

Counselor Education, MA

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.

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 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	3

CSED:5222	Counseling Children and Adolescents in Schools	3
CSED:5230	School Counseling Program Leadership and Management	3
CSED:5249	Medical, Psychopathological, and Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disability	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

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.