

Master of Science Counseling



Program Objectives

The MS in Counseling program is designed to prepare professional counselors as human development teachers or facilitators whose primary function is to help individuals enhance life adjustment, facilitate personal growth, and expand behavioral competencies so that they can cope more effectively with their environment. Through the program students increase their self-awareness, their sensitivity to others, and their effectiveness as facilitators as they develop skills in counseling. The three major programs of study; marriage and family therapy, mental health counseling, and school guidance counseling, all fulfill the academic requirements for state licensure in their respective fields.

Program Description

The program is based on a developmental socialization model of intervention, which recognizes that at each developmental stage—throughout the lifespan, individuals face tasks that can lead to problems needing professional assistance. Counselor education is based on the belief that effective counselors are both personally and professionally integrated. For this reason, a balance between didactic and experiential learning is maintained.

Programs of Study

Mental Health Counseling

Prepares professionals for counseling positions in a wide variety of settings. Mental Health Counseling involves the application of the principles of psychotherapy, human development, learning theory, group dynamics, and the etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior. The applications are relevant to individuals, couples, families, and groups for the purpose of treating psychopathology and promoting optimal mental health.

Students take a core of required courses emphasizing generic skills and 2 elective courses. This program of study offers students the opportunity to apply for licensure in mental health counseling (L.M.H.C.).

School Guidance Counseling

Prepares professionals for counseling at either the elementary (PreK-8) or secondary (5-12) school levels, or both. Course work centers on preparation to work with children with serious emotional, cognitive, and behavioral disorders in a school environment. In addition, graduates are educated in methods to work effectively with teachers, parents, administrators, nurses, school psychologists, and other members of the school community to assist youngsters to obtain an appropriate education and to participate productively in society.

Admissions Resources

E-mail: gceadvisor@fsc.edu

Web site: www.fsc.edu/gce

For E-Advising



GCE
Virtual Advisor
fsc.edu/gce/virtualadvisor

This program of study offers students the opportunity to apply for Initial Licensure as an elementary school (PreK-8) and/or secondary school (5-12) guidance counselor.

Program Requirements

For all programs, students together with their advisors, must plan a program to meet the candidate's career goals. All courses must have advisor approval prior to registration.

I. Undergraduate Prerequisites	*12 S.H.
General Psychology	3 S.H.
Developmental Psychology	3 S.H.
Abnormal Psychology	3 S.H.
Statistics, Psychological Statistics or Applied Statistics for Counselors	3 S.H.

* Undergraduate credits are not figured into degree requirements for Graduate Study.

II. Eligibility for Practicum

See the College Catalog for details about Practicum Eligibility.

III. Graduate Requirements

Teacher Preparation & Educator Licensure web site:
www.fsc.edu/edcert/indexcert.html

Track Requirements

Mental Health Counseling

A minimum of 60 semester hours is required. Students must take:

- Fifty-four semester hours of required courses including 12 semester hours of Internship
- Six semester hours of electives

Phase I

PSY 7010	Counseling Theories and Techniques	3 S.H.
PSY 7020	Group Dynamics	3 S.H.

Phase II

PSY 7005	Mental Health and Family Counseling: Professional Practice, Standards and Ethics	3 S.H.
PSY 8030	Life Span Development	3 S.H.
PSY 8130	Psychopathology I: Diagnosis and Assessment	3 S.H.
PSY 8132	Psychopathology II: Treatment and Outcome	3 S.H.
PSY 8190	Social and Cultural Foundation: Issues in Counseling	3 S.H.
PSY 8215	Life Style and Career Development	3 S.H.
PSY 8300	Psychological Testing and Assessment: Theory and Practice	3 S.H.
PSY 8500	Counseling Techniques and Case Analysis: Individuals and Families	6 S.H.
PSY 8700	Group Work and Leadership in Mental Health Counseling	3 S.H.
PSY 8710	Family and Systems, Models and Interventions	3 S.H.
PSY 8950	Research and Program Evaluation	3 S.H.
PSY ****	Psychology Elective	6 S.H.

Phase III

PSY 9090	Internship in Mental Health Counseling	12 S.H.
Total for Degree		60 S.H.

School Guidance Counseling

A minimum of 54 semester hours is required. Students must take:

- Fifty-four semester hours of required courses, including 12 semester hours of Practicum

Phase I

PSY 7010	Counseling Theories	3 S.H.
PSY 7020	Group Dynamics	3 S.H.

Phase II

PSY 7000	School Counseling: Professional Practice, Standards & Ethics	3 S.H.
PSY 8010	Issues in Development: Counseling Children and Adolescents	3 S.H.
PSY 8100	Childhood Trauma and its Impact on School Based Services	3 S.H.
PSY 8190	Social and Cultural Foundations: Issues in Counseling	3 S.H.
PSY 8200	Principles of Guidance and Counseling	3 S.H.
PSY 8205	Psychology of Learning: Theory and Applications	3 S.H.
PSY 8210	Occupational Information and Career Counseling (For Secondary Certification, 5-12) or	
PSY 8220	Counseling in the Elementary School (For Elementary Certification, Pre-K-9)	3 S.H.
PSY 8300	Psychological Testing and Assessment: Theory and Practice	3 S.H.
PSY 8500	Counseling Techniques and Case Analysis: Individuals and Families	6 S.H.
PSY 8750	Group Work and Leadership in School Counseling	3 S.H.
PSY 8950	Research and Program Evaluation	3 S.H.

Phase III

PSY 9085	Practicum in School Counseling	12 S.H.
Total for Degree		54 S.H.

Note: Candidates seeking dual licensure (Pre-K-12) take both PSY 8210 and PSY 8220, graduating with 57 S.H.

Library Services: The Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library

The Library is located in the Hammond Building and provides daily services.

Web Site

The FSC Library maintains a home page (www.fsc.edu/library) on the Internet to provide information about the library such as hours, online reference services, research inquiries, and access to the library's catalog.

Online Resources

The library maintains subscriptions to electronic journals and databases that include indexes and abstracts; access to thousands of electronic journals with full-text articles; reference titles; and relevant subject based web-sites. They are available from the library home page and from off campus.

Materials Collection

The library houses an extensive collection of materials to support course work and faculty needs, including approximately 238,000 books, 1,300 print periodical subscriptions, and the complete ERIC document collection (online and microfilm).

Reference Services

The reference desk provides service daily. You can also call the Reference Desk (978-665-3223) or stop by the library for assistance.