Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling, M.S.

Degree Offered

• Master of Science

Nature of the Program

The clinical rehabilitation and mental health counseling program in the College of Education and Human Services offers a curriculum at the master’s degree level. All students complete coursework in core counseling knowledge and skill development as well as knowledge associated with disability, mental health, addiction, and rehabilitation issues. The opportunities for working as a professional counselor are numerous and include working in allied health settings, state-federal systems of vocational rehabilitation, Veterans’ Affairs, and delivering counseling services in mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment programs.

The program is available for both full- and part-time students in a hybrid modality that uses asynchronistic online courses coupled with two immersion weeks on campus for counseling skill development. Students may work with a faculty advisor to substitute on-campus counseling courses for those offered online as part of their plan of study, on a case by case basis. The program is fully accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for the specializations of Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling and Clinical Mental Health Counseling until 2023 and is a WVU Program of Excellence.

For additional information, please email cls@mail.wvu.edu, or refer to our department website: https://counselingandlearningsci.wvu.edu/

FACULTY

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND PROGRAM COORDINATOR

• George Mamboleo - Ph.D. (University of Arizona)
  Rehabilitation counseling, employment and health outcomes, accessibility and accommodations issues, international rehabilitation

PROFESSOR

• Margaret K. Glenn - Ed.D., CRC (The George Washington University)
  Addictions, vocational rehabilitation, complementary and alternative healthcare practices, service dogs

TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

• Elisabeth Simpson - PhD, CRC, NCC
  Counselor Education and Supervision (Duquesne University)

TEACHING INSTRUCTOR

• Regina Burgess - M.S., CRC, LPC (West Virginia University)

Admissions

APPLICATION

Applications for admission to the clinical rehabilitation and mental health counseling program must be made to the WVU Office of Admissions. In addition to the admission requirements of the university and the College of Education and Human Services, the program has the following admission requirements.

• A baccalaureate degree with coursework in appropriate areas

• A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 2.8 based on a 4.0 system (students with a lower grade point average and otherwise exceptional credentials may be admitted provisionally); under 2.5 GPA cannot be admitted without faculty consideration

• GRE or MAT scores: current within seven years. A minimum score is not used as the only criterion for admission; use of multiple criteria is particularly important when using GRE scores to assess the abilities of educationally disadvantaged applicants, applicants whose primary language is not English, and applicants who are returning to school after an extended absence

• Three letters of reference (can be submitted within the WVU electronic application system)

• Completion of the WVU Graduate School Application (https://graduate.wvu.edu/)

• Completion of the program’s supplemental application found on the program's website (http://counseling.wvu.edu/rehabilitation_counseling/future_students/) with a personal statement
ADMISSION

Admission to the program is a two-step procedure.

Step 1 involves a review of credentials presented in the application materials including references, program application (relevant major; general quality of application), UGPA, and Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores or the Miller's Analogy Test (MAT) scores.

Step 2 is the department interview which considers personal style relevant to working as a counselor, communication skills, capacity for empathic understanding and communication, ability to articulate professional goals, goals congruent with department focus, and knowledge and understanding of rehabilitation counseling as well as an assessment of applicants’ capacity to complete the rehabilitation counseling curriculum successfully.

The application deadline for receiving completed materials is March 15 for fall admission and October 1 for spring admission.

Major Code: 4592

Major Requirements

A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required in all courses.

A grade of C- or higher is required in all courses.

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Total Hours: 63

Major Learning Outcomes

CLINICAL REHABILITATION AND MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

The objectives of our program are linked to our mission statement. They are to provide:

- Educational experiences for every student that facilitates the development of knowledge, skills and beliefs necessary to practice as qualified clinical rehabilitation and mental health counselors in a wide variety of circumstances.
- Learning opportunities to support students’ ability to implement culturally responsive and ethically sound clinical rehabilitation and mental health counseling practices.
- Clinical training environments that are focused on real world expectations and standards of clinical practice.

COUN 501. Counseling Theory and Techniques 1. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Development and application of basic counseling skills including interviewing, clinical observations, and a general orientation to counseling theory and settings. Evaluation will be based on strengths and deficits in intra- and interpersonal skills and on demonstration of counseling skills in checkout situations. In-setting laboratory experience required.

COUN 505. Theory and Practice of Human Appraisal. 3 Hours.
An overview of standardized evaluation methods commonly utilized in educational and rehabilitation settings. Experience is provided in selection, administration, ethical standards, and interpretation of selected instruments.
COUN 536. Theories of Human Development. 3 Hours.
Theory and research on emotional, social, and intellectual development over the life span. Emphasis on application of developmental theories within educational and therapeutic settings.

COUN 593. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

COUN 606. Counseling Theory and Techniques 2. 3 Hours.

COUN 608. School Counseling Services. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Applications of counseling theories and techniques appropriate to the school counseling setting will be explored. Students will develop needs assessments, review legal and ethical issues related to schools, and develop a professional school counseling portfolio.

COUN 609. Group Counseling Theory and Techniques. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 606 and consent. Theories of group counseling and demonstrations of specific group techniques. Ethical standards. Evaluation will be based on expertise in group facilitation.

COUN 620. Lifespan Career Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 505. Principles and methods involved in career counseling with diverse populations. Emphasis on theories of career development and lifestyle planning, career choices, and lifelong work adjustment.

COUN 622. Introduction to Clinical Mental Health. 3 Hours.
PR or CONC: COUN 501 or consent. Role and function of the clinical mental health counselor; DSM categories and ethical standards, cognitive skills and practical experience necessary to understand client populations served by community agencies.

COUN 630. Children/Adolescents/Parents. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 501. Practical application of the principles of counseling children, adolescents, and parents.

COUN 634. Cultural Issues. 3 Hours.
PR: Program major or consent. The impact of cultural differences on the counseling process including gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and counseling styles will be discussed. Racial identity development models will be discussed. Group and experiential activities are required.

COUN 640. Addictions Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 501 and PR or CONC: COUN 606 or Consent. Specific techniques and models that apply to counseling the addicted client will be explored. Chemical addictions, food addictions, relationship addictions, sexual addictions, and ethics will be addressed. Demonstration of counseling clients with various addictions is required.

COUN 645. Couples and Family Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 501, COUN 606 or Consent. Techniques and methods of couples and family counseling. Emphasis on ethics, diversity, theory and practice of couples and family counseling. Demonstration of counseling skills for couples and families is required.

COUN 660. Field Experience in School Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 606 and COUN 630 and COUN 632 and PR or CONC: COUN 685 and consent and course enrollment in the Alternate School Counseling Program. Classroom-based field experience for school counseling majors enrolled in alternative certification programs. A review of classroom curriculum for elementary and secondary grades. Course will be graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

COUN 663. Counseling with Sexual Orientation. 1 Hour.
PR: Graduate standing. An overview of psychological, sociological and political aspects of sexual orientation as they impact counseling. Particular attention will be given to awareness and sensitivity toward gay and lesbian clients and effective intervention and education. Course will be graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

COUN 664. Ethical Issues in Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 501 and COUN 606. Surveys the legal and ethical issues and professional ethics codes in the counseling profession. Ethical principles applied to schools, agencies, and private practice. Meets ethics content requirement for the LPC.

COUN 665. Diagnosis and Treatment Planning. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 536 and COUN 606. Framework for exploring the range of personality and behavioral disorders as described in the DSM. Focus on: descriptive criteria, etiology, assessment, diagnosis, multicultural considerations, psychotropic treatments of, and understanding of the major diagnostic categories.

COUN 668. Crisis Trauma Grief Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 501. Application of theories and techniques related to crisis, trauma, suicide, childhood trauma, disaster mental health issues, and all aspects of grief counseling will be explored.

COUN 684. Supervision Models/Counseling. 3 Hours.
PR: COUN 606. The current models of supervision that are commonly utilized by supervisors in the field and the techniques associated with the different models will be investigated.
COUN 685. Practicum. 1-12 Hours.
PR: Preregistration; liability insurance; cleared for internship at close of semester, or a M.A. degree, and consent of department practicum evaluation committee. An intensive supervised practical experience in public schools or agencies, in counseling with individual critique and appropriate small-group experiences. Demonstration of high professional standards, counseling skills, and personal characteristics appropriate to the counseling relationship are essential. (Due to the limited number of summer sites, there can be no guarantee of summer practicum placement.) (Practicum is a prerequisite for internship placement. Internship is a one-semester, minimum four-day per week field experience following practicum. This two-semester sequence replaces the previous one-semester practicum.)

COUN 686. Counseling Internship. 1-12 Hours.
PR: Preregistration, completion of COUN 685 Practicum and consent of department field work coordinator. A full-time supervised field experience. Demonstration of counseling program management skills and ethical conduct is required. ACA Ethical Behavior Standards will be used to determine appropriate professional conduct.

COUN 691. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

COUN 693. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

COUN 695. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

COUN 697. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U).

COUN 900. Professional Development. 1-6 Hours.
Professional development courses provide skill renewal or enhancement in a professional field or content area (e.g., education, community health, geology.) The continuing education courses are graded on a pass/fail grading scale and do not apply as graduate credit toward a degree program.

COUN 930. Professional Development. 1-6 Hours.
Professional development courses provide skill renewal or enhancement in a professional field or content area (e.g., education, community health, geology.) These tuition-waived continuing education courses are graded on a satisfactory or unsatisfactory grading scale and do not apply as graduate credit toward a degree program.

REHB 600. Introduction to Rehabilitation Services. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Introduction to comprehensive rehabilitation, its history and development as a philosophy process, and professional area. Professional and ethical issues in rehabilitation counseling. Other services involved in various rehabilitation settings.

REHB 610. Medical Aspects of Rehabilitation. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent. An overview of medical aspects and implications of disability for the handicapped person in the rehabilitation process. Studies of the more common severe disabilities and their remediation also will be included.

REHB 612. Disability Across the Lifespan. 3 Hours.
A study of the psychological adjustment of disability across the lifespan, using a model of understanding stages of human development including cultural, interpersonal, and intrapersonal factors. Includes information on appropriate interventions.

REHB 620. Career Development and Job Placement. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent and graduate standing in social sciences or education. Principles and methods involved in the vocational counseling and placement of disabled persons. The use of occupational and educational information. Theories of career development, occupational analysis, and job placement in rehabilitation.

REHB 621. Vocational Evaluation Systems and Techniques. 3 Hours.
PR: REHB 600. An introduction to vocational evaluation. Formal and informal vocational evaluation systems and procedures will be explored with the goal of preliminary development of individualized evaluation plans.

REHB 622. Advanced Vocational Evaluation Techniques. 3 Hours.
PR: REHB 621. Advanced vocational evaluation systems including empirically based and informal systems will be studied. Emphasis will be on administration, scoring and interpretation, particularly as it relates to handicapped populations with specific evaluation problems.

REHB 623. Seminar in Vocational Evaluation Services. 3 Hours.
PR: REHB 621 and consent. Supervisory and professional issues in vocational evaluation services with an emphasis on standards, methods, procedures and resources for developing and maintaining vocational evaluation services.

REHB 624. Rehabilitation Client Services. 3 Hours.
PR: REHB 620. The planning and management of client services focusing on serving the public and private sectors. The Human Service and Rehabilitation Service Systems will be explored considering both career and independent living issues.

REHB 672. Counseling Practicum. 1-4 Hours.
PR: Graduate standing, liability insurance, and consent. Supervised experience in the application of counseling techniques in the rehabilitation process. Demonstration of high professional standards, counseling skills, and personal characteristics appropriate to the counseling relationship are essential.
REHB 675. Clinical Practice. 1-15 Hours.
PR: Consent. Clinical practice (internship) in selected agencies, rehabilitation centers, clinics, or hospitals conducting an organized program of services for the physically, mentally, emotionally, or socially handicapped. Practice will be under direct supervision of faculty and agency personnel.

REHB 680. Seminar. 1-6 Hours.
Seminars arranged for advanced graduate students.

REHB 690. Teaching Practicum. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Supervised practice in college teaching of human resources and education. Note: This course is intended to insure that graduate assistants are adequately prepared and supervised when they are given college teaching responsibility. It also provides a mechanism for students not on assistantships to gain teaching experience. (Grading will be S/U.).

REHB 691. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

REHB 692. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

REHB 693. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

REHB 695. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

REHB 696. Graduate Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Each graduate student will present at least one seminar to the assembled faculty and graduate student body of his or her program.

REHB 697. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U.).

REHB 698. Thesis or Dissertation. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. This is an optional course for programs that wish to provide formal supervision during the writing of student reports (698), or dissertations (798). Grading is normal.

REHB 699. Graduate Colloquium. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. For graduate students not seeking course work credit but who wish to meet residency requirements, use the University’s facilities, and participate in its academic and cultural programs. Note: Graduate students who are not actively involved in coursework or research are entitled, through enrollment in their department’s 699/799 Graduate colloquium to consult with graduate faculty, participate in both formal and informal academic activities sponsored by their program, and retain all of the rights and privileges of duly enrolled students. Grading is S/U; colloquium credit may not be counted against credit requirements for masters programs. Registration for one credit of 699/799 graduate colloquium satisfies the University requirement of registration in the semester in which graduation occurs.