



Department of Counseling (210) 458-2600 <https://education.utsa.edu/departments/counseling/>

Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling 2025-2027

Student Name _____ Banner ID _____
Program Advisor _____ Catalog of Admission _____ 2025-2027

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

I. Required Core Coursework (42 semester credit hours)

Pre-requisites for Practicum

Pre-requisites for Internship

Course Number	Course Name	Course Prerequisites	Grade	Semester Completed
COU 5203	Introduction to Clinical Mental Health COU*			
COU 5213	Counseling Theories			
EDU 5003*	Research Methods in Education			
EDP 5033*	Human Development Across the Lifespan			
COU 6153*	Career Development & Choice			
COU 5113*	Ethical & Legal Issues in Counseling	COU 5203 & COU 5213		
COU 5243	Diagnosis in Counseling	COU 5203 & COU 5213		
COU 5223	Clinical Assessment and Appraisal Strategies for Counselors			
COU 5233*	Group Theory & Process	COU 5203 & COU 5213		
COU 5283	Counseling in Multicultural Settings			
COU 5393*	Development of Counseling Skills	COU 5203 & COU 5213		
COU 5613*	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Addiction COU	COU 5203 & COU 5213		
COU 6523	Couples and Family Counseling	COU 5203 & COU 5213		
COU 6883	Trauma, Crisis, and Grief COU	COU 5203 & COU 5213		

*Summer Courses

II. Clinical Coursework (9 semester credit hours)

Course Number	Course Name	Course Prerequisites	Grade	Semester Completed
COU 5683*	Practicum in Counseling (100 hours)	5113*, 5203, 5213, 5233, 5283, 6523, 5393		
COU 5713*	Clinical Mental Health Counseling Internship (300 hours)	5683, 5243		
COU 5723*	Clinical Mental Health Counseling Internship (300 hours)	COU 5713		

*Ethics pre-requisite for students beginning Spring 2024

IV. Elective Coursework (9 semester credit hours)

All elective courses offered through the Department of Counseling are approved for this degree plan. Electives outside the department must be related to counseling.

Course Number	Course Name	Course Prerequisites	Grade	Semester Completed
COU				
COU				
COU				

N O T E S

- 1) Total number of hours for the Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling is 60.
- 2) Students may only take a maximum of 9 hours of Counseling courses each semester.
- 3) Every Master's degree candidate at UTSA is required to pass a Comprehensive Exam via a professional portfolio in order to be awarded the Master's degree.
- 4) With departmental approval, a maximum of nine hours of coursework already taken and passed with a B or better in an equivalent course at the graduate level at another university or in another education- or counseling-related degree program may be applied to the degree and must be transferred during the first semester of study at UTSA. No class counted toward another degree can be used to satisfy the requirements of the M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Classes applied to another graduate degree may serve as substitutes for up to 9 hours of core classes with the student's advisor's approval (but students will need to take additional courses, with advisor approval, to achieve the 60 hours necessary for the M.S. degree). Students will need to provide copies of the course syllabus and transcript indicating course completion and grade.
- 5) Only two courses with a grade of "C" (2.0) will be accepted toward this degree.
- 6) Students must earn a "B" (3.0) or better in all clinical courses (COU 5393, COU 5683, COU 5713, & COU 5723). Students who receive a B- or lower must retake that course and earn a "B" or better before progressing in the clinical course sequence.
- 7) Students must achieve a GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) each semester or you will be put on academic probation (Graduate school requirement).
- 8) To graduate, all graduate students must have an overall grade point average of at least a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale; Graduate school requirement).
- 9) Graduation candidates must apply for graduation early in the semester in which they plan to graduate through the ASAP student account. Deadlines are posted on the schedule of classes.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Suggested Course Sequencing

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING PART-TIME									
Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			
Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall
COU 5203 CMHC Intro	COU 5283 Multicultural	EDP 5033 Hum Dev	COU 5113 Ethics	COU 5243 Diagnosis	COU 5393 Skills	*Choice from List	COU 5713 Internship I	*Choice from List	*Choice from List
COU 5213 Theories	COU 6523 Couples and Family Counseling	EDU 5003 Research	COU 5233 Group	*Choice from List	*Choice from List	COU 5683 Practicum	*Choice from List	COU 5723 Internship II	*Choice from List
		**Summer courses are limited		Apply for Fall Practicum	**Summer courses are limited	Apply For Spring Internship	Apply for Summer Internship	**Summer courses are limited	Take NCE & Graduate

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING FULL-TIME

Year 1			Year 2			Year 3		
Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer
COU 5203 CMHC Intro	COU 5113 Ethics	COU 5393 Skills	COU 5683 Practicum	COU 5713 Internship I	COU 5723 Internship II	*Choice from List		
COU 5213 Theories	COU 6523 Couples and Family Counseling	EDP 5033 Hum Dev	COU 5243 Diagnosis	*Choice from List	*Choice from List	*Choice from List		
COU 5283 Multicultural	COU 5233 Group	EDU 5003 Research	*Choice from List	*Choice from List		*Choice from List		
	Apply for Fall Practicum	**Summer courses are limited	Apply for Spring Internship	Apply for Summer internship	**Summer courses are limited	Take NCE & Graduate		

*List of Other Required Courses

COU 6153 Career Development and Choice

COU 5223 Assessment (Recommend assessment at same time as Practicum or internship if possible.)
COU 5613* Biopsychosocial Aspects of Addiction Counseling
COU 6883 Trauma, Crisis, and Grief Counseling
Elective 1***
Elective 2***
Elective 3***

**** Summer courses** may be limited to clinical courses (COU 5393, COU 5683, COU 5713, & COU 5723), Child and Adolescent Counseling, Group Counseling, Ethics, Addiction, Career, EDP 5033 Human Growth and Development, EDU 5003 Research, and electives from other departments.

*****Electives** can be any graduate course related to counseling, from our department or others. These may include EDP (educational psychology), SWK (social work), BBL (bicultural-bilingual studies) or others as long as the topic is related to counseling. Kristina will email students with a list of possible electives before registration each semester.

Electives commonly offered in our department include COU 5253 Child & Adolescent COU in Systemic Context; COU 6973 SI: Child Abuse & Domestic Violence; COU 6003 Constulation; COU 6973 SI: Neurofeedback Multi-Level and Advanced Neurofeedback; COU 6973 SI: IBH I and II. (Note: If you are in a certificate program (BBC, IBH) specific electives will be needed for your program.)

Play Therapy is an elective option offered by the Department of Counseling:

COU 6673. Introduction to Play Therapy. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: COU 5393, EDP 5033, or consent of instructor. This introductory level course will focus on enhancing the counseling relationship with children by utilizing play media to facilitate the child's self-exploration, self-expression, self-understanding, and personal growth and development. Observations of role play and supervised role-play experience in play therapy are an integral part of the course.

COU 6683. Advanced Play Therapy. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: COU 5393, EDP 5033, COU 6673, or consent of instructor. This advanced course focuses on the integration of different theoretical approaches to play therapy. Students engage in the advanced study and application of play therapy, including theories of play therapy, application of advanced play therapy skills, parent consultation, and other special topics. Focus also is upon the counselor's own unique contribution to the relationship and the emotional needs of children.

Special Topics: If you take COU 6973 three times, you must petition the Graduate School to count all three courses towards your program of study. After you register for your third COU 6973, please contact Jessica Gonzalez (Jessica.gonzalez5@utsa.edu) for more details.

Federal Financial Aid: When planning your semesters, please note that to remain eligible for full-time federal financial aid, graduate students must be enrolled in at least 9 credit hours in the fall or spring semesters, or 6 credit hours in the summer, that count toward the degree. If enrollment falls below the full-time minimum, federal financial aid will be prorated based on the number of qualifying credit hours. Enrollment below the part-time minimum may result in ineligibility for federal financial aid.

LONG TERM PLANNING

LONG TERM PLANNING: LIST COURSES YOU HAVE TAKEN. ADD COURSES YOU HOPE TO TAKE EACH SEMESTER FOR THE REMAINDER OF YOUR PROGRAM. BE SURE YOU HAVE INCLUDED ALL PREREQUISITES FOR PRACTICUM AND INTERNSHIP BEFORE YOU PLAN TO TAKE THOSE COURSES. BE MINDFUL OF COURSES THAT ARE TYPICALLY OFFERED IN THE SUMMERS. UPDATE EACH SEMESTER WITH COURSES YOU TOOK AND THOSE REMAINING.

PRE-REGISTRATION PLANNING

NAME: _____

SEMESTER / YEAR: _____

PRIOR TO REGISTRATION EACH SEMESTER, LOOK AT THE CLASSES OFFERED AND SELECT COURSES YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE BASED ON YOUR LONG-TERM PLAN. NEXT, LIST ALTERNATE COURSES IN CASE YOU CANNOT REGISTER FOR YOUR FIRST CHOICES. LIST CRN NUMBERS AND TRY TO REGISTER AT 7:00 AM ON THE DAY REGISTRATION OPENS.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:
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ALTERNATE CLASSES

COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:	COURSE: CRN: TIME: MODALITY:
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