



Professional Counseling Program Degree Plans

[Degree Plans Effective Spring 2026]
(PR = Prerequisite, CO = Corequisite)

MASTER OF ARTS, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING					
Degree Concentrations:	Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CACREP)	Marriage, Couple, & Family Counseling (CACREP)	School Counseling (CACREP)	School Counseling Certificate	Course is a prerequisite for:
LEVEL 1: FOUNDATIONAL COURSES (No prerequisites—can be taken in any order; give priority to CPCE courses)					
* COUN 5301: Professional Counseling Orientation	✓	✓			*CPCE 5354
COUN 5328: Prof Orientation School Counseling			✓	✓	5354, 5338
* COUN 5305: Assessment in Counseling	✓		✓	✓	*CPCE
* COUN 5307: Theories of Counseling & Personality	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE 5354
* COUN 5316: Counseling Diverse Populations	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE 5351,5360/66/70/73
COUN 5344: Intro to Addictions Counseling	✓	See Elective	✓		
* COUN 5350: Advanced Counselor Ethics	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE 5354
* COUN 5355: Career Counseling	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE
COUN 5359: Psychopathology in CMHC	✓	✓	✓		5354, 5360/66/70/73
COUN 5367: Marital Family Counseling Theories	✓	✓	✓		5351, 5360, 5372
* COUN 5368: Developmental Issues Counseling	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE 5369, 5338
* COUN 5372: Assessment in Indiv Couple & Family Counseling (replaces 5305 for MCFC)		✓			*CPCE
* COUN 5391: Research Methods	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE
LEVEL 2: INTERMEDIATE COURSES have prerequisites/co-requisites. See Graduate Catalog description .					
* COUN 5354: Basic Counseling Skills & Abnormal Behavior – PR 5307, 5350; CO 5301 (CMHC/MCFC) or CO 5328 (SC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE 5360 5366 5370 5373
* COUN 5358: Group Counseling – CO 5354 w/same PR	✓	✓	✓	✓	*CPCE 5689

	CMHC	MCFC	SC	SCert	
COUN 5369: Child and Adolescent Counseling – CO 5354, PR 5368	✓	✓	✓	✓	5360 5370 5373 5689
COUN 5351: Current Issues in Marriage, Couple, & Family Therapy – PR 5316, 5367		✓			
COUN 5338: Advanced Issues in School Counseling – PR 5328, 5316, 5368			✓	✓	
ELECTIVE (3 credit hours) Counseling-related	✓	✓ Rec: 5344			
CLINICAL SEQUENCE COURSES > (These courses must be taken in order, in separate semesters)					
	(CMHC Track: Take <u>ONE</u> IM Course)	(MCFC Track: Take 5360 only)	(SC Track: choose <u>ONE</u> 5370 or 5373)	(SC Cert: Take 5373)	Course is a prerequisite for:
COUN 5360: Intermediate Methods in MCFC – PR 5316, 5354, 5367; CO (or earlier) 5359; CO 5369		✓			Clinical Practicum 5689
COUN 5366: Intermediate Methods in Adult Counseling – PR 5316, 5354; CO (or earlier) 5359	✓				Clinical Practicum 5689
COUN 5370: Intermediate Methods in Counseling Adolescents – PR 5316, 5354, 5369; CO(or earlier) 5359	✓		✓		Clinical Practicum 5689
COUN 5373: Intermediate Methods in Play Therapy – PR 5316, 5354, 5369; CO (or earlier) 5359	✓		or ✓	✓	Clinical Practicum 5689
COUN 5689: Clinical Practicum – PR 5358, PR 5369; Pass CPCE & Pass at least 1 IM within concentration	✓	✓	✓	✓	5389 (Internship 1)
COUN 5389 (1): Site-Based Internship – PR 5689	✓	✓	✓	✓	5389 (Internship 2)
COUN 5389 (2): Site-Based Internship – PR 5389	✓	✓	✓	✓	
TOTAL HOURS					
	60 hours	60 hours	60 hours	48 hours	

Notes regarding PR/CO: **COUN 5359** is listed as a corequisite for all four Intermediate Methods (IM) classes, meaning we recommend taking 5359 in the same semester as an IM class. You can also choose to take 5359 in a semester right before enrolling in an IM course. **COUN 5359** must be taken prior to enrolling in **COUN 5689** Clinical Practicum. Similarly, **COUN 5358** can be taken concurrently with **COUN 5354**, or **COUN 5354** can be taken in a semester prior to enrolling in **COUN 5358**. **COUN 5358** must be taken prior to enrolling in **COUN 5689** Clinical Practicum. **COUN 5369** and **COUN 5354** can be taken together but cannot be taken at the same time as an IM course that allows 5369 to be taken concurrently (i.e., **COUN 5360**). **COUN 5369** is a prerequisite for **COUN 5370** and **5373** IM courses and is a prerequisite for **COUN 5689**, meaning all students across all three concentrations need to complete 5369 prior to enrolling in **COUN 5689** Clinical Practicum.

See next page for Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) recommendations and planning for Clinical Sequence:

***CPCE >** Denotes courses covered on the [CPCE \(Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam\)](#). These courses should be taken prior to testing for the CPCE.

It is to your advantage to have most of the Level 1 CPCE classes completed to be prepared for the Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) and to complete the prerequisite courses for Level 2 classes. Many students apply for and take the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) during the semester they are enrolled in Intermediate Methods, or in the semester prior to Intermediate Methods. You must pass the CPCE to be approved to enroll in COUN 5689 Clinical Practicum. See the [Student Handbook](#) and [program CPCE webpage](#) for more information about the CPCE registration process, and to determine when you would be eligible to take the examination.

During the Intermediate Methods semester, you must apply for admission to [COUN 5689 Clinical Practicum](#). Application announcements will be sent through the student listserv and posted on the program webpage. [COUN 5389 Site based Internship](#) also requires a program application to be approved for course section assignment.

When planning your courses each semester, please be aware that you can begin the clinical sequence while still completing other required course work, but it is ideal to plan the clinical courses to be taken one right after another to ensure you are building and strengthening your clinical skills from semester to semester, without extensive semester breaks in between clinical classes.



During enrollment in the first semester of classes, newly admitted students must meet with their assigned [faculty advisor](#) to develop a planned course of study, which will be maintained in the student's program file. This will ensure the student understands how to progress through the program and will determine estimated CPCE exam dates and degree completion dates.



The clinical sequence consists of the following courses. Each course must be taken in this order and each course taken in separate semesters. Tasks to complete during these semesters include the following:

COUN 5354, *Basic Counseling Skills*

Begin to explore Practicum groups and Internship sites after being added to the Clinical Experience Canvas site.

COUN 5360/5366/5370/or 5373, *Intermediate Methods with specialized populations*

See degree plan; IM course MUST be taken prior to COUN 5689 and will determine the types of clients seen in Clinical Practicum. While enrolled, apply for COUN 5689 Clinical Practicum; secure a Practicum group; pass the CPCE; continue to explore Internship sites for future placement.

COUN 5689, *Clinical Practicum*

While enrolled, apply for the first semester of COUN 5389 Site Based Internship (required of all degree tracks); Secure Internship site placement for the next semester.

COUN 5389, *Site Based Internship I*

While enrolled in first semester of COUN 5389, apply for the second semester of internship (applicable to all degree tracks). If interested, students can take the National Counselor Exam (licensure exam) in this semester – see program's NCE website.

COUN 5389, *Site Based Internship II*

While enrolled in second (final) semester of COUN 5389 students [apply for graduation](#) through the Graduate College. If internship hours are not completed in the second semester of Internship, an application for a third semester of internship must be submitted to the Practicum/Internship Coordinator. Students must reapply for graduation in the semester internship hours are completed. Failure to apply for graduation will result in a delay in the degree being conferred, as well as a delay in the pursuit of licensure.