

ENDORSEMENT AREA: SCHOOL COUNSELING

Degree

Master of Science in Secondary Education: School Counseling

Requirement for Admission

GRE General Test or CASE

GRADUATE FACULTY

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Program Description

The curriculum in School Counseling is designed to prepare students for employment as counselors in the educational arena and the mental health field. This degree consists of 51 hours of required coursework. Completion of this curriculum will qualify students for the class AA certificate in the state of Mississippi and permit them to sit for the required PRAXIS exam in school counseling and guidance.

The primary objectives of this endorsement area are to:

1. Provide a level of instruction for potential counselors that will enable them to produce self-directed persons who are capable of making healthy life choices;
2. Provide a level of instruction for potential counselors to develop competencies in the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Program's (CACREP) eight common core knowledge areas: Professional Identity, Social and Cultural Diversity, Human Growth and Development, Career Development, Helping Relationships, Group Work, Assessment, and Research and Program Evaluation;
3. Foster and nurture in potential counselors a personal commitment to high standards of education, competent levels of verbal and written communication skills, and a dedication to service;
4. Foster and nurture in potential counselors the ability and desire to think critically, read broadly, and pursue education and growth continually;
5. Teach and foster knowledge of and quest for the highest ethical standards, increasing levels of multicultural competency, and ongoing critical self-awareness and personal growth;
6. Foster in potential counselors a quest for knowledge, intellectual curiosity, and sustainable self-efficacy.

Admission Requirements

1. Completion of a bachelor's degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 for unconditional admission and 2.5 for conditional admission as recorded on the official transcript of a regionally accredited college or university.
2. A score on the GRE within the last five years sent directly to the Office of Graduate Studies.
3. Three letters of recommendation sent directly to the Office of Graduate Studies.

SPECIAL NOTE. While programs with endorsements in School Counseling and Mental Health Counseling have very similar coursework, students who complete the MS degree at Alcorn State University with an endorsement in School Counseling *will not* be able to complete a second master's degree in Mental Health Counseling. These students may enroll in additional courses leading to endorsement in Mental Health Counseling but cannot be admitted into the MS degree program leading to a second master's degree with endorsement in Mental Health Counseling.

Degree Requirements

1. To qualify for a Master of Science in Education degree with an Endorsement in School counseling the student must complete the 51 hours of coursework, maintain a 3.00 GPA or above and obtain a passing score on the Praxis II in the area of School Guidance and Counseling.
2. To qualify for a Master of Science in Education degree with an Endorsement in Clinical Mental Health Counseling the student must complete the 60 hours of coursework, maintain a 3.00 GPA or above and obtain a passing score on the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination.

Course Requirements

Core Education Courses (6 hours)

		Credits
ED 514	Methods of Educational Research & Statistics (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
ED 533	Curriculum Development	3 hrs.
PH 504	Psychological Statistics	3 hrs.

Required Courses (42 hours)

		Credits
CM 502		
CM 508	Introduction to Counseling**(LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 510	Counseling & Psychological Theory**(LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 511	Counseling Techniques**	3 hrs.
CM 512	Career Development (LPC/NCC/NCE)	
CM 513	Group Procedures (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 515	Organization, Administration & Consultation in School Counseling	3 hrs.
CM 516	Psychological Assessment Techniques in Counseling (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 519A	School Counseling Practicum (Spring Only)	3 hrs.
CM 520A	School Counseling Internship I (Fall Only)	3 hrs.
CM 521A	School Counseling Internship II (Spring Only)	3 hrs.
CM 524	Legal, Ethical, Professional Issues in Counseling** (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 525	Psychological Aspects of Human Growth & Development (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 540	Multicultural Counseling & Psychology**(LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
Total		51 hrs.

**Denotes Qualifying courses that must be successfully completed prior to Enrollment in Practicum and Internship.

Optional Electives (only for specialization or other counseling credentials)

		Credits
CM 530	Psycho-Diagnostics in Counseling (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 532	Marriage and Family Counseling (LPC/NCC/NCE)	3 hrs.
CM 533	Human Sexuality Issues in Counseling	3 hrs.
CM 534	Addiction-Focused Counseling	3 hrs.
CM 535	Advanced Abnormal Psychology	3 hrs.
CM 536	Grief & Loss Issues in Counseling	3 hrs.
CM 537	Spirituality in Counseling	3 hrs.
CM 538	Special Issues in Counseling & Psychology	3 hrs.
PH 513	Advanced Educational Psychology	3 hrs.

Course Descriptions (CM)

CM 508 – INTRODUCTION TO COUNSELING**

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite or corequisite to every other counseling course

Historical and theoretical coverage as well as present day practices and trends of the guidance movement will be considered. Particular attention will be given to the role and responsibilities of various school personnel in the school setting.

CM 510 – COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL THEORY**

(3 Credits)

Students will engage in the study of the basic theoretical approaches to counseling as well as their practical applications.

CM 511 – COUNSELING TECHNIQUES**

(3 Credits)

Students are taught basic counseling skill development and the counseling conceptualization process. Attention given to establishing therapeutic relationships and prioritizing client problems/issues. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in basic counseling competencies.

CM 512 – CAREER DEVELOPMENT

(3 Credits)

This course will explore career development theories and their application to counseling. Implementation of educational, occupational, social informational, and placement services within counseling will be addressed.

CM 513 – GROUP PROCEDURES

(3 Credits)

The course includes a study of the basic theories of group counseling and the clinical practice of applying those theories.

CM 514 – METHODS OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH & STATISTICS

(3 Credits)

The course includes a study of the several approaches to the formulation of research problems, data analysis and hypothesis testing, appraisal and evaluation of published research, techniques of surveying research literature, and preparation of short research papers. Emphasis is placed on reading basic research methodologies and critical analysis of published research in the social and behavioral sciences.

CM 515 – ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION, & CONSULTATION IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the current theories and practice of consultation in mental health and educational settings.

CM 516 – PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES IN COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

Students are instructed on the techniques of studying the individual through formal and informal methods of evaluation. Individual and group measures will be considered as they are administered, analyzed, interpreted and reported. A comprehensive study will be made of all aspects of measurement to include moral, legal and ethical considerations.

CM 518 – CRISIS INTERVENTION

(3 Credits)

Students are taught techniques for the application of counseling in crisis situations.

CM 519A – SCHOOL COUNSELING PRACTICUM

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Qualifying courses must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in this course or faculty approval

Students will engage in limited supervised, practical clinical and administrative counseling experiences in selected and approved community or educational settings. Student/professional liability insurance is required prior to enrollment.

CM 519B – CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PRACTICUM

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Qualifying courses must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in this course or faculty approval

Students will engage in limited supervised, practical clinical and administrative counseling experiences in selected and approved community or educational settings. Student/professional liability insurance is required prior to enrollment.

CM 520A – SCHOOL COUNSELING INTERNSHIP I

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Qualifying courses must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in this course or faculty approval

Advanced students will engage in supervised, practical clinical and administrative counseling experiences for one academic year in selected and approved community or educational settings. Professional liability insurance is required prior to enrollment.

CM 520B – CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING INTERNSHIP I

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Qualifying courses must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in this course or faculty approval

Advanced students will engage in supervised, practical clinical and administrative counseling experiences for one academic year in selected and approved community or educational settings. Professional liability insurance is required prior to enrollment.

CM 521A – SCHOOL COUNSELING INTERNSHIP II

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Qualifying courses must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in this course or faculty approval

Advanced students will engage in supervised, practical clinical and administrative counseling experiences for one academic year in selected and approved community or educational settings. Professional liability insurance is required prior to enrollment.

CM 521b – SCHOOL COUNSELING INTERNSHIP II

(3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Qualifying courses must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in this course or faculty approval

Advanced students will engage in supervised, practical clinical and administrative counseling experiences for one academic year in selected and approved community or educational settings. Professional liability insurance is required prior to enrollment.

CM 524 – LEGAL, ETHICAL & PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN COUNSELING**

(3 Credits)

Current ethical and legal guidelines and professional issues relevant to training, research, and practice in counseling are covered.

CM 525 - HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

(3 Credits)

Focus is on familiarizing students with the physical, emotional, and social growth of humans, with special emphasis given to development across the life span.

CM 530 – PSYCHO-DIAGNOSTICS IN COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

This course will introduce students to various facets of diagnosis within assessment process and the structure of the current Diagnostic Statistical Manual (DSM) and its use in counseling.

CM 532 – MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

This course provides an overview of the historical roots of family counseling and the major theoretical orientations. A brief overview of the role of research, multiculturalism, and ethics in family counseling is explored.

CM 533 – HUMAN SEXUALITY ISSUES IN COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

This course will address the topic of human sexuality with attention given to this issue from both an individual perspective and within a relationship.

CM 534 – ADDICTION-FOCUSED COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

This course surveys the complex field of addictions, including addiction to legal and illegal substances, sex, food, and gambling. It provides an overview of the fundamental concepts of addiction, the cultural factors (i.e. historical, geographic, economic, socio-cultural, genetic, values, lifestyles) impacting addictions, the cultural aspects (i.e. personal, public health, family, social, economic) impacted by addictions, assessment and treatment approaches from an individual and systemic perspective for addiction disorders.

CM 535 – ADVANCED ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

(3 Credits)

This course is designed to examine the advanced aspects of research and theory dealing with the etiology, symptomatology, and treatment of abnormalities of behavior.

CM 536 – GRIEF & LOSS ISSUES IN COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

Students will focus on the study of grief and the techniques of grief and bereavement counseling, including a study of grief as it relates to various types of losses.

CM 537 – SPIRITUALITY IN COUNSELING

(3 Credits)

This course is an exploration of current theory and knowledge about the intersection of human spirituality and mental health issues and the development of clinical skills in working with spiritual and religious issues in counseling.

CM 538 – SPECIAL ISSUES IN COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGY

(3 Credits)

Research and applied analysis of special topics related to counseling.

CM 540 – MULTICULTURAL COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGY

(3 Credits)

This course is designed to provide an introduction to and an overview of the challenges and processes of guidance and counseling in our culturally diverse society. Culturally relevant models of theory and practice will be explored.

PSYCHOLOGY (PH)

PH 513 – ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

(3 Credits)

This course involves the analysis of psychological theories, principles, and procedures relevant to classroom learning. Special attention will be given to learning theories, testing and evaluation, personality development, and teaching effectiveness.

**** Denotes Qualifying courses that must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in Practicum and Internship.**