

M.A. in Clinical Psychology (Counseling Practice)

Revision effective 2012-13

Program Description

This program is designed for those who are interested in clinical counseling practice at the master's level. It is a 60 semester-hour program that provides broad-based training in psychological assessment and intervention as well as in the theory and research that supports these practices. This program also provides appropriate preparation for those wishing to apply to PsyD and PhD programs in clinical psychology. Those planning to apply to PhD programs should ensure that they secure research experience within the program while they pursue their MA degree.

The curriculum of the Clinical Psychology (Counseling Practice) satisfies the educational requirements for the professional counselor and clinical professional counselor licenses in Illinois, Roosevelt's home state, and in many other states. Students are urged to check with the Board that oversees these licenses in the state in which they intend to practice after completing the degree to ensure that this curriculum satisfies the state's requirements. (An index of State Licensing Boards can be found by visiting the National Board for Certified Counselors at this web address: www.nbcc.org/directory.)

Requirements

Courses:

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| CHS 417 | Career and Lifestyle Planning |3 |
| PSYC 505 | Clinical and Counseling Psychology |3 |
| PSYC 515 | Chemical Dependence |3 |
| PSYC 516 | Psychopathology |3 |
| PSYC 520 | Basic Clinical Skills (with grade of B or better) |3 |
| PSYC 530 | Advanced Research Methods |3 |
| PSYC 570 | Biological Bases of Behavior for Counseling Practice | .. .3 |
| PSYC 580 | Learned Bases of Behavior for Counseling Practice | .. .3 |
| PSYC 619 | Survey of Psychological Appraisal |3 |

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| PSYC 635 | Professional, Legal, and Ethical Issues |3 |
| PSYC 640 | Mental Health Practice Across Settings | ...3 |
| PSYC 636 | Human Development |3 |
| PSYC 641 | Cognitive and Behavioral Therapies |3 |
| PSYC 642 | Insight Psychotherapies |3 |
| PSYC 644 | Multicultural Psychology and Psychotherapy |3 |
| PSYC 650 | Group Psychotherapy |3 |
| PSYC 655 | Couples and Family Therapy |3 |
| PSYC | Elective | ...3 |
| PSYC 698A | Practicum (Semester 1)* |3 |
| PSYC 698B | Practicum (Semester 2)* |3 |

*** Regarding Practicum.** The practicum consists of not less than 750 hours of professionally supervised training and service in an approved agency or institution, over a period of not less than two semesters. It may begin after the student has completed 48 semester hours or required program credit. This experience satisfies the requirements for professional counselor and clinical professional counselor licensure in Illinois, Roosevelt's home state. As other states may have slightly different practicum requirements, students are urged to consult the Board that oversees these licenses in the state in which they intend to practice. The program's practicum requirement will not be reduced, but additional practicum experiences can be added as elective credit, if necessary. (An index of State Licensing Boards can be found by visiting the National Board for Certified Counselors at this web address: www.nbcc.org/directory.) Given the time demands of the practicum experience, it is never possible for a student to maintain full-time employment during the semesters in which practicum is completed. A student who has not completed the practicum during the semesters in which he/she is registered for Psyc 698A and Psyc 698B must maintain continued registration during subsequent semesters until completion of the practicum by registering for Psyc 698Y (zero-credit course).

Academic standards

- **General GPA Standards:** Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 (B) grade point average. No more than two grades of C+, C or C- (six semester hours) will be counted toward the MA degree. For additional information concerning grading and academic discipline, see the general University regulations.

- **Competency Requirement.** The competency requirement is designed to ensure that all students seeking the MA degree demonstrate an acceptable level of mastery of general psychology. It is a prerequisite for all 600-level courses. The competency requirement must be met within the first 18 semester hours of graduate credit.

Students who fail to satisfy the competency requirement within this time period will be considered for dismissal from the program. Students can meet the competency requirement in one of the two ways detailed below.

1. **GRE method.** Students must earn a score of at least the 70th percentile on the psychology subject test of the Graduate Record Examination.
 2. **Grade point average method.** Students must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.3 in the following courses: Psyc 505 (Clinical and Counseling Psychology), Psyc 516 (Psychopathology), and Psyc 530 (Advanced Research Methods). All courses that count toward meeting the competency requirement must be taken at Roosevelt University.
- **Academic Integrity.** The Department of Psychology holds graduate students to professional standards of academic integrity. The Department considers actions that present the work of another as one's own to be unethical and inappropriate. Cheating and plagiarism are never tolerated. The department defines plagiarism as presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students must follow the rules for appropriate citation and quotation of the words of others, as outlined in the current edition of the American Psychological Association's publication manual, in all papers and theses. **Students who violate these standards regarding cheating and plagiarism will be considered for dismissal from the program.**
 - **Ethical, professional and interpersonal competency.** Because the psychology programs prepare mental health practitioners, the department is accountable to the public regarding the development of professional and ethical behavior. Thus, in addition to the evaluation of academic performance, students will be evaluated regularly on appropriate professional, and interpersonal behavior. **Students who fail to meet academic standards or fail to meet expectations of appropriate professional and interpersonal behavior will be considered for dismissal from the program.**
 - **Time Limit:** Students are allowed six years in which to complete the MA degree and only courses completed within six years of the time the student enters the program will be counted toward the degree.

Prerequisites

Applicants must meet the graduate admission requirements of the University as detailed in the Policies and Procedures section of this catalog and have completed at least 18 semester hours in psychology at the undergraduate level with at least a 3.0 (B) average. Undergraduate courses

must include general psychology, abnormal psychology, introductory statistics, research methods, theories of personality, and one junior/senior level undergraduate course.

Some students may be admitted with undergraduate deficiencies. In such cases, undergraduate deficiencies may be taken concurrently with some graduate courses with the permission of the program director, but these courses will not earn graduate credit.