

# Master of Counseling

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## Majors:

- **Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling**
- **Clinical Mental Health Counseling**
- **Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling**
- **School Counseling**
- **Student Affairs Counseling**

## Goals

The general objective of the Master of Counseling (M.COUN.) degree is to prepare students to be professional counselors. The Department of Counseling faculty believe that the development of a strong professional identity, a rich knowledge base, and expertise in the skills of counseling are essential to functioning as a professional in each counseling setting.

The Master of Counseling degree is designed to be the strong foundation upon which graduates enter a lifetime career in the helping professions. This program prepares counselors to respond to the multitude of societal changes and to the ever-expanding counseling profession. In addition to knowledge and experience in the following eight common-core areas, graduates also have specialized knowledge and skills as identified in the objectives of the Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling; Clinical Mental Health Counseling; Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling; School Counseling; and Student Affairs Counseling majors. For more specific details, please reference <http://www.carep.org>. (<http://www.cacrep.org/>)

The Department of Counseling has curricular and professional objectives for each Master of Counseling student. Each of these objectives has specific outcome measures:

## Curricular Objectives

1. Students will have knowledge of Human Growth and Development in order to understand the nature and needs of persons at all developmental levels and in multicultural contexts.
2. Students will have knowledge of Social and Cultural Foundations to be effective in a multicultural and diverse society.
3. Students will be knowledgeable and skillful in Counseling and Consultation processes.
4. Students will be knowledgeable about group development, dynamics, counseling theory, group counseling methods, and group work approaches.
5. Students will be knowledgeable and understand career development and related factors.
6. Students will understand and be knowledgeable about individual and group approaches to assessment and evaluation.
7. Students will be knowledgeable about various research methods, statistical analysis, needs assessment, and program evaluation.
8. Students will be knowledgeable about the profession of counseling including history, organizational structures, ethics, standards, and credentialing.

## Student Professional Objectives:

In addition to the above curricular objectives, the Department of Counseling has program-wide objectives. These include:

1. School counseling students will obtain certification as school counselors.
2. Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling students will obtain certification as rehabilitation counselors.

3. Students in all specialty programs (Clinical Mental Health Counseling; Marriage Couple and Family Counseling; Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling; School Counseling; and Student Affairs Counseling) will obtain licensure as professional counselors (i.e., LPC).

## Admission Requirements

Admission into the counseling program is competitive. A preset number of students will be admitted, according to faculty resources. The Admissions Committee will make the final recommendation regarding admission based on grade point and test score rankings, as well as on the committee's impression of the applicant's interpersonal style and compatibility of personality with the program's training philosophy, and on the student's written statement.

The applicant must:

1. Have a bachelor's degree from a college or university accredited in the United States, or its equivalent from a school in another country (must complete degree before onset of classes in the Fall semester in year of acceptance).
2. Meet the guidelines for admission set forth by the Graduate School and the Department of Counseling. Those individuals meeting both criteria will be invited for an interview. The minimum master's level standards for admission using the GPA Standardized Test (last 60 credits) are as follows:

3.0 to 4.0      40<sup>th</sup> Percentile on at least one area of the GRE or 40<sup>th</sup> Percentile on the MAT

2.5 to 2.999      Combined Verbal and Quantitative (V + Q) score of 300 on GRE or 45<sup>th</sup> Percentile on the MAT

Below 2.499      No Admission

The method for calculating an admission GPA is based on the last 60± semester undergraduate credits (90 ± quarter credits).

3. Prospective students are expected to come to campus (Pocatello or Meridian) for an interview. Selected applicants will be interviewed by the Department of Counseling Admissions Committee as part of the admissions procedure. Ultimately, one's GPA and test scores qualify one to take part in the interview process.

4. Submit three (3) letters of recommendation from individuals who have knowledge of the applicant's academic capabilities, work performance, professional potential, and character.

5. Apply to Graduate School and Department of Counseling by on-line application by January 15.

Only applicants who have submitted all application materials on or before the application deadline will have their materials reviewed by the Admissions Committee to determine status as a competitive, qualified applicant (incomplete, late, or inaccurate files/forms will not be reviewed). Due to the competition for limited seats in the Master of Counseling program, satisfactory completion of the entry level requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

Selected applicants will be interviewed by the Department of Counseling Admissions Committee as part of the admissions procedure. The Admissions Committee will make the final decision regarding admission. This decision will be based on grade point and test score rankings as well as the Committee's

impression of the applicant's interpersonal style and compatibility of personality with the program's training philosophy.

### Selection Schedule

After August 15, apply to Graduate School and Department of Counseling by on-line application by specified application date.

#### ISU-Pocatello

Application review begins January 15 and continues until all seats are filled. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for mid-February. Notification of admission decisions will be announced approximately early March. A maximum of 30-35 students are admitted to the Master of Counseling program each year at ISU-Pocatello. Classes begin the fall semester of each year.

#### ISU-Meridian

Application review begins January 15 and continues until all seats are filled. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for mid-February. Notification of admission decisions will be announced approximately early March. A maximum of 25-30 students are admitted to the Master of Counseling program each year at ISU-Meridian. Classes begin the fall semester of each year.

If the January 15 deadline has passed, please contact the Department of Counseling. A secondary admission process may be conducted.

### Classified w/Performance Requirements Status

Students who meet the undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher for all upper division undergraduate classes but have not received their scores for the GRE or MAT, or are registered to take one of these examinations at the next possible testing, may be admitted Classified (w/PR) status, and may be considered for openings not filled by Classified applicants in the Department of Counseling program.

Students must request a change of status from Classified (w/PR) status to Classified status upon completion of their first semester of graduate study. The change from Classified (w/PR) to Classified status must be approved by the Department of Counseling and the Dean of the Graduate School.

### Non-Degree Seeking Students

Our Department offers Professional Development workshops substantial enough to count as 1 or 2 class credits, which Non-Degree Seeking Students may utilize.

### Approval of Master's Degree

#### Final Program of Study

A student who has been admitted to the Master of Counseling (M.COUN.) program may submit a final program of study following the completion of COUN 6621 (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/search/?P=COUN%206621>) Professional Orientation and Ethics, COUN 6627 (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/search/?P=COUN%206627>) Conceptualizing Counseling Theory, COUN 6696 (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/search/?P=COUN%206696>) Practicum Counseling Techniques, and during the semester in which COUN 6697 (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/search/?P=COUN%206697>) Practicum in Counseling is being completed. The final program of study must include all course work required to complete the selected M.COUN. major and must be approved by two counseling faculty members who have graduate faculty status (one of whom will serve as committee chair). Prior to the semester of the proposed graduation, the final program of study must receive the approval of a majority of the Counseling graduate faculty.

### General Requirements

For the Master of Counseling (M.COUN.) degree, the student is required to complete the equivalent of at least four full semesters of resident graduate

study beyond the bachelor's degree. For the Clinical Mental Health Counseling; Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling; Marriage, Couple, & Family Counseling; School Counseling; and Student Affairs Counseling majors, a minimum of 60 semester hours must be completed in the Core and Major Course Requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Course Requirements</b>		
COUN 6611	Research in Counseling Profession	2
COUN 6612	Psychological Testing for Counselors	2
COUN 6614	Human Growth and Development	1
COUN 6621	Professional Orientation and Ethics	2
COUN 6623	Lifestyle and Career Development	2
COUN 6624	Cultural Counseling	3
COUN 6625	Crisis Interventions and Trauma Counseling	2
COUN 6627	Conceptualizing Counseling Theory	2
COUN 6628	Applications of Counseling Theory	2
COUN 6630	Addictions Counseling	2
COUN 6660	Theories of Family and Couple Counseling	3
COUN 6676	Small Group Activity	1
COUN 6677	Group Counseling Techniques	3
COUN 6694	Psychodiagnosis and Psychotropic Drugs	2
COUN 6696	Prepracticum Counseling Techniques	3
COUNSELING ELECTIVES		
<b>Major Course Requirements</b>		
<b>Major in Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling</b>		
COUN 6661	Issues in Family Counseling	3
COUN 6664	Family Assessment	2
COUN 6665	Advanced Family Systems Theory	2
COUN 6697	Practicum in Counseling	2
COUN 6697L	Practicum in Counseling Lab	0
COUN 6698	Internship in Counseling	18
COUN 6698L	Internship in Counseling Lab	0
<b>Major in Clinical Mental Health Counseling</b>		
COUN 6690	Foundations of Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
COUN 6691	Professional Issues in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
COUN 6697	Practicum in Counseling	2
COUN 6697L	Practicum in Counseling Lab	0
COUN 6698	Internship in Counseling	18
COUN 6698L	Internship in Counseling Lab	0
<b>Major in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling</b>		
COUN 6615	Foundations of Clinical Rehabilitation	3
COUN 6616	Professional Issues in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling	3
COUN 6697	Practicum in Counseling	2
COUN 6697L	Practicum in Counseling Lab	0
COUN 6698	Internship in Counseling	18
COUN 6698L	Internship in Counseling Lab	0
<b>Major in School Counseling</b>		
COUN 6638	Foundations of School Counseling	3

COUN 6639	Application of School Counseling Foundations	3
COUN 6697	Practicum in Counseling (school setting preferred)	2
COUN 6697L	Practicum in Counseling Lab	0
COUN 6698	Internship in Counseling	18
COUN 6698L	Internship in Counseling Lab	0
<b>Major in Student Affairs Counseling</b>		
COUN 6680	Foundations of Student Affairs	3
COUN 6683	Administration of Student Affairs Practice	3
COUN 6697	Practicum in Counseling (student affairs setting preferred)	2
COUN 6697L	Practicum in Counseling Lab	0
COUN 6698	Internship in Counseling (student affairs setting preferred)	18
COUN 6698L	Internship in Counseling Lab	0