The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program is a 60 semester hour master’s degree program of study that is intended for students who seek licensure in Michigan as professional counselors and employment in community-based mental health centers, hospitals and other treatment centers, and private practice. The program prepares graduates to work as professional counselors with diverse clients presenting with a range of mental and emotional disorders, and promoting mental health and wellness. Candidates who are selected for this program are expected to make a major commitment to their graduate level training and education as well as to enroll in course work on a regular basis. The program includes a 100 clock-hour practicum experience and concludes with a 600 clock-hour supervised counseling internship experience.

This program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), a specialized accrediting body that evaluates and grants accreditation to graduate-level programs in professional counseling. The program meets the academic and internship requirements for limited licensure as a professional counselor (LLPC) in the State of Michigan. Information on full licensure as a professional counselor is available in the Student Handbook for Counseling Programs. The program may meet requirements for licensure in states that require 60-semester hour master’s degree programs; however, specific course requirements vary from state to state.

**Admission Requirements**

For admission an applicant must:

1. Complete the Graduate School Application online at emich.edu/graduate/apply/.
2. **ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE.**
3. Have earned a valid undergraduate degree from an accredited four-year institution of higher education. Official transcripts must be submitted. Official electronic transcripts can be sent to transcripts_admissions@emich.edu.
4. International students must meet the language requirements of the Graduate School.
5. Evidence of academic aptitude for graduate-level study, that includes **at least one** of the following:
A 2.75 overall undergraduate GPA, or a 3.0 GPA in the second half of the undergraduate degree program.

b. A graduate GPA of a 3.3 on a previously completed advanced degree.

c. GRE scores that are not more than five years old. The student must score at 50th percentile or above to be accepted.

6. Personal Statement: A statement focusing on the applicant’s motivation and rationale for seeking admission to the specific program as well as his or her background and goals related to professional studies.

7. Experience: Relevant experiences in helping that may consist of paid professional work or structured volunteer experiences, which provide evidence of the applicant’s commitment and understanding of the mental health field. These experiences may be referenced in the above Statement of Intent, and must be documented in the resume.

8. Résumé: A focused summary of program-relevant educational, career and/or life experiences.

9. Three recommendations: These must be completed on rating forms available from the department office or website. They should be completed by professionals with knowledge of the applicant’s suitability for graduate work (e.g., supervisors, undergraduate professors) in helping professions.

**Admission Process**

Applications for Graduate Admission are processed in rolling admissions for candidates to begin their program of study in the Fall or Winter. Candidates who choose to begin taking courses in the Summer sessions should be aware that they may not have access to the recommended sequence of courses.

To be considered for the admission process, a completed application including transcripts, personal statement, resume, rating forms and other assessment(s) that may be necessary must be submitted.

1. The Office of Admissions will receive and gather ALL required documents online. To confirm that all documents have been received, please contact the Office of Admissions via:
   - Email: documents_admissions@emich.edu
   - Phone: 734.487.3400

2. Each applicant will receive a rating on the following criteria: academic potential; the quality and extensiveness of career/life/educational experiences relevant to the field of clinical mental health counseling; professional goals/objectives; and recommendations. Based on these ratings, applicants may move to the second phase of the process.

3. Applicants admitted to the second phase of the admission process will be invited to campus to participate in a personal interview. They will also receive information about programs of study, faculty expectations, and related topics such as professional counselor licensure. Applicants may be asked to submit additional materials at this time. Based on evaluation of all materials and the interviews, admissions decisions will be made. Denied applicants who wish to reapply may do so after a consultation with the coordinator of advising to understand the basis of their denial.

4. The admissions appeal procedure provides each applicant with the opportunity to formally appeal the admissions decision. Appeals must be based on an applicant’s perception that his/her due process rights were violated during the admissions process. The procedure is not intended for applicants who do not meet minimum standards for admission as outlined above. Appeal must begin within five working days of the start of the semester following the admissions decision. Applicants wishing to appeal must contact the Coordinator of Advising to obtain written information regarding the appeal procedure.
5. Program advisors will be assigned after students have been admitted to the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program. The advisor will assist the student in developing the program of graduate study that is required for full admission to the clinical mental health counseling program. Students must meet with their advisor to develop a formal program of study before the completion of 12 credits toward their degree.

All courses and subsequent changes must be approved by the advisor. Transfer credit can be used toward graduation only if it has been reviewed and accepted by the student’s advisor and is within Graduate School guidelines. The master’s degree program must be completed within a six-year period.

Proposed Program of Study

The following outline describes the general program requirements leading to the master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling.

Basic Counseling Core (required - 33 hours)
COUN 503 Dynamics of Life Development (3)
COUN 504 Counseling Research (3)
COUN 505 Counselor Development: Basic Skills (3)
COUN 508 Theories of Counseling (3)
COUN 515 Crisis Intervention (3)
COUN 520 Assessment in Counseling (3)
COUN 530 Career Devl and Information Services (3)
COUN 540 Group Process I (3)
COUN 571 Cross-cultural Counseling (3)
COUN 580 Counselor Devl: Counseling Process (3)
COUN 622 Diagnosis &Trtmnt Planning in Counsel (3)

Specialization Area (required - 13 hours)
COUN 574 Couple and Family Counseling (3)
COUN 575 Substance Abuse Counseling I (2)
COUN 623 Advanced Treatment Plng&Intrvnt (3)
COUN 660 Case Management (2)
COUN 694 Ethical, Legal &Prof Issues in CMHC (3)

Supervised Counseling Experiences (8 hours)
COUN 684 Counseling Practicum I (2)
COUN 686 Counseling Practicum I (4)
COUN 691A The Counseling Internship (1)
COUN 691B The Counseling Internship (2)
COUN 691C The Counseling Internship (3)
COUN 691D The Counseling Internship (4)

Elective Courses (0-6 hours)
Students select electives with their advisor to enhance their professional growth. They may choose from this list or choose other COUN courses that meet this objective.
COUN 570 Diag&Treting Depressed Clients (2)
COUN 590-592 Special Topics (1-3)
COUN 651 Counseling with Children (3)
COUN 680 Special Topics (2)

Exam Requirement

To be eligible for graduation with a master’s degree in counseling, the student must successfully complete the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE).

Coordinator of Advising Information
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Ron Flowers, Ed.D.
Department Head
rflowers@emich.edu

Additional Department Information

Additional information can be found on the department website.

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