

Clinical Mental Health Counseling, M.S.



The master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling prepares professional counselors whose psychological understanding of human persons and practice of counseling are essentially informed, shaped and given dimension by a biblically-based view of humankind. This degree is designed to meet Texas Licensed Professional Counselor's (LPC) academic requirements and meets most other state licensure academic requirements. Students seeking state licensure should check acceptance by any state other than Texas.



Getting Started...

Students who do not hold a regionally accredited undergraduate degree in counseling, psychology, social work, or a related area will be considered on a case by case basis and must successfully complete the following 6 hours of undergraduate courses:

- Abnormal Psychology
- Theories of Personality



Course Delivery Options

The majority of the psychology courses are offered both on-line & on-campus. Some courses are only offered on campus so we can most effectively equip students to meet state academic licensure requirements.





On-Campus Required Courses

The Harrison Graduate School's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program includes several on-campus requirements designed to meet Texas requirements for licensure purposes. On-campus required courses include:

- *Methods of Group Counseling*
- *Tests and Assessment*
- *Clinical Psychopathology*
- *Advanced Psychopathology and Treatment Planning*



Course Scheduling

While planning your course schedule, please keep in mind:

- On-campus courses during the fall and spring semesters meet once a week, Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, at 6:30–9:30pm.
- On-campus courses during the summer are offered as two-week intensive sessions. Class lectures meet for a four-hour period daily (Mon–Fri) per course: 8 am–12 pm, 1 pm–5 pm, and 6pm–10pm. Students use the rest of the summer to complete the coursework. In this way, a student can meet the on-campus lecture requirement for up to three courses maximum per summer.
- Courses in the Practicum and Internship Component Area will require synchronous supervision sessions. These sessions will be held virtually once a week in the evenings and will be required to complete the course.

Course Progression

- *Statistics* is prerequisite to *Psychological Methods & Research Design*
- *Clinical Psychopathology* is prerequisite to *Advanced Psychopathology & Treatment Planning*



A woman with her hair in a bun, wearing glasses, a white long-sleeved shirt, and grey patterned pants, sits on a wooden stool. She holds a clipboard and a pen, looking towards a young boy. The boy, with short brown hair, is wearing a light blue polo shirt, denim shorts, and blue sneakers with yellow laces. He sits on a large, yellow, crocheted ball. The background is a bright, playroom-like setting with a white wall, a framed picture of a red animal, and a blue and white striped rug.

Play Therapy Option

Students admitted into the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program have an opportunity to add a combination of four courses in Play Therapy to their transcript. These courses are taught by Registered Play Therapists with the purpose of preparing others to achieve certification in Play Therapy. Interested students should seek guidance from the Chair of the Behavioral Sciences program.



Staying in Contact

It is highly recommended that you stay in contact with your program coordinator at the beginning of each semester to aid you in the course selection process. They will have access to the projected course rotations and help you develop and maintain a personalized degree plan that matches your desired pace in relation to anticipated required course offerings.

Pre-Practicum

A foundation for all practicum and internship experiences, this course helps students to learn basic assessment, attending and interpersonal skills in working with children, adolescents and adults under faculty supervision. Consideration is given to the development of professionalism, proper utilization of the clinical interview and history taking as well as the application of counseling and psychotherapeutic approaches emphasizing skill development. Role playing and various laboratory exercises are provided that help to develop the student's professional skills. Prerequisites include COU 5153, COU 5143, PSY 5193, PSY 5743

Practicum

Students will complete a supervised practicum experience for 100 hours over a 10 week period. 40 hours must be direct services. Students will participate in individual and/or triadic supervision as well as group supervision with a site supervisor and counselor education program faculty member. Students must complete 1.5 hours of group supervision per week.

(Prerequisites: COU 5353, COU 6413).

Additional requirements includes a background check and specific insurance coverage.

Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling I and II

Students will complete a supervised internship experience for 300 hours over a semester (in combination with COU6993: Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling II, students must complete a total of 600 hours). 120 hours must be direct (during each internship). Students will participate in individual and/or triadic supervision as well as group supervision with a site supervisor and counselor education program faculty member. Students must complete 1.5 hours of group supervision per week. (Prerequisites: Graduate-standing and COU5353, COU6413, COU6963).



SKILLS

INTERNSHIP

EXPERIENCES

TRAINING



Comprehensive Exams

CMHC students must complete a Comprehensive Examination consisting of the parts, objective, essay and oral, during their final semester. At that time a Comprehensive Exam Course will be uploaded onto the student's Blackboard with detailed instructions outlined by the program coordinator. Each portion of the exam should be scheduled through the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program Coordinator. From the very beginning of the program, it would be wise for students to save all course work and syllabi in preparation for this final exam.



Current Behavioral Science Leaders

Behavioral Science Department Chair

- Department Chair- Dr. Mike Clarensau
- Assistant Department Chair- Dr. John Savell

Program Coordinators

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling – Dr. Nolan Jones
- Clinical Psychology – Dr. William Armistead
- Human Services Counseling – Dr. John Savell



Encouragement

from the Program Coordinator

As a counselor, I frequently reflect on the privilege it is that clients would enter my office and share with me their thoughts and struggles in their darkest moments. Clients will disclose things that they would never say to a loved one, pastor, or even friend. Such is the responsibility and nature of the counseling relationship. I never take lightly the opportunity that is afforded me to provide support and encouragement to these clients, and, more so, the opportunity to train others to do the same. You are about to embark on the journey that could afford you such moments to impact the lives of others and I encourage you to take advantage of every learning experience as you prepare for future work as a Clinical Mental Health Counselor.

Dr. Nolan Jones, LPC

COURSE OFFERINGS - Behavioral Sciences & Community Services Department

Course offerings are not guaranteed, but subject to change due to faculty availability.

03.10.21

MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Fa'21	Sp'22	Su'22	Fa'22	Sp'23	Su'23	Fa'23	Sp'24	Su'24	Fa'24	Sp'25	Su'25
COU5153 Professional Orientation, Ethical and Legal Issues	DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE	
COU5173 Human Growth and Life Span Development		DE			DE	DE		DE		DE		DE
COU5193 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy	DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE	
COU5243 Methods and Techniques in Counseling		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE
COU5273 Marriage and Family Counseling	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE
COU5283 Social and Cultural Diversity	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE
COU5353 Methods of Group Counseling	DE		DE			DE	DE		DE			DE
COU5363 Addictions Counseling	DE			DE			DE			DE		
COU5433 Tests and Assessment	DE		DE	DE			DE		DE	DE		
COU5563 Crisis Intervention		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE		DE	DE
COU5663 Personal Lifestyle and Career Development			DE		DE				DE		DE	
COU5743 Clinical Psychopathology (OC only)	OC		OC ^M	OC			OC		OC ^M	OC		
COU6133 Ethical and Legal Issues in Practice Management		DE			DE			DE			DE	
COU6413 Pre-Practicum	OC-DE		OC-DE	OC-DE		OC-DE	OC-DE		OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE
COU6963 Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE
COU6973 Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE
PSY5713 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	DE			DE			DE			DE		
PSY5733 Psychological Methods and Research Design		DE			DE			DE			DE	
PSY5813 Practicum in Counseling Psychology	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE									
PSY5823 Advanced Practicum in Counseling Psychology	OC-DE	OC-DE	OC-DE									
PSY6123 Advanced Psychopathology & Treatment Planning (OC only)		OC			OC	OC ^M		OC			OC	OC ^M