

Counselor Education, MA

Programs designed to lead to professional licensure are subject to federal regulations regarding informational disclosures. Please see Professional Licensure Disclosures by Program for further information.

Maintaining Good Standing

MA students in the Department of Counselor Education must meet the following standards in order to remain in their degree programs and advance to candidacy and remain a candidate for a degree:

- maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00;
- successfully complete practicums and internships;
- maintain professional behavior consistent with the ACA Code of Ethics (American Counseling Association) and any additional code of professional ethics adhered to in any agency in which a student completes a practicum or internship; and
- demonstrate progress toward the degree through successful completion of semester hours specified in the curriculum plan and active registration each session (exceptions may be approved by the advisor).

Each student's academic and professional progress is reviewed annually.

Probational Status

Students who earn a cumulative GPA lower than 3.00 are placed on probational status and are notified in writing. Students on probational status have two consecutive sessions to raise their GPA to the established standard. If that requirement is not met, a student may be removed from the program. Students are allowed one probational status during their program of study.

Learning Outcomes

Counselor Education Standards

The following are the standards of the Department of Counselor Education at the University of Iowa, which are the key performance indicators for MA students:

- acquire the awareness, knowledge, and skills of a professional counselor and/or counselor educator;
- develop a process of ongoing reflective practice in relation to cultural humility and the profession's multicultural, social justice, and ethical counseling competencies and education;
- develop counseling skills that will address problems in living from a developmental/life span approach;
- cultivate a commitment to ethical practices and behavior in counseling, counselor education, supervision, and research; and
- acquire an understanding of the social, vocational, educational, and psychological needs of individuals served in various settings such as schools, vocational, or counseling centers.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

The Master of Arts program in counselor education with a clinical mental health counseling subprogram requires a minimum of 60 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a graduate program grade-point average of at least 3.00. Full-time students can complete the program in approximately 20 months (four semesters).

The program prepares professional counselors to provide assistance with psychological wellness through flexible, consumer-oriented therapy to individuals experiencing various problems in living, including mental disorders and substance abuse. They combine traditional psychotherapy with a practical, problem-solving approach that creates a dynamic efficient path for change and problem resolution.

Clinical mental health counselors work in a variety of settings, including public government agencies; private practice; community mental health agencies; managed behavioral health care organizations; integrated delivery systems; hospitals, including the Veteran's Administration; employee assistance programs; and substance abuse treatment centers. They provide interventions designed to help individuals with their immediate needs such as assessment and diagnosis, psychotherapy, treatment planning, brief and solution-focused therapy, alcoholism and substance abuse treatment, psychoeducational and prevention, and crisis management.

The MA subprogram in clinical mental health counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Graduates of the program are eligible for certification by the National Board for Certified Counselors. By completing the program's coursework, students also complete the courses they must take in order to apply for licensure as mental health counselors in Iowa. Students who complete the program and wish to seek licensure in other states should refer to the relevant state licensing board for specific requirements.

The curriculum blends academic work with supervised clinical experiences. Students take practicum and internship concurrently with academic courses. The program concludes with a full-time internship (40 hours per week) during a spring semester. Students are assigned to mental health agencies or facilities that meet CACREP accreditation standards and that have programs or clientele aligned with a student's interests and educational objectives. Clinical placements require criminal background checks. Supervised practicums, internships, and final examinations are not offered during summer sessions.

The MA in counselor education with a clinical mental health counseling subprogram requires the following work.

Required Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
CSED:5202	Introduction to Group Counseling	3
CSED:5203	Career Development and Counseling	3
CSED:5221	Theories of Counseling and Human Development Across the Life Span	3
CSED:5241	Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	3

CSED:5248	Diagnosis and Treatment Planning for Traditional, Vulnerable, and Special Populations in Counseling	3
CSED:5249	Medical and Psychopathological Aspects of Chronic Illness and Disability	3
CSED:5250	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling	3
CSED:5254	Assessment and Appraisal	3
CSED:5278	Applied Microcounseling	3
CSED:6342	Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disability Across the Developmental Lifespan	3
CSED:6349	Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CSED:6352	Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	12
CSED:6353	Pre-Practicum and Case Management in Counseling	3
CSED:6500	Research and Program Evaluation	3

Electives

In consultation with their advisors, students choose 9 s.h. (from a minimum of 3 courses) in elective coursework. Students are permitted to select coursework numbered 3000 and above from counselor education (prefix CSED), teaching and learning (prefix EDTL), educational policy and leadership studies (prefix EPLS), and psychological and quantitative foundations (prefix PSQF). Students are encouraged to select from the following course list, as these courses are curated for counselor education students.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSED:4110	Psychology of Food and Mood	3
CSED:4113	Sleep, Sleep Deprivation, and Sleep Disorders	3
CSED:4114	Psychology of Body Modification and Self-Image	3
CSED:4130	Human Sexuality	3
CSED:4131	Loss, Death, and Bereavement	3
CSED:4132	Introduction to Addictions and Impulse Control Disorders	3
CSED:4162	Introduction to Couple and Family Therapy	3
CSED:4173	Trauma Across the Lifespan	3
CSED:4174	Positive Psychology	3
CSED:4175	Motivational Interviewing	3
CSED:4176	Child Abuse: Assessment, Intervention, and Advocacy	3
CSED:4179	Sexuality Within the Helping Professions	3
CSED:4185	Introduction to Substance Abuse	3
CSED:4187	Introduction to Assistive Technology	3

CSED:5280	Topical Seminar in Counselor Education (may be taken more than once if the topic differs)	arr.
CSED:5400	Suicide and Crisis Intervention in Counseling	2-3
CSED:5500	Telehealth Skills in Clinical Mental Health	3

Final Examination

The final examination consists of a departmental comprehensive portfolio that documents knowledge, skills, and dispositions on the process and practice of clinical mental health counseling. Exams are offered only during fall and spring semesters.

Admission

Applicants must meet the department's general admission requirements. They should have a good academic record and relevant experiences. No specific undergraduate major area of study is required for the MA program, but a major in one of the social sciences is considered good preparation. Postbaccalaureate work and volunteer experiences relevant to the field of mental health counseling are preferred. The program encourages applications from persons historically underrepresented in the field, particularly those with a disability and/or members of underrepresented groups. A personal interview is required.

Although students may be admitted for any semester, the program highly recommends that full-time students begin in the fall.

Rehabilitation Counseling Program

The Master of Arts program in counselor education with a rehabilitation counseling subprogram requires a minimum of 60 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a graduate program grade-point average of at least 3.00. Full-time students can complete the program in approximately 20 months (four semesters).

The program prepares professional counselors to provide assistance in psychological wellness, employment, independent living, and personal or economic development to persons with disabilities and other individuals who encounter barriers in meeting their own functional needs.

Rehabilitation counselors work in a variety of settings, including public agencies such as state vocational rehabilitation programs and Veterans Affairs vocational rehabilitation programs, independent living centers, community-based rehabilitation centers and supported employment, psychiatric rehabilitation programs, transition from school to work programs, and private for-profit worker's compensation and insurance rehabilitation agencies. They provide interventions designed to help persons with disabilities adapt to the demands of their environments. They also prepare the environments to accommodate an individual's needs. Assessment, personal and vocational counseling, development of rehabilitation and treatment plans, case management, service coordination, psychosocial adjustment, job development, placement, and follow-up are typical services that rehabilitation counselors provide.

The program in rehabilitation counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Graduates of the

program are eligible for certification by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC).

The curriculum blends academic work with supervised clinical experiences. Students take one semester of practicum and one semester of internship concurrently with academic courses. The program concludes with a full-time internship (40 hours per week) during a spring semester. Students are assigned to rehabilitation agencies or facilities that meet CACREP accreditation standards and that have programs or clientele aligned with a student's interests and educational objectives. Clinical placements require criminal background checks. Supervised practicums, internships, and final examinations are not offered during summer sessions.

The MA in counselor education with a rehabilitation counseling subprogram requires the following work.

Required Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
CSED:5202	Introduction to Group Counseling	3
CSED:5221	Theories of Counseling and Human Development Across the Life Span	3
CSED:5241	Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	3
CSED:5249	Medical and Psychopathological Aspects of Chronic Illness and Disability	3
CSED:5250	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling	3
CSED:5253	Forensic Rehabilitation and Case Management	3
CSED:5254	Assessment and Appraisal	3
CSED:5278	Applied Microcounseling	3
CSED:6341	Occupational Information, Job Development, and Job Placement	3
CSED:6342	Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disability Across the Developmental Lifespan	3
CSED:6346	Practicum in Rehabilitation Counseling	3
CSED:6347	Internship in Rehabilitation Counseling	12
CSED:6500	Research and Program Evaluation	3

Electives

In consultation with their advisors, students choose 12 s.h. from a minimum of four courses in elective coursework. Students are permitted to select coursework numbered 3000 and above from counselor education (prefix CSED), teaching and learning (prefix ECTL), educational policy and leadership studies (prefix EPLS), and psychological and quantitative foundations (prefix PSQF). Students are encouraged to select from the following course list, as these courses are curated for counselor education students.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSED:4110	Psychology of Food and Mood	3
CSED:4113	Sleep, Sleep Deprivation, and Sleep Disorders	3
CSED:4114	Psychology of Body Modification and Self-Image	3
CSED:4131	Loss, Death, and Bereavement	3
CSED:4132	Introduction to Addictions and Impulse Control Disorders	3
CSED:4162	Introduction to Couple and Family Therapy	3
CSED:4173	Trauma Across the Lifespan	3
CSED:4174	Positive Psychology	3
CSED:4175	Motivational Interviewing	3
CSED:4176	Child Abuse: Assessment, Intervention, and Advocacy	3
CSED:4179	Sexuality Within the Helping Professions	3
CSED:4185	Introduction to Substance Abuse	3
CSED:4187	Introduction to Assistive Technology	3
CSED:5248	Diagnosis and Treatment Planning for Traditional, Vulnerable, and Special Populations in Counseling	3
CSED:5280	Topical Seminar in Counselor Education	arr.
CSED:5400	Suicide and Crisis Intervention in Counseling	2-3

Final Examination

The final examination consists of a departmental comprehensive portfolio that documents knowledge, skills, and dispositions on the process and practice of rehabilitation counseling. Exams are offered only during fall and spring semesters.

Admission

Applicants must meet the department's general admission requirements. They should have a good academic record and relevant experience such as assisting individuals with disabilities. No specific undergraduate major area of study is required for the MA program, but a major in one of the social sciences is considered good preparation. Postbaccalaureate work experience relevant to the field of rehabilitation counseling is preferred. The program encourages applications from persons traditionally underrepresented in the field, particularly those with a disability and/or members of minority or ethnic groups. A personal interview is required.

Although students may be admitted for any semester, the program highly recommends that full-time students begin in the fall.

School Counseling

The Master of Arts program in counselor education with a school counseling subprogram requires a minimum of 60

s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a graduate program grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.00.

The program prepares individuals to work effectively as counselors in K-12 school settings. It is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Successful graduates are eligible for K-12 school counselor licensure in Iowa.

During the program, students take core counseling courses, including coursework focusing on counseling children and adolescents, school counseling programs, and courses focusing on clinical practice in the schools (practicum and internship). Students are expected to complete at least 100 clock hours in practicum and 600 clock hours in internship activities in an approved school setting, under the supervision of an experienced licensed school counselor and a university faculty supervisor.

Students who enter without teaching licensure are required to take EDTL:4900 Foundations of Special Education.

All students are required to complete a background check the semester before they enroll in the practicum. Students who are not licensed teachers must complete coursework in education before enrolling in the practicum.

Each student's progress is reviewed periodically by the major advisor and yearly by the school counseling program. Students who have successfully completed all prerequisites for CSED:6300 Practicum in School Counseling are reviewed in the semester before they take the practicum course, to ensure that they are prepared for it. Additionally, students are evaluated to ensure their readiness for the internship CSED:6321 Internship in Elementary School Counseling or CSED:6322 Internship in Secondary School Counseling, which requires assignment to approved schools for the fall and/or spring semesters.

The MA in counselor education with a school counseling subprogram requires the following courses.

Required Courses

The following schedule of required courses reflects a two-year program of study. Students who do not have teacher licensure are required to complete EDTL:4900 Foundations of Special Education. Students who have completed the required courses should consult with their advisor regarding electives in order to fulfill the 60 s.h. requirement.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSED:4137	Introduction to Educating Advanced Learners	3
CSED:5200	Professional School Counselor	3
CSED:5202	Introduction to Group Counseling	3
CSED:5203	Career Development and Counseling	3
CSED:5204	School Culture and Classroom Management for School Counselors	3
CSED:5221	Theories of Counseling and Human Development Across the Life Span	3
CSED:5222	Counseling Children and Adolescents in Schools	3

CSED:5230	School Counseling Program Leadership and Management	3
CSED:5250	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling	3
CSED:5254	Assessment and Appraisal	3
CSED:5278	Applied Microcounseling	3
CSED:5400	Suicide and Crisis Intervention in Counseling	3
CSED:6300	Practicum in School Counseling	3
CSED:6321	Internship in Elementary School Counseling (consult advisor for options)	12
or CSED:6322	Internship in Secondary School Counseling	
CSED:6500	Research and Program Evaluation	3
EDTL:4940	Characteristics of Disabilities	3

Electives

In consultation with their advisors, students earn 3 s.h. in elective coursework. Students are encouraged to select coursework numbered 3000 and above from counselor education (prefix CSED), teaching and learning (prefix EDTL), educational policy and leadership studies (prefix EPLS), and psychological and quantitative foundations (prefix PSQF). Additional course options may be approved by the student's advisor as appropriate.

Final Examination

The final examination consists of a departmental examination about the process and practice of professional school counseling. Exams are offered only during fall and spring semesters.

Admission

Applicants must meet the department's general admission requirements. They should have an undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or higher. The department prefers that applicants have either one year of teaching experience or other successful experiences with children and/or adolescents, which they must document in a written statement.

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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Clinical Mental Health Counseling Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
60 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
CSED:5202	Introduction to Group Counseling	3
CSED:5203	Career Development and Counseling	3
CSED:5221	Theories of Counseling and Human Development Across the Life Span	3
CSED:5241	Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	3
CSED:5248	Diagnosis and Treatment Planning for Traditional, Vulnerable, and Special Populations in Counseling	3
Hours		15
Spring		
CSED:5249	Medical and Psychopathological Aspects of Chronic Illness and Disability	3
CSED:5250	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling	3
CSED:5254	Assessment and Appraisal	3
CSED:5278	Applied Microcounseling	3
CSED:6500	Research and Program Evaluation	3
Hours		15
Second Year		
Fall		
CSED:6342	Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disability Across the Developmental Lifespan	3
CSED:6349	Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CMHC Elective ^b		3
CMHC Elective ^b		3
CMHC Elective ^b		3
Hours		15
Spring		
CSED:6352	Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	12
CSED:6353	Pre-Practicum and Case Management in Counseling	3
Exam: Master's Final Exam ^c		
Hours		15
Total Hours		60

^a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.

^b Work with academic advisor to determine appropriate graduate electives and sequence. Information about elective

coursework is included in the General Catalog and on department website.

^c The final examination consists of a departmental summative examination on the process and practice of clinical mental health counseling. Exams are offered only during fall and spring semesters.

Rehabilitation Counseling Program Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
60 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
CSED:5202	Introduction to Group Counseling	3
CSED:5221	Theories of Counseling and Human Development Across the Life Span	3
CSED:5241	Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	3
CSED:5249	Medical and Psychopathological Aspects of Chronic Illness and Disability	3
CSED:5278	Applied Microcounseling	3
Hours		15
Spring		
CSED:5250	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling	3
CSED:5253	Forensic Rehabilitation and Case Management	3
CSED:5254	Assessment and Appraisal	3
CSED:6341	Occupational Information, Job Development, and Job Placement	3
CSED:6500	Research and Program Evaluation	3
Hours		15
Second Year		
Fall		
CSED:6342	Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disability Across the Developmental Lifespan	3
CSED:6346	Practicum in Rehabilitation Counseling	3
RCP Elective ^b		3
RCP Elective ^b		3
RCP Elective ^b		3
Hours		15
Spring		
CSED:6347	Internship in Rehabilitation Counseling	12
RCP Elective ^b		3
Exam: Master's Final Exam ^c		
Hours		15
Total Hours		60

- a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- b Work with academic advisor to determine appropriate graduate electives and sequence. Information about elective coursework is included in the General Catalog and on department website.
- c The final examination consists of a departmental summative examination on the process and practice of rehabilitation counseling. Exams are offered only during fall and spring semesters.

School Counseling Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
60 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits and course substitution allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. a, b, c		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
CSED:5200	Professional School Counselor	3
CSED:5221	Theories of Counseling and Human Development Across the Life Span	3
CSED:5250	Social and Cultural Foundations of Counseling	3
CSED:5278	Applied Microcounseling	3
CSED:5400	Suicide and Crisis Intervention in Counseling	3
Hours		15
Spring		
CSED:5202	Introduction to Group Counseling	3
CSED:5203	Career Development and Counseling	3
CSED:5204	School Culture and Classroom Management for School Counselors	3
CSED:5222	Counseling Children and Adolescents in Schools	3
CSED:5254	Assessment and Appraisal	3
Hours		15
Second Year		
Fall		
EDTL:4940	Characteristics of Disabilities	3
CSED:4137	Introduction to Educating Advanced Learners	3
CSED:5230	School Counseling Program Leadership and Management	3
CSED:6300	Practicum in School Counseling	3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		15
Spring		
CSED:6322 or CSED:6321	Internship in Secondary School Counseling or Internship in Elementary School Counseling	12

CSED:6500	Research and Program Evaluation	3
Exam: Master's Final Exam ^e		
Hours		15
Total Hours		60

- a Students who enter without teaching licensure are required to take EDTL:4900.
- b Prior to fall 2018 a minimum of 57 s.h. were required for degree completion. Therefore, students admitted prior to fall 2018 will complete 57 s.h. and will not be held to the 60 s.h. requirement.
- c Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- d Work with academic advisor to determine appropriate graduate electives and sequence.
- e The final examination consists of a departmental summative examination on the process and practice of school counseling. Exams are offered only during fall and spring semesters.