

Graduate Master of Arts in Counseling - Partial Residency



Counselors must have a strong desire to help others and should be able to inspire respect, trust and confidence. 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.

At Ottawa University

Counselors make a positive impact on the lives of others. The Master of Arts in Counseling program includes practicum and internship hours 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 one of five concentrations: Christian counseling; expressive arts therapy; gerocounseling; marriage and family therapy; or treatment of trauma, abuse and deprivation.

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

This program is designed to meet the educational requirements in the state of Arizona for licensure. Licensure requirements in other states may vary. The National Board for Certified Counselors grants a general practice credential of National Certified Counselor. This national certification is voluntary and is distinct from state licensing. In some states, those who pass the national exam are exempt from taking a state certification exam.



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Foundation Courses

PYF 7001 Graduate Counseling Seminar in Clinical Foundations

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

PYC 7922 Counseling Theories

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

PYC 7422 Social/Cultural Concerns in Counseling

Study of social, cultural and gender differences and issues related to counseling clients with various backgrounds, beliefs and concerns. Includes multicultural counseling techniques.

PYF 7132 Counseling and the Helping Professions

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.

PYC 7832 Human Growth and Development

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

PYC 7932 Group Counseling and Dynamics

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

PYF 7162 Methods and Models of Research

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

PYF 8012 Professional and Ethical Issues in Counseling

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

PYC 7802 Psychological Testing

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

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

PYC 7852 Abnormal Psychology

Examination of major theories and systems pertaining to abnormal behavior. Studies implications for psychotherapy and treatment planning and diagnosis using DSM-IV. Prerequisite: Minimum of 15 semester credit hours of graduate counseling coursework.

PYC 7392 Perspectives on Aging

This course, through the use of the final two stages of Erickson's developmental model, facilitates the development of a framework which is utilized to assess the experiences and needs of the older adult and their families. Course requires a minimum of 25 volunteer hours with older adults.

PYC 8082 Fundamentals/Theory Trauma, Abuse and Deprivation

Introductory course presenting an integrated view of effects on personality development of childhood trauma, abuse and deprivation. Therapeutic interventions examined. Dual listed with EDC 8083.

Prerequisite: 15 semester credit hours of PYC/ PYF courses.

PYC 8112 Theory/Techniques in Marriage and Family Counseling

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 8122 Human Sexuality

Course provides students with knowledge and skills necessary to understand issues related to human sexuality. The course will explore the application of major human sexuality models in different cultures and worldviews.

PYC 8040 Advanced Psychodiagnostic and Treatment Planning

As a preparation for Clinical Internship, students will expand their knowledge of the multi-axial system, DSM-IV/DSM-IV-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 8092 Integration of Psychology and Christianity

Exploration of ways to integrate science and ethics of psychology with social, cultural and faith contexts of the Christian mental health professional. Emphasis on historical, philosophical and theological perspectives of spiritual formation and growth.

Prerequisite: 15 semester credit hours of graduate counseling coursework.

PYC 8142 Intro to Substance Abuse, Addictions and Related Disorders

Introduction to patterns, causes, assessment, and treatment of substance abuse and other addictive disorders. Student begins preparation of required portfolio.

Prerequisite: PYF 7132, PYC 7922

PYF 8500, 8510, 8520 Internship

600 hours and three semesters.

PYF 8512 MA Comprehensive Exam

PYF 8600, 8610 Field Placement

900 hours and 9 credit hours

36 hours of Professional Growth Seminars