

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY (CLINICAL)

The master's degree in Counseling Psychology is designed to prepare 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.

Objectives

Upon completion of this program the student will be expected to:

1. Integrate and apply sound psychological and theological principles in such a way as to demonstrate respect to both disciplines.
2. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the etiology, symptoms, diagnosis, prognosis, and therapeutic methods applicable to the major psychological disorders of children, adolescents, adults, and senior adults.
3. Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills in human science research.
4. Demonstrate the effective utilization of counseling skills, focusing on a variety of emotional and mental needs.
5. Meet the educational and practicum requirements for Texas state licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor.

Prerequisites

The following prerequisites must be met for provisional admittance to begin taking Counseling Psychology curriculum:

1. The student must hold a regionally or professionally accredited undergraduate degree in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work or a related area.
2. Students not having met the aforementioned requirement must successfully complete the following twelve hours of undergraduate courses in Psychology:
 - PSY 1113 Psychology of Selfhood and the Christian Faith
 - PSY 3313 Abnormal Psychology
 - PSY 3333 Theories of Personality
 - PSY 4113 History and Systems in Psychology
3. Students must achieve a minimum score of 143 on the verbal and 3.0 on the analytical writing section on the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). This requirement is expected to be met before enrollment into any graduate level course. However, under special circumstances with approval from the Dean of the Graduate School, a student may enroll for one semester taking no more than 12 graduate hours prior to fulfilling the requirement of the GRE. No student will be allowed to enroll for a second semester without fulfilling the GRE requirement. All transfer students are required to meet the GRE requirement before enrollment. (Students who are graduates of SAGU with a 2.5 GPA will be conditionally admitted to the Harrison School of Graduate Studies without taking the GRE. After completing twelve hours of graduate work with GPA of 3.0 or higher, the student would then be accepted into the graduate school.)

Formal Program Admittance

By the time a student completes twelve hours in the School of Graduate Studies, the graduate faculty in Counseling Psychology will complete an evaluation of a student's ability to integrate graduate experience cognitively, clinically and spiritually. Upon successful completion of this evaluation, students gain formal admittance into the Counseling Psychology academic program.

Counseling Psychology (Clinical)

RESEARCH COMPONENT: 3 hours

PSY 5733 Psychological Methods and Research Design

PROFESSIONAL COMPONENT: 39 hours

COU 5113 Ethical and Legal Issues
 COU 5133 Counseling in a Pluralistic Society
 COU 5213 Methods and Techniques in Counseling
 COU 5313 Methods of Group Counseling
 COU 5413 Marriage and Family Counseling
 PSY 5143 Integrative Issues in the Behavioral Sciences
 PSY 5323 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy
 PSY 5413 Personal Lifestyle and Career Development
 PSY 5423 Crisis Intervention
 PSY 5513 Human Growth and Life Span Development
 PSY 5523 Tests and Assessment
 PSY 5623 Clinical Psychopathology
 PSY 5713 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences

PRACTICUM COMPONENT: 6 hours - 300 Clock hours

PSY 5813 Practicum in Counseling Psychology
 PSY 5823 Advanced Practicum in Counseling Psychology

TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS 48

Graduation Requirements

Students must apply for graduation and successfully pass the Graduate Comprehensive Examinations prior to being approved for graduation from the Registrar's office. Application for graduation must be made by the end of late registration in the semester in which the student anticipates to graduate. In order to qualify for a specific graduation date, graduating students must have all program and course requirements completed. Contact the Graduate Studies Office and the Registrar's Office for more information.

Special Insurance Requirement

All students enrolled in Counseling Psychology courses that involve student counseling (individual or group) are required to purchase and show proof of having liability insurance. Contact the Graduate Chair of the Counseling Psychology Program for additional information.

Play Therapy

Students admitted into the Counseling Psychology 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 Graduate Chair in Counseling Psychology.