Counseling, MC

Prepare for licensure as a professional counselor while gaining cultural competencies, to serve clients in a diverse society.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MC Counseling
The MC program is approved by the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners (https://www.azbbhe.us/node/553).

The mission of the 60 credit hour program is to prepare students to become licensed professional counselors in Arizona and other states with comparable licensure requirements.

With its strong focus on multicultural counseling across the lifespan, students in the Master of Counseling program learn to promote the health of individuals, families, groups and organizations in a diverse society.

Faculty research foci include:

- advocacy
- children and adolescents
- counseling process and outcome
- couple and family relationships
- crisis assessment
- culturally responsive treatment
- immigrant well-being
- mental health disparities
- play therapy

The program also instills in students the importance of research in advancing the counseling profession. The crucial link between practice and research is evident in the three complementary functions of the program's state-of-the-art Counselor Training Center: clinical service provision, high-quality training, and innovative process and outcome research.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [College of Integrative Sciences and Arts](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe campus](#)

Degree Requirements

60 credit hours and a thesis, or
60 credit hours and a written comprehensive exam

**Required Core (36 credit hours)**
CED 501 Introduction to Research and Evaluation in Counseling (3)
CED 502 Counseling Research Data Analysis (3)
CED 522 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy (3)
CED 523 Psychological Tests (3)
CED 527 Prevention and Consultation (3)
CED 529 Lifespan Human Development (3)
CED 534 Occupations and Careers (3)
CED 545 Analysis of the Individual (3)
CED 567 Group Dynamics and Counseling (3)
CED 577 Counseling Prepracticum (3)
CED 645 Professional Issues and Ethics (3)
CED 671 Multicultural Counseling (3)

**Electives or Research (6-12 credit hours)**

**Other Requirements (12 credit hours)**
CED 680 Practicum: Seminar (3)
CED 680 Practicum: Clinic (3)
CED 684 Internship (6)

**Culminating Experience (0-6 credit hours)**
CED 599 Thesis (6) or
written comprehensive exam (0)
Additional Curriculum Information

Students choose either a thesis or written comprehensive exam pathway. The written comprehensive exam is for students in the practitioner pathway, and they take 12 credit hours of elective coursework. The thesis option is for students who are focusing their program on research, and they take six credit hours of research coursework plus six credit hours of thesis.

The clinical portion of the program is comprised of CED 680 Practicum Seminar and Clinic and CED 684 Internship. These are required for all students. CED 580 Practicum Clinic and CED 584 Internship may be taken by students needing to log required clinical hours after CED 680 and CED 684 are completed. CED 580 and CED 584 are not required unless additional clinical hours are needed.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. two- to three-page personal statement
4. at least two and a maximum of three letters of recommendation
5. proof of English proficiency

Additional Admission Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency. This program requires a TOEFL score of at least 600 (pBT) or 100 (iBT).

Finalists are invited for a virtual interview.

Nonacademic, Professional, or Life Experiences:

Applicants are required to submit a two- to three-page personal statement (12pt. Times New Roman font with 1" margin, double-spaced) that indicates their qualifications (e.g., professional experiences and personal attributes) and interest in ASU’s MC program. Specifically, applicants are asked to describe how their education and training as well as volunteer and professional experiences inform why they want to pursue the MC degree. They also should outline how the program will help them meet their future goals.
Applicants are expected to discuss their ability to work and be sensitive to the needs of a multicultural and diverse society, including (but not limited to) members of diverse racial and ethnic groups and sexual minority individuals.

Recommendations:
At least two and at most three recommendation letters are required. These should be from persons able to evaluate the applicant's academic potential (e.g., faculty member) and professional or volunteer experience (e.g., a supervisor). Applicants are discouraged from asking for recommendations from individuals or acquaintances who have not overseen their professional, volunteer, or academic work.

Students should see the program website for application deadlines.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Career Opportunities**

Graduates of the Master of Counseling program meet licensure requirements as a professional counselor with the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners. Because requirements vary by state, students should consult the licensing requirements for the state in which they tend to reside.

Graduates provide clinical services in a range of settings, such as community agencies, hospitals, private practice and university counseling centers. The program also prepares graduates who wish to pursue doctoral-level studies.

**Contact Information**

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