



MASTERS MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM

Annual Report and Vital Statistics Report 2020- 2022

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Masters Mental Health Counseling Program Vital Statistics Report

Masters Mental Health Counseling Program Overview

The Masters of Mental Health Counseling (MMHC) program has been in existence since the Fall of 2018. The program is one of 12 graduate programs offered within the Graduate School at Indiana University Southeast. The MMHC program is part of the School of Social Sciences and is housed within the Psychology Department. It is one of two graduate programs offered by the School of Social Sciences. The MMHC program is a 60-credit-hour degree that is designed to provide quality educational and clinical experiences for students in order to become licensed mental health counselors (LMHC).

The MMHC program has changed since its inception in 2018. Prior to 2020, the MMHC Program was an integrated program with the other Indiana University system regional campus counseling program. In 2019, the faculty decided to pursue CACREP accreditation to better serve the needs of students who live in southern Indiana and northern Kentucky. Indiana University Southeast is located on the state border between Indiana and Kentucky. Students desire to become licensed in both Indiana and Kentucky. Currently, Kentucky counseling licensing requires that applicants graduate from a CACREP accredited program. As a result of this decision, the MMHC program was created and became a stand-alone counseling program which was no longer an integrated program with the other regional campuses as those campus counseling programs did not desire to pursue accreditation. In the Fall of 2020, the new MMHC Program was approved.

Program Statistics

Program graduates

2020	2022
13	18

- The MMHC program has graduated two cohorts. In 2020, the program graduated 13 students and in 2022 the program graduated 18 students.
- All 2018 cohort graduates are now either LMCHAs or LPCAs. Ten of the 2018 cohort graduates are licensed in the state of Indiana, one is licensed in Kentucky and Ohio, and one is licensed in the state of Washington.
- All the 2018 cohort graduates have successfully passed the National Counselor Exam (NCE) which is required for initial licensure in Indiana, Kentucky, and Washington.
- Graduates of the 2018 cohort are 100% employed and are employed in counseling centers, private practice, and counseling group practices.
- Masters Mental Health Counseling student rates of completion of the program for both the 2018 and the 2022 cohorts is 86% and 75%, respectively.

Summary Of Program Evaluation Results

The first annual MMHC Program Assessment report was completed for Fall of 2020 to Fall of 2021. The program engages in systematic assessment of program students to ensure program objectives as well as CACREP standards are being met. Assessment also ensures students are learning the content necessary to pass state licensing exams such as the NCE and the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE).

The following Broad Areas of Counseling Knowledge and Practice (BACKP) were assessed and reported in the MMHC Program Annual Assessment Report:

Program Objectives

1. Provide a quality graduate level education in mental health counseling through the provision of a curriculum infused with critical thinking skills, multicultural competencies, ethics, and professionalism.
2. Prepare graduates to advocate for the needs of diverse persons and work to promote social justice for the communities and individuals they serve.

3. Provide a practice-oriented program which provides an educational experience that encourages applied, theoretical knowledge while supporting students in the development of professional and clinical practice.
4. Foster an environment that educates and empowers professional counselors to become leaders and advocates for the profession and the greater community.
5. Provide an educational environment that upholds a wellness perspective and encourages wellness based personal and professional practices.
6. Provide specialized instruction, training, and supervision in clinical mental health counseling skills to prepare students to work in a variety of mental health settings.

Broad Areas of Assessment of Counseling Knowledge and Practices

Assessment Area A: Professionalism, Advocacy, and Ethical Practices

Assessment Area B: Theoretically based, culturally sensitive Clinical Practice

Assessment Area C: Professionalism and Wellness Practices

Assessment Area D: Counseling and Helping Relationships

Program Modifications

In 2018, the MMHC Program faculty made the decision to pursue accreditation by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). The required the program to become a stand-alone program that does not serve any of the other regional campuses in the Indiana University regional college system. The decision was made to better serve students who live on the borders of both Indiana and Kentucky. Currently, Kentucky requires that applicants graduate from a CACREP accredited program in order to become licensed. Many MMHC Program students wish to be licensed both in Indiana and in other states that may require this accreditation. This accreditation would result in greater employability of MMHC Program graduates.

In addition, the MMHC Program is now a hybrid program with no more than 50% of program courses being online. This allows the program to provide a quality program that meets the needs of adults who often work full time and need flexibility.

The program now requires students participate in a New Student Orientation for each cohort that is admitted in the Fall of each year. New students are oriented to the program and are provided a fully updated MMHC Program Student Handbook. Students are also required to attend an orientation to Practicum/Internship at the beginning of their clinical year.

The MMHC Program has now begun to institute a systematic assessment of the program to ensure quality student learning and that students are prepared to successfully pass counselor licensing exams. Results of the assessment are reported previously in this report.

Program students are now assessed using a dispositional rubric that is related to program objectives and areas of assessment by faculty each semester. Once a year students receive by email or letter that details their progress in the program and any areas that students may need to develop. Students are apprised of their progress in the program verbally by their advisor each semester.

Substantial Program Changes

The primary substantive change to the MMHC Program, in addition to the change to a stand-alone program, is that the plan of study of the MMHC Program in several ways. First, the program added a new course: COUN C537 Program Evaluation. This course was required for several reasons: (1) one of the content areas required by CACREP is program evaluation, (2) one of the content areas students must be knowledgeable about is program evaluation for the National Counselor Exam (NCE) and (3) to replace the advanced Internship course. Replacing the advanced internship with the program evaluation course ensures that the program remains a 60 hour program which is required by both CACREP and Indianan counselor licensing.

Since the development of the new MMHC Plan of Study, Indiana has changed educational requirements for the internship. Previously, students were required to complete 9 credit hours and 900 clock hours of Internship. This consisted of two semesters of internship and one semester of an advanced internship. Since 2020, the State of Indiana Counselor Licensing Board reduced the hour requirements for internship. Presently, applicants are only required to have completed 6 credit hours and 600 clock hours of internship. An advanced internship is no longer required.

The following plan of study was initially approved but is waiting for final approval by the Indiana University Southeast Trustees:

Current MMHC Program Plan of Study

COUN-C 520 Research in Counseling
 COUN-C 504 Counseling Theories
 COUN C532 Introduction to Group Counseling

Complete two semesters (total 6 credit hours)

COUN C550 Internship in Counseling (300 clock hours for each enrollment for a total of 600 clock hours)

*Due to Indiana licensing changes students are no longer required to complete an advanced internship as a part of their Masters program. Previously students were required to complete three semesters of Internship enrollment for 9 credit hours and a total of 900 clock hours).

COUN-C552 Career Counseling and Development
 COUN-C563 Foundations of Mental Health Counseling
 COUN-C 567 Intro to Marriage and Family Therapy
 COUN-C 501 Multicultural Counseling
 COUN-C 600 Counseling Techniques: Cognitive Behavioral Interventions
 COUN-C 669 Assessment in Counseling
 COUN-C 514 Lifespan Development
 COUN-C 511 Professional Issues and Ethics
 COUN-C535 Introduction to Addictions Counseling
 COUN-C 540 Principles of Assessment & Prediction
 COUN-C 624 Principles of Psychopathology
 COUN-C 524 Clinical Practicum (100 clock hours)
 COUN-C 601 Counseling Techniques: Affective/Humanistic Interventions
 COUN-C 736 Child Psychopathology
 COUN-C 537 Program Evaluation

*Program Evaluation is an added course. Due to the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs standards which requires that students receive instruction about program evaluation and assessment this course was added to the program. This is a content area that is also included in the counselor licensing exam.