

Graduate Master of Arts in Counseling



At Ottawa University



In the human services field, counselors work in diverse community settings providing a variety of counseling, rehabilitation and support services. Their duties vary greatly as there are many specific areas a counselor may choose to specialize in, ranging from arts therapy to trauma counseling, and more.

Counselors make a positive impact on the lives of others. The Master of Arts in Counseling program includes field experience and will prepare students to take the state licensure test. Additionally, Ottawa University offers graduate students the opportunity to gain deeper knowledge in a specialty area by completing a concentration: Christian Counseling; Expressive Arts Therapy; Gerocounseling; or Treatment of Trauma, Abuse and Deprivation. Concentrations are not available at all locations.

Careers



There are numerous areas that counselors choose to work in, including schools, clinics, community mental health centers, family counseling centers, churches, hospitals, hospice programs, and private practice.

Education and Qualifications



The program curriculum is designed to meet the educational requirements for counselor licensure in the states of Arizona, Kansas and Wisconsin. Requirements vary by state. It is the responsibility of the student to contact their state's licensure or certification authority to assure that the degree meets their state's requirements.

Foundation Courses

PYF 7001 - Grad Counseling Seminar In Clinical Foundations (3)

Provides an overview addressing necessary foundations in the content areas of abnormal psychology, development psychology, and theories of personality. Introduction to APA style and format.

PYF 7132 - Counseling and the Helping Professions (3)

Examines counseling process, instruction and practice in communication skills in counseling, history, development and practice of counseling as a profession, and how and where counseling is provided.

PYF 7162 - Methods and Models of Research (3)

Examination of models of research and application of scientific methods to investigate, analyze, and develop solutions relative to current issues in the field.

PYC 7422- Identities and Experiences (3)

Study of individual identities and experiences related to counseling clients with various backgrounds, beliefs and concerns. Includes effective counseling techniques.

PYC 7802 - Psychological Testing (3)

Examines use of standardized tests to study individuals, including test development, selection, administration and interpretation. Includes educational and mental health applications.

PYC 7822 - Life Planning and Career Development (3)

Focus on theory, research, techniques and tools used in life planning, transitions and career development.

PYC 7832- Human Growth and Development (3)

Examination of psychological, social, intellectual, and physical influences on the development of personality and behavior patterns in children, adolescents and adults.

PYC 7922 - Counseling Theories (3)

Examination of theories of personality development and therapeutic processes. Consideration of techniques for counseling applications and professional consultation.

PYC 7932 - Group Counseling and Dynamics (3)

Theories of group counseling. Includes techniques of observation, assessment and leadership in therapeutic groups.

PYF 8012 - Professional and Ethical Issues in Counseling (3)

Study of ethical, legal and professional concerns in the practice of counseling.

PYC 8040- Advanced Psycho diagnostic and Treatment Plan (3)

As a preparation for Clinical Internship, students will expand their knowledge of the DSM-5-TR diagnostic categories, differential diagnosis, and treatment planning. Emphasis will also be placed on the clinical interview and other initial assessment techniques, as well as skills critical to selecting and evaluating treatment options.

PYC 8112 - Theory and Techniques in Marriage & Family Counseling (3)

Examination of traditional and contemporary theories of family systems and approaches to marriage and family counseling. Prerequisite: 15 semester credit hours of PYC/PYF courses.

PYC 8142- Introduction to Substance Abuse, Addiction and Related Disorders (3)

Introduction to patterns, causes, assessment and treatment of substance abuse and other addictive disorders.

PYF 8512 - MA Comprehensive Exam (No Credit)

PYF 8600 - Field Placement (0)

Course designed to develop counseling skills through practical application in a counseling setting. Students work under the direct supervision of an approved onsite supervisor and faculty supervisor. Classroom component allows student to share learning experiences from placement activities as well as guide the integration and synthesization of learned knowledge into practical application.

PYF 8610 - Field Placement Continued (1.5)

Continuation of Field placement experience.

Professional Growth Seminars (36 hours)

Concentration/Elective Hours

Minimum:

15 hours of concentration coursework or elective credit required. Not all concentrations are available at all locations.

Concentrations Available:

- Treatment of Trauma, Abuse and Deprivation
- Gerocounseling
- Expressive Arts Therapy
- Christian and Spiritual Counseling
- Addiction Counseling