

MA, Mental Health Counseling

Program Goals and Objectives

Graduates of the program will acquire knowledge in the areas of ethical, legal and professional issues in counseling, as well as social and cultural foundations, human growth and development, career development, helping relationships, group work, appraisal (tests and measurements), and research and program evaluation. Graduates will also obtain a strong understanding of diversity issues and be able to address the needs of a progressively growing diverse population.

As a result of participating in the professional counseling preparation program, students will demonstrate knowledge of the following:

1. The roles, functions, credentialing, and professional identity of community counselors;
2. Policies, laws, legislation, and other issues relevant to community counselors in a culturally diverse society;
3. Roles of the counselor in various community settings; legal dimensions of those settings; and general principles of community intervention, consultation, education and outreach;
4. Principles for assessment, diagnosis and the use of current diagnostic tools, and case conceptualization in a culturally diverse society;
5. Program development and delivery to diverse populations, including prevention, support groups, parent education, career/occupational information and counseling, and self-help;
6. Effective strategies for promoting client understanding of and access to community resources, and modalities for initiating, maintaining, and terminating counseling services.