduate Counseling Program Objectives

1. The Counseling Program strives to educate academically prepared counselors.
2. The Counseling Program strives to produce diverse counselors.
3. The Counseling Program strives to develop dispositionally appropriate counselors manifesting clear counseling professional identities.

Graduate Counseling Program Student Learning Outcomes

As a result of successfully completing the Graduate Counseling Program, graduates will be able to:

1. *Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical-Practice:* Develop a professional identity as a counselor, demonstrate an understanding of the counseling profession, and demonstrate a willingness to provide counseling services within the ethical guidelines of the counseling profession.
2. *Social and Cultural Diversity:* Demonstrate an understanding of the social and cultural influences, the effects of power and privilege, and the impact of acculturative experience on the counseling process.
3. *Human Growth and Development:* Develop an understanding of developmental aspects of human growth and appreciation for the nature of human development and its integration within the counseling process.
4. *Career Development:* Develop an understanding of career development and approaches for conceptualizing the interrelationships between work, mental wellbeing, and other life roles within counseling.
5. *Counseling and Helping Relationships:* Gain significant knowledge and application of major counseling theories in the context of individual, family, group, and crisis counseling. Demonstrate effective individual counseling techniques that facilitate client growth and the ability to evaluate progress toward treatment goals.

6. *Group Counseling and Group Work:* Develop both experiential and theoretical understandings of group purpose, development, dynamics, counseling theories, group counseling methods and skills, and other group approaches.
7. *Assessment and Testing:* Gain knowledge and skills in assessment techniques and apply basic concepts to individuals and group appraisal.
8. *Research and Program Evaluation:* Develop the ability to read, critique, evaluate, and contribute to professional research literature.
9. *Clinical Mental Health Programs:* Practice counseling utilizing knowledge and application of various theories, dynamics, and techniques.
10. *School Counseling Program:* Develop a model for implementing a school counseling program.

Program of Study

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program prepares students to work professionally in various public and private counseling agencies. In Nebraska, as well as most states, counselors must be licensed by the state to engage in counseling or therapy.

Courses

Listed below is the course work required by the Program:
Note: EDCI 631 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS should be completed within the first 12 credit hours of a student's program of study.

Code	Title	Credits
COUN 523	DIAGNOSES AND THE DSM	3
COUN 531	COUNSELING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS	3
COUN 532	TREATMENT ISSUES IN ADDICTIONS	3
COUN 533	COUNSELING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY	3
COUN 534	FUNDAMENTALS OF ASSESSMENT	3
COUN 535	MULTICULTURAL COUNSELING	3
COUN 536	FAMILY DEVELOPMENT	3
COUN 541	COUNSELING THEORIES	3
COUN 629	COUNSELING CHILDREN	3
COUN 630	CRISIS COUNSELING	3
COUN 631	PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING	3
COUN 632	CAREER AND LIFESTYLE DEVELOPMENT	3
COUN 634	GROUP COUNSELING	3
COUN 636	FAMILY COUNSELING	3
COUN 637	ADVANCED HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	3
COUN 639A	PRACTICUM IN COUNSELING	3
COUN 639B	PRACTICUM IN COUNSELING	3
COUN 640	INTERNSHIP IN COUNSELING	6
EDCI 631	RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS	3
Total Credits		60

Counseling Practicum

Counseling Practicum is a key course in the curriculum of the counseling program. Therefore, certain courses are instrumental for the experience of practicum. Because practicum is a developmental process, it is offered for three course credits both fall and spring. In order to register for COUN 639A PRACTICUM IN COUNSELING OR COUN 639B PRACTICUM IN

COUNSELING, a student must first complete with a grade of A or B in the following courses:

Code	Title	Credits
COUN 531	COUNSELING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS	3
COUN 533	COUNSELING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY	3
COUN 541	COUNSELING THEORIES	3
The following courses may be taken concurrently with COUN 639A: Practicum I only:		
COUN 535	MULTICULTURAL COUNSELING	3
COUN 634	GROUP COUNSELING	3
Total Credits		15

All other courses may be taken at any point in the program prior to COUN 639A PRACTICUM IN COUNSELING and COUN 639B PRACTICUM IN COUNSELING, which is the capstone course and must be the last course completed. Exceptions to this rule may be made on an individual basis. Please see your advisor.

Note: Students who are unable to finish their practicum in **six** course credits may need to enroll in additional credits for completion of this requirement. The Credentialing Division of the Department of Regulation and Licensure, Nebraska Health and Human Services System, generally approves CSC counseling courses for professional counseling continuing education (CE) credit. All students enrolled in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program must pass a comprehensive examination prior to receiving their degree. Please see your Graduate Counseling Student Handbook for information about this comprehensive examination.