

# Discover Clinical Mental Health Counseling

## Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

### *Who takes this program?*

- Anyone interested in working with or assisting individuals, couples, families, and groups.
- Typical academic background is psychology or education, but students from a wide variety of backgrounds are enrolled in the program.
- This program may be a good fit for individuals wishing to make an impact on the mental health of others in various professional settings in the community.

### *How does the program work?*

- 60-hour program designed to meet requirements for training and certification in the field.
- Primarily face-to-face seminar-style courses with experiential training.
- Offers essential training in the field of counseling intervention, diversity training and skill set.
- Students may choose to seek certification through the National Board of Certified Counselors (NCC) and the Texas State Board of Professional Counselors (LPC) post graduation.

### *How will this degree benefit me?*

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling program is designed to meet the pre-degree academic and clinical requirements established by the Texas Board of Professional Counselors for independent practice as a Licensed Professional Counselor as well as for practice in a variety of agency settings that provide mental health services. Several of our graduates continue their education in PhD programs.

### *What courses will I take?*

Courses are aligned with Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) standards and may include:

- Ethics, theories, cross-cultural, and career counseling
- Human development, assessment, and research
- Consultation, sexuality, and psychopharmacology
- Essential helping skills with individuals, groups, and couples
- Diagnosis and treatment and clinical skills lab
- Practicum and internship experiences

### *What sets this program apart from other programs?*

Our program is relationship-centered, focused on the needs and goals of our students to ensure they get the education they need from their masters program. We highlight their achievements, guide them through their struggles, and help them make decisions about their future. Our overall goal is to help our students become competent and efficient leaders in their field.

In addition, we offer a supervisor luncheon, practicum and internship fair, actual practicum and internships in the field of mental health, sponsor two professional conferences a year and host an International Honor Society in Counseling. We have research opportunities, interdisciplinary opportunities through service, travel and mentorship. While a WTAMU student, they present at local, state, national, and international conferences.

It is also the only program housed and offered through the WT Amarillo Center. Our program office is located on the 7th floor of the downtown Amarillo Chase building with classrooms on the 10th and 11th floor. Our program has a clinical training laboratory specially designed to host clients and supervision sessions.

Our program is preparing for application to the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

## Admission Criteria and Application Guidelines

### *Prerequisites*

- 12 hours of psychology courses and/or
- 6 hours of psychology and 6 hours of education courses
- General psychology and abnormal psychology are required

### *Admission Requirements*

- Minimum composite score of 1500, calculated by GRE verbal score + GRE quantitative score + (last 60 hours' undergraduate GPA x 200).
- Minimum score of 400 on the verbal section of the GRE.
- Completion of departmental application, including three letters of recommendation.
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
- Letter of interest.
- Resume.
- Formal interview with program advisor and faculty.

All students are conditionally admitted for the first six hours and may complete the admissions process while enrolled in these hours. However, students must submit all official undergraduate transcripts and acceptable GRE scores before they will be allowed to register for classes.

### *Suggested Deadlines to Apply*

- August 1 for Fall admission
- December 1 for Spring admission
- May 1 for Summer admission

### *Program Contact Information*

Dr. Yvette Castillo  
[ycastillo@wtamu.edu](mailto:ycastillo@wtamu.edu)  
806-651-8233