

# Master of Science in Education Counseling with a Concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (MSEd)

## Overview

The master's degree program offers a curriculum that emphasizes the following core components: professional orientation and ethical practice; social and cultural diversity; human growth and development; career development; helping relationships; group work; assessment; and research and program evaluation. The MSEd in counseling includes two concentration areas: Clinical Mental Health Counseling or School Counseling.

**Clinical Mental Health Counseling** graduates meet the educational requirements to pursue the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) credential in Virginia. Clinical Mental Health Counseling graduates will be prepared to work in community mental health settings, college counseling centers, hospital-based behavioral health programs, the criminal justice field, veterans' mental health, and private practice. The clinical mental health counseling concentration includes courses in substance abuse counseling, family dynamics, diagnosis and psychopathology, and clinical supervision. Additionally, evidence-based practice, assessment and diagnosis, the role of the counselor in health care, and client and population-centered advocacy are emphasized in the clinical mental health concentration.

## Linked Program Information

There is a linked program available to qualified students under existing university policy to link the Bachelor of Science with a major in Human Services (<https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/education/counseling-human-services/human-services-bs/>) undergraduate program with the Master of Science in Education (Counseling with a Concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling) (p. 1) graduate program. See program director for additional details.

## Admission

Applicants may hold a bachelor's degree in any field.

### Deadlines for Admission

- New students are admitted twice each year and are eligible to begin during fall, spring, or summer semesters.
- Summer or Fall Semesters
  - March 1 – Deadline for completed applications
- Spring Semester
  - October 1 – Deadline for completed applications
- Application Requirements

For details regarding the application process, criteria used to select students, materials required of applicants, where to send application materials, and taking courses prior to admission as a non-degree graduate student, see the program web site at <http://www.odu.edu/chs/academics/m-s-ed-admissionsrequirements> (<http://www.odu.edu/chs/academics/m-s-ed-admissionsrequirements/>).

## Curriculum Requirements

A minimum of 60 semester credits is required for the Master of Science in Education - Counseling with a concentration in clinical mental health counseling or school counseling. Toward the conclusion of the program, all students must pass a comprehensive exam. All students are required to take 30 credits of common-core course work. Additional course work

in concentration areas is required. All students complete 100 hours of practicum and 600 hours of internship. Students are also required to complete the Responsible Conduct of Research Training (visit the ODU Office of Research webpage for additional information).

### Core Courses

COUN 601	Principles of Professional Counseling and Ethics	3
COUN 631	Counseling for Lifespan Development	3
COUN 633	Counseling and Psychotherapy Techniques	3
COUN 634	Advanced Counseling and Psychotherapy Techniques, Crisis, and Trauma	3
FOUN 611	Introduction to Research Methods in Education	3
COUN 645	Testing and Client Assessment	3
COUN 648	Foundations of Career Development	3
COUN 650	Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy	3
COUN 655	Social and Cultural Issues in Counseling	3
COUN 669	Practicum in Counseling (100 hrs min)	3
<b>Concentration Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>60</b>

## Clinical Mental Health Counseling Concentration

### Required Coursework

COUN 644	Group Counseling and Psychotherapy	3
COUN 647	Addictive Disorders	3
COUN 670	Introduction to Counseling Supervision	3
COUN 680	Mental Health Counseling	3
COUN 685	Diagnosis and Treatment Planning in Mental Health Counseling	3
COUN 691	Family Systems and Family Development	3
COUN 667	Internship in Mental Health Counseling (600 hrs minimum)	6
COUN Electives		6
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

## Additional Requirements

For more information relating to this program and its requirements, please visit <http://www.odu.edu/chs>. (<http://www.odu.edu/chs/>)

Students must meet all University and program requirements to continue toward degree completion once they have been admitted. Students who earn three or more grades of C+ or lower will be dismissed from the Counseling Program. Students are also assessed on their interpersonal comportment and behavior. If faculty members have serious concerns about a student's satisfactory progress in the program, they may initiate a process that could lead to the student being asked to withdraw. Students have the right to appeal decisions on continuance made by faculty.

## Program Completion and Exit

Students must successfully complete a multiple choice comprehensive examination covering the 8 core counseling competency areas, the required course of study for their concentration, and must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 to graduate.