SCHOOL ADJUSTMENT COUNSELOR CONCENTRATION, MS

Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

The Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, in combination with the School Adjustment Counselor Concentration, provides students with an integrated and comprehensive program of study that will focus on the following areas: counseling theory, human growth and development, psychopathology, social and cultural foundations, clinical skills, group work, special treatment issues, appraisal, research and evaluation, professional orientation, and advanced education and training in the area of school adjustment counseling. This 60-credit program enables students to strive to combine high intellectual achievement with skillful, compassionate, and ethical clinical practice in Mental Health Counseling. This program requires completion of 60 semester hours of graduate level academic course credit, including a practicum of at least 100 hours and a 800-hour supervised internship, of which 450 hours must be done in a public school setting. Also required are passing grades on both the MTEL C&L Reading and Writing exams.

This program of study affords students the opportunity to sit for the licensing examination and apply for licensure as a Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) for the state of Massachusetts. Graduates are also eligible for the Initial Student Adjustment Counselor license in Massachusetts. LMHC licensing regulations require individuals to complete a minimum of two years post-master's degree supervised clinical experience and pass a licensing exam. Students must complete the requirement of this program within a 5-year timeline. Ultimately, the state licensing board determines whether an individual satisfies the requirements for professional licensure (please see student handbook).

The goal of the M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling is to deliver those core learning experiences established by academic program accrediting and state licensure boards to assure that program graduates are competent, ethical counselors prepared to enter the counseling profession and that graduates are able to provide high quality, science-based services to members of the community in post-graduate position on the path to Mental Health Counseling licensure.

To earn the M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling with a School Adjustment Counseling concentration, students must complete 60 credit hours of graduate coursework including a practicum of at least 100 hours and an 800 hour supervised internship, of which 450 hours must be completed in a public school setting. Also required are passing grades on both the MTEL C&L Reading and Writing exams.

Degree requirements for the School Adjustment Counselor concentration are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 501</td>
<td>Human Lifespan Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 535</td>
<td>Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 540</td>
<td>Individual and Family Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorders</td>
<td>3</td>
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Total Credits Required:  60