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WELCOME

Welcome to the Department of Psychological Counseling! You have chosen to attend one of the pioneer programs for counseling in the state of New Jersey. Monmouth University’s graduate counseling program was one of the first programs in New Jersey to meet all of the educational requirements for the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) license, and was the first in New Jersey to offer a 60-credit Master of Science program in mental health counseling. This MS was also the first mental health counseling program in the State of New Jersey to be accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) in the area of Mental Health Counseling. Our faculty is dedicated to help you grow into the best counselor you can be. We look forward to your successful completion of our graduate program and congratulate you on your commitment to helping others.

PURPOSE OF THIS HANDBOOK

The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with information about the Psychological Counseling Department at Monmouth University, the available programs of study, and the policies, regulations and professional activities relevant to our programs. Information about updates to this manual will be made available in your classes, through emails sent to our students, and on our website, http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/departments/psychological_counseling.asp. It is the students’ responsibility to be familiar with the current student handbook. An updated hard copy of this handbook is maintained in the department office.

DEPARTMENT OFFICES, FACULTY AND RESOURCES

The Department of Psychological Counseling is located in the Monmouth Health Sciences Center at the Monmouth Park Corporate Center, only 2.5 miles from Monmouth University. Students seeking information or appointments with department faculty members should contact those faculty members directly, or contact the office coordinator by email or by calling (732) 571-3570. The office is generally staffed between the hours of 9:00 am and 6 pm on Mondays through Thursdays, and on Friday mornings. Students are encouraged to contact faculty through email or by phone (see email addresses and phone numbers below).

The Department website is used to provide needed information to the students and faculty. The website contains faculty bios, printable versions of the student handbook and the Field Placement Handbook, answers to frequently asked questions, video recordings of student information sessions and other media presentations, and important links to professional associations and other useful Monmouth University sites. Department bulletin boards are also used for conveying information to our students. You are encouraged to review these boards and the department website periodically. The website address is http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/psychological_counseling/default.asp

Students have access to Psychological Counseling Department library, located in the vicinity of our faculty offices. The library includes many professional books, journals, and pamphlets covering both general and specific topics in counseling. The Department also houses two observation rooms, each connected via one-way mirrors with a control room that allows observation or video recording of the activities in the observation rooms. These rooms are used to observe practice counseling sessions both in a live mode, as well as via audio and video recording.
and viewing equipment. The Observation Rooms are used for several courses including PC 525, Counseling Theories and Techniques; PC 550 Group Counseling; PC 595 Counseling Practicum; and PC 680 Clinical Internship. In addition, The Monmouth Health Sciences Center has a computer lab available for our students, allowing them access to the university’s technology resources.

Because of zoning regulations, students cannot be in the building when no one from our department is here. Consequently, the building is open to students ONLY on the following days/times:

- Mondays 8:30 AM to 10:05 PM
- Tuesdays 8:30 AM to 10:05 PM
- Wednesdays 8:30 AM to 10:05 PM
- Thursdays 8:30 AM to 10:05 PM
- Fridays 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Please also note that during most mornings, no classes are scheduled and therefore students can only come if our Office Coordinator is here. Students planning to come any day prior to noon should check with our Office Coordinator ahead of time about whether the building will be open and available. If any student needs to use a computer lab on weekends, labs on main campus are open and available.

**Meet the faculty**

**George Kanalka.** Professor and Chair. Ph.D., Fairleigh Dickinson University. Specialization in the areas of counseling, clinical and school psychology with emphasis on child and adolescent counseling and assessment, learning disabilities, school consultation and legal/forensic issues. Current research program is focused on the education, counseling and management of children with behavioral problems (including ADHD) in school and at home, as well as researching the effectiveness of nutritional and herbal supplements to treat psychological and emotional disorders.

**David Burkholder.** Assistant Professor. Ph.D., Counselor Education, Kent State University. Prior to accepting his current position at Monmouth University, Dr. Burkholder was a child and adolescent outpatient therapist at a community mental health center in Ohio. Dr. Burkholder is an independently licensed counselor in the state of Ohio and New Jersey and also possesses certifications in career counseling. Dr. Burkholder’s areas of teaching include career counseling, group counseling, tests and assessments, human growth and development, and counseling theory and techniques. David’s current research program is focused on ethical issues in counseling, spirituality, doctoral student retention, and professional identity.

**Alan A. Cavaiola.** Professor. Ph.D., Hofstra University. Specialization in the area of counseling issues related to mental health and psychology, with a primary interest in alcoholism, substance abuse and other addictive behaviors, and their impact on individuals, couples and families. Teaching, research and counseling interest focus on adolescent development, sequelae of trauma, abnormal personality development, DUI offenders, and workplace dynamics.

**Stephanie Hall.** Assistant Professor. PhD., Counselor Education, University of New Orleans. A licensed professional counselor in both New Jersey and Louisiana, Dr. Hall's interests include multicultural counseling, women’s issues in counseling, professional identity of counselors, grief counseling, and group work. Dr. Hall also serves as the secretary for the Association of Multicultural Counseling and Development.
**Gary J. Handler.** Specialist Professor. Field Placement Coordinator; Ph.D., New York University. Specialization is in mental health counseling, focusing on cognitive and behavioral approaches. Areas of teaching interest include counseling skills and understanding the latest research (including biology and neuroscience) on mental health development and the evolution, prevention and treatment of mental health issues. Responsibilities also include supporting students in field placement and providing clinical supervision.

**Joanne Jodry.** Specialist Professor. Ed.D., Argosy University, Counselor Education & Supervision (CACREP), DMH, Doctor of Medical Humanities, Drew University. Specializations in professional mental health counseling, with primary clinical interests in women’s issues throughout the life span, life crisis, and existential issues. Areas of interest in research include: feminist counseling and its future impact on the counseling profession, the interplay of psychology and religion (through a world religion perspective), and the impact of the therapeutic relationships on the therapist.

**Vonetta Kalieta.** Temporary Instructor . PhD., Walden University. Specializes in sports counseling with athletes and mental health counseling with adolescents and their families. Areas of interest include student-athlete development, theories of learning, group dynamic, sports counseling, and new counselor development.

**Alisha Rowley.** Specialist Professor. Ph.D., North Carolina State University. Specializations in mental health counseling and school counseling with an emphasis on adolescent assessment and counseling, childhood behavioral disturbances, consultation with schools on student retention, and counseling low income families. Research interests include African American single mothers, social justice issues, diversity and multicultural populations.

**Solomon Z. Schuck.** Associate Professor. Ph.D., New York University. Specialization in Crisis Intervention and Family Therapy with a bias towards prevention. Areas of interest include the utilization of culturally consonant approaches to primary prevention. Research interests include an evaluation of the role of communication and compatibility in relationship satisfaction.

**Frances K. Trotman.** Professor. Ph.D., Columbia University. Areas of interest include child development, racism and minority issues; stress management; divorce mediation; aging; academic resilience; women’s issues; feminist counseling and counseling with African American women
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. George Kapalka</td>
<td>732-263-5583</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gkapalka@monmouth.edu">gkapalka@monmouth.edu</a></td>
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<td>Dr. Alishea Rowley</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:arowley@monmouth.edu">arowley@monmouth.edu</a></td>
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<td>Dr. Solomon Schuck</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Frances Trotman</td>
<td>732-571-3689</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ftrotman@monmouth.edu">ftrotman@monmouth.edu</a></td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Hoerchak</td>
<td>732-544-8242</td>
<td><a href="mailto:choerch@monmouth.edu">choerch@monmouth.edu</a></td>
<td>Office Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advisors

Each student is assigned a faculty advisor, a faculty member from the department. Students are assigned an advisor upon admission to the program. It is the student’s responsibility to know who is serving as the faculty advisor, and this information can be obtained from Web Advisor. The faculty advisor is each student’s primary contact person regarding the program of study, choice of courses, registration questions, general information about academic progress, career plans, etc. The responsibility for this relationship is the student’s, since each advisor has many students on his or her case load. The department encourages students to take the initiative to foster this relationship.

Any questions regarding registration, course selection, etc., should be directed first and foremost to students’ advisors, and students should first visit our department web site, since the answers to many questions are already there (for example, see the FAQs). Although in our department we have two Department Advising Coordinators (DACs), a chair, and an office coordinator, these individuals are not meant to replace regular advising with each student’s assigned advisor. Questions of purely administrative nature (for example, “where can I find this form”) can be directed to our office coordinator (again, first check the web site). All questions pertaining to any academic issues must be directed to students’ advisors. The advisor will forward the inquiry to the chair or DAC if such becomes necessary.

While students may request to change advisors (for example, if the schedules are not compatible), often these requests cannot be approved. Our faculty members carry an extensive load of advisees, and it is usually not possible to add any more advisees unless someone else drops out. Please note that administrative changes in advisors may need to occur from time to time. This may be precipitated by several reasons – faculty going on leaves, changes in personnel, or graduation rates that require redistribution of remaining students to other advisors. While we try to make such changes as infrequently as possible, they are sometimes unavoidable. We encourage our students to ask questions of any of faculty members, so please feel free to approach any faculty member in our department for academic advice. However, when asking advice about proceeding through your studies, please make sure that your advisor is “in the loop.” Thus, please feel free to ask other faculty members IN ADDITION to asking your advisor, but NOT INSTEAD of asking your advisor.

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Department Mission Statement

The Graduate Programs offered by the Psychological Counseling Department aim to develop mental health professionals who can effectively address issues of wellness, personal growth, as well as pathology for the benefit of a diverse population of clients. We expect our graduates to be able to apply mental health, human development and psychological principles through multiple strategies depending on the needs of their clients. The curricula of the programs prepare our students for licensing as Professional Counselors, or to continue their education in related doctorate programs. Our graduates are expected to contribute to the field through practice, education and professional leadership.

Objectives

To carry out its mission, the department has specified a set of objectives that are implemented through its programs.
A. **Personal Qualities**  
(1) Self-awareness, self-acceptance, self-objectivity  
(2) Personal congruence  
(3) Ability to interact constructively with youths and adults  
(4) Professional commitment  
(5) Constructive professional relationships  
(6) Authenticity  
(7) Respect for the dignity and worth of others  
(8) Sensitivity to individuals and their needs  

B. **Understandings**  
(1) Development processes – typical and atypical  
(2) Personality and adjustment processes – adaptive and maladaptive  
(3) Learning processes – cognitive, behavioral, affective, and interpersonal  
(4) Counseling processes – individual, group, and family  
(5) Group dynamics  
(6) Measurement and evaluation  
(7) Role of the Psychological Counselor  
(8) Statistics and research methodology  
(9) Career development  
(10) Professional, ethical, and legal aspects of counseling  
(11) Cultural and gender issues  

C. **Skills**  
(1) Interviewing techniques  
(2) Test administration and interpretation  
(3) Case conceptualization and communication  
(4) Individual counseling techniques  
(5) Group counseling techniques  
(6) Family counseling technique  
(7) Evaluating and using research findings  
(8) Responding to supervision and consultation  
(9) Understanding of biological-psychological interpretations  

**Professional Expectations**  

The academic programs in the department are established to prepare graduates of the program to enter mental health professions. The term “professions” in this context means (a) an occupation/career for which there is a known body of knowledge (both theoretical and research), (b) an identified set of appropriate skills, and (c) a set of behavioral standards adhered to by members of the profession. As a student admitted to a program in the department, you are engaged in a professional preparation curriculum. Therefore, upon admission, the department accepts you as a developing professional and expects you to act in accordance with the highest professional standards.  

The most common manifestation of professionalism is adherence to professional ethical standards such as those of the (a) American Counseling Association and (b) the National Board for Certified Counselors. Copies of the current versions of these sets of ethical standards are provided in a file located in the departmental office, and links to these documents are provided on the department’s web site. You will be required to read and understand several different sets of ethical standards as a
part of your coursework in your program of study. The department faculty expects you to be knowledgeable of these standards and to act in accordance with them. However, professionalism encompasses much more than just adherence to ethical and/or other written standards. It includes appropriate and effective ways of interaction with people, matters of personal conduct and self-presentation, and respect of people, property and processes. If you have any concerns about appropriate professional behavior for you or for others, contact your faculty advisor immediately.

It is the department’s responsibility, as mandated by CACREP standards, to graduate only those students who have shown evidence of being capable to handle professional responsibilities and behave in strict accordance with relevant legal regulations and ethical guidelines (for example, as per ACA Code of Ethics). Students who have not shown the ability to do so may be counseled out of the profession, and in cases of serious misconduct, may be terminated from the program. Similarly, students who have been referred for remediation and have not successfully completed recommended remediation steps, or those for whom remediation did not result in resolution of the problem, may also be terminated from the program.

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Overview

The practice of Professional Counseling is defined as “a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals” (ACA, 2010). Monmouth University’s Psychological Counseling Department offers three graduate programs that equip students with the theoretical and practical aspects of a career in counseling.

The Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling is a 60 credit program that allows the students to complete all the credits, including the core curriculum, required for Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) licensure in NJ (and many other states) and the National Certified Counselor credential. In addition, the program allows the students to pursue specialty areas and enhance their counseling skills with field experience. The MS in Mental Health Counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). This program’s mission is to train students to be leaders and advocates in the field of mental health counseling. Our program is based on humanistic values promoting prevention, wellness, personal growth and human development and on the facilitation potential of human interactions.

The Master of Arts in Psychological Counseling is a 30-credit program that focuses on counseling techniques, assessment methods, mental health and community counseling issues. This basic graduate program prepares the student for entry to further graduate training leading to a PhD. In addition, students in other professions (for example education) are able to gain the background and skills necessary for preparation for professional certifications (e.g., Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC), Substance Abuse Counselors (SAC) in schools, etc.), or to obtain employment in the helping professions at non-profit organizations (those exempt from the NJ licensing laws). The core course content is similar to the first half of our MS program and it requires completion of one field experience (a practicum).

The Master of Arts in Psychological Counseling – Addiction Studies Track is a thirty-three-credit program designed to prepare students to become addictions counselors who work with individuals, groups, couples and families impacted by various types of substance use and addictive disorders.
Graduates are prepared to work within a variety of addictions treatment programs and agencies and eventually to practice privately. The Addictions Studies Track was developed to meet the educational requirements for the LCADC (Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor), which is a New Jersey state license (However, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure acceptability by the licensing agency). The program is accredited by NASAC. PC 505 Mental Health Counseling must be taken during the first term of study.

**Curriculum Charts**

These curriculum charts detail the course requirements for each of the two programs offered by the Department. Please refer to the Graduate Catalogue for course descriptions, required course sequences and prerequisites.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements: 60 Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PC 505: Mental Health Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 506: Testing &amp; Assessment in Counseling</td>
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<td>PC 510: Community Mental Health</td>
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<td>PC 512: Psychopathology</td>
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<td>PC 515: Human Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 525: Counseling Theory and Technique</td>
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<td>PC 526: Case Conceptualization</td>
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<td>PC 529 Multicultural Counseling</td>
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<td>PC 545: Psychopharmacology</td>
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<td>PC 550: Group Counseling</td>
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<td>PC 570: Career Counseling</td>
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<td>PC 601: Understanding Stats in Counseling Research</td>
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<td>PC 603: Research Methods in Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 595: Counseling Practicum</td>
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<td>PC-CPE: Comprehensive Examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 680: Clinical Internship (three internships 3.0 credits each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives: Choose from PC 500-600 level courses</td>
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</table>

Total Credits for Master of Science in Professional Counseling= 60.0
This program meets the CACREP standards for a 60-credit Master’s program in Mental Health Counseling.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master’s of Arts in Psychological Counseling</th>
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<tr>
<td>Requirements: 30 Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 505: Mental Health Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 506: Testing &amp; Assessment in Counseling</td>
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<td>PC 510: Community Mental Health</td>
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<td>PC 512: Psychopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 525: Counseling Theory and Techniques</td>
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<td>PC 550: Group Counseling</td>
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<td>PC 595: Counseling Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives: Choose counseling electives from among PC 500, PC 600 level courses</td>
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## Master’s of Arts in Psychological Counseling—Addiction Studies Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements: 33 Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PC 505 Mental Health Counseling</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 510 Community Mental Health</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 512 Psychopathology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 525 Counseling Theory and Technique</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 550 Group Counseling</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 595 Psychological Counseling Practicum</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 540 Introduction to Alcohol and Drug Abuse</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 542 Treatment of Alcohol and Drug Abuse</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 544 Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counseling</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 545 Psychopharmacology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 546 Substance Awareness in the Schools</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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</table>
**Specialization Areas:**

Students may elect to concentrate in various areas of counseling. Students must complete a form (see Appendix E) located in the department office. The following 9 to 12 credit specialization areas are commonly offered in the department (see Appendix E):

A. Child and Adolescent Counseling  
B. Alcohol & Drug Counseling  
C. Spirituality and Counseling  
D. Couples & Family Counseling  
E. Development & Learning

In addition, depending on specific interests, students may design a custom-made specialization area with their advisors. Your advisor is available to discuss the specialization areas in greater detail.

**Course Sequencing**

All students must successfully complete PC 505 during their first semester of study. Successful completion of this course means attendance of all the MANDATORY in-person days for the hybrid sections of this course. Students who do not successfully complete PC 505 in their first term of study will be blocked from continuing in the program until PC 505 is completed.

Generally, students should complete PC 525, PC 512, and PC 510 (and PC 515 and PC 506 for those programs which require them) early in their studies, as these courses provide important background information that will allow students to learn more in subsequent courses in the program. Student must check the Graduate Catalog to observe any prerequisites listed for any of the courses in the program.

**Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE)**

Students in the MS program must pass the CPCE in order to be able to graduate. The CPCE was developed by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) and is used by the Psychological Counseling department as an exit requirement for students to obtain their MS degree. Because the CPCE examines the same eight content areas as the National Counselor Exam (NCE), the CPCE also serves to prepare students for the NCE. The CPCE has 160 questions, with 20 questions in each of the eight content areas.

The CPCE is administered on the fourth Saturday after the start of classes every semester. A corresponding preparation workshop is offered on the second Saturday after classes start every Fall and Spring semester. Students are encouraged to attend the preparation workshop and consult Howard Rosenthal’s Encyclopedia of Counseling in preparing for the CPCE.

The prerequisite for taking the CPCE is the completion of a minimum of 39 credits and enrollment in or completion of at least one PC 680 (internship) class. It is also recommended that the examination be taken at least one semester before a student’s planned graduation date, ensuring enough time to take the CPCE again if a passing grade is not attained.

Students who fail the CPCE on their first attempt will be encouraged to retake the exam at a future date. In exceptional circumstances, the department will refer the student to faculty members with expertise in areas in which the student scored low on the examination to arrange for any remedial work.
Clinical Experience in the Field

A key part of all our programs of study is clinical field experience. Students complete 3 (in the MA) and 12 (in the MS) credits of supervised field experience that provides the opportunity to counsel actual clients at department approved field sites. Students have the opportunity to help diverse client populations, and students in the MS must complete placement experiences in at least two sites. Each field experience course is aided by close clinical supervision at the site, as well as group supervision at the department. The Field Placement Handbook provides the students with the details of the requirements for entering and completing such site experiences and registering for the associated practicum and internship courses, including the process for selecting sites and all the details for completing the two levels of training – the practicum (the initial field experience) and subsequent internships. All the forms that need to be completed before and during the field experience are also included in the handbook, which is posted on the department’s website.

DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

All students have an e-mail address based on their student id number. Students must check their e-mail frequently as faculty and the university uses this method to communicate important information. In addition, several courses use on-line technology to teach and disseminate information, and students can contact Monmouth University Help Desk to receive instructions about how they can access their Monmouth University email from home and on their cell phones.

Course Registration

Each year, the university publishes a Graduate Catalog, which is available on the university web site. The graduate catalog in effect at the time the student was admitted to the graduate program is the catalog of record for that student’s course of study and each student will generally graduate in accordance with the provisions described in that catalog. However, prerequisites for any courses may change along the way, and students are bound by the new prerequisites regardless of whether these were in effect when students entered the program. This catalog also includes course descriptions for each course offered in the degree programs. For each course, the catalog also lists any required prerequisites for each course.

Once per year, approximately mid-way through the spring semester, the university posts all courses available for registration on Web Advisor for Students (http://webadvisor.monmouth.edu/). A few weeks prior to the opening of pre-registration period, Registrar's notifies all students (via email) of the specific date/time when students will be able to pre-register. On the target date and time, graduate students (except those on conditional status) become able to self-register on-line (using Web Advisor for Students). From this point forward, students are able to register for any available courses until the end of the add/drop period at the start of this semester (which generally is the end of the first week of classes for that semester). Any changes in course schedules, additions, cancellations, etc. are reflected on Web Advisor for Students, and students are encouraged to check the listing regularly. To receive academic advice, students are encouraged to contact their advisors.

With the exception of students on conditional status (who can not self-register), all other graduate
students are expected to self-register for the courses they desire. Students who are on conditional status must work with their advisors to register for classes. Students are advised to carefully check prerequisites for courses.

Students are not able to self-register for field placement courses – please check the Field Placement Handbook for proper registration procedures for these courses. For any questions about field placement courses, contact our Field Placement Coordinator, Dr. Gary Handler (ghandler@monmouth.edu).

The department maintains the ultimate control over the registration for its courses. This ensures that only qualified individuals obtain certain professional credentials, and also ensures that all prerequisites for a course have been satisfied. The department considers the forgery of a signature on a registration form (or any other misrepresentation) to be unethical and unprofessional. This behavior is sufficient cause for immediate dismissal from enrollment in the program.

Registration Over Capacity

Students should not ask faculty members to allow them to register for courses that are full. All students wishing to register for a course that is already closed should add themselves to the wait list. Wait lists are regularly monitored and additional sections will be opened if size of the wait list for any course warrants another section and the department is able to get the course covered by a faculty member willing to teach it. Students must be prepared to take another course if another section of the desired course is not opened.

Credit Overload

For every semester, including the Summer, students are limited to registering for nine credits per academic semester. Students may petition to take a credit overload, which requires approval of their advisor and the department chair. To request an override, students must complete a form available at the department office or at the end of this document (see Appendix A). Overloads are approved rarely, and only in exceptional circumstances, following these suggested criteria:

1) Student must be full admit into the program, not conditional admit. Advisors will verify this when considering the request.
2) Student must have completed at least 9 credits at Monmouth. Student must attach a transcript to verify meeting this requirement.
3) In the credits completed in our program thus far, student attained a cumulative GPA of at least 3.35 before the request can be granted. Student must attach a transcript to verify meeting this requirement.
4) Students will not be permitted to take more than 9 credits during any semester in which they are enrolled in a field placement course (practicum or internship). This includes the entire summer.
5) Students will have sufficient prior experience in the field.
6) In addition to meeting the above criteria, the advisor supports the student’s request and the specific combination of 12 credits that are proposed by the student.
**Conditional Status**

Students on conditional status (for example, admitted conditionally into the program) are required to file a petition to have their conditional status removed. This requires the completion of a form available in the department office (see Appendix B), and must be approved by the student’s advisor and the department chair. When completing this form, students MUST attach to this form the written proof of the original conditions (for example, a print-out notifying the student of the conditions of admission), as well as proof that the imposed conditions have been met.

**Additional Forms**

Additional forms have been included at the end of this document to assist students in accessing these forms and becoming familiar with department procedures, including a registration override form (see Appendix C) and a table of commonly used forms (see Appendix D). All forms are available in hard-copy at the department.

**Transfer Credits**

Generally, students transferring into the MS are limited to 12 transfer credits, and students transferring into the MA are limited to nine transfer credits. Credits transferred must be prior graduate work equivalent to current Monmouth University graduate courses, and may not be courses that were used to obtain any prior degree. In all cases, transfer of credits must be approved by the department – minimally, the student’s advisor, but in some cases the chair’s approval may be needed. In addition, all students currently in our programs MUST pre-approve any course they wish to take at another institution if they plan to apply these courses toward any of the department’s graduate programs.

**College Retention Standards**

The requirements of a particular master’s program must be satisfied within a period not exceeding five calendar years and not including a period of service in the Armed Forces. The graduate catalogue in effect at the time of admission, readmission, or the change in major (whichever is later), shall normally be the student’s official catalogue of record. If a student has not completed the requirements of the curriculum within five calendar years, the student must update the curriculum of record (including all requirements) to the current one in existence when the 5 year period elapsed. Requests for exceptions to a curriculum update should be directed in writing to the chair of the Psychological Counseling Department. The chair’s recommendation is then forwarded to the academic school dean and graduate school dean for final approval. The acceptance at Monmouth University of graduate courses taken elsewhere more than five years prior is at the discretion of the advisor and chair and is determined on a case-by-case basis.

**Minimum Academic Standing**

Graduate students are required to maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better. Students who fail to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0, or who accumulate as many as three credits of “B-”, “C+”, “C”, “C-“ or “F” grades will be subject to review by the Academic Standards and Review Committee. Under no circumstances will more than six credits of “C+”, “C” and “C-“ grades accumulate toward degree credit. Students will not receive their degrees until all the policies on the number of C grades and GPA are met.
Academic or Non-Academic Dismissal

A student shall become subject to dismissal for any of the following conditions:

1) For failing to earn in three continuous semesters a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0.

2) For accumulating nine credits of “C+”, “C” and “C-“.

3) For accumulating six credits of “F”, or three credits of “F” and three credits of “B-“, “C+”, “C” and “C-“.

4) For excessive course withdrawals. A student is considered to have withdrawn excessively if credits for those courses in which “W” grades have been received total more than 25% of the total number of credits attempted at Monmouth University. This policy affects all students after they have attempted at least 12 credits at Monmouth University.

5) For serious professional/ethical misconduct.

6) For failure to successfully implement the recommendations of the department’s Professional Development Committee, or when implementing the recommendations of the department’s Professional Development Committee did not sufficiently resolve the original problem (see below).

Professional Development Process

Counselor education programs are mandated to monitor the development of counseling students. The primary source for this mandate is the American Counseling Association’s (ACA; 2005) ACA Code of Ethics. Section F.9.b of the ACA Code of Ethics states that counselor educators are to consistently monitor and address student deficiencies significant enough to impair their ability to provide counseling (ACA, 2005). Additionally, programs accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) must carry out comprehensive appraisals of student performance (CACREP, 2009). Faculty who identify a student who is experiencing academic and/or non-academic concerns may refer that student to the department’s Professional Development Committee (see Appendix F). The Professional Development Committee (PDC) consists of three faculty members and is designed to assist students who are experiencing academic and/or non-academic difficulties through the implementation of a professional development plan agreement (see Appendix G). Students are bound by this agreement, and failure to implement the agreement may result in dismissal from the program.

Non-Academic Performance Requirements

Students are also expected to meet various non-academic performance requirements. These include abiding by the code of behavior of the University (for example rules and policies regarding plagiarism, sexual harassment etc.), as well as the Ethical Code of the American Counseling Association. Violations of these codes, or poor fit with the skills and characteristics required for the counseling profession (provided in the Program Goals and Objectives section of this handbook) can result in disciplinary action with consequences up to and including dismissal from the program. It is the responsibility of the students to familiarize themselves with these codes of behavior.
Recommendation and Endorsement Policy

The graduate programs of the department have been carefully designed to prepare the students who graduate for specific professional settings. Therefore, the department members can only provide endorsements for professional positions and position levels appropriate to the respective programs completed. Thus, for example, the department cannot give a recommendation for an alcohol and drug counselor position to someone who did not have that concentration and did not complete a field experience consistent with this area of practice.

The department faculty does not “automatically” provide verbal and/or written endorsements. If a student desires to have a department faculty member provide a verbal and/or written endorsement, a specific request must be made to the faculty member for a specific endorsement.

In general, the department members are happy to provide both written and verbal endorsements for graduates of the programs in the department as long as the requested endorsements are appropriate and sufficient response time is provided. In addition, when the student is requesting a written recommendation, student must provide a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

APA Style Writing

The Psychological Counseling Department has implemented the requirement to use the Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) 6th Edition (2010) as the guide for all written assignments in the department. Students in the program should be familiar with this style guide prior to completing and handing in any papers for graduate courses. The APA manual may not be a required text for many of the graduate courses taken; however, students are expected to refer to it for guidance for all written assignments in Psychological Counseling courses taken at Monmouth University. The department’s website also has an additional resource to assist with APA: http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/psychological_counseling/APA_style.asp

Professional Liability Insurance

Litigations involving practitioners in counseling have increased in the last few years. The reasons for these litigations are many, and every practicing professional is a potential target for litigation. Adherence to professional ethical standards, as well as high standards for personal and professional conduct, is perhaps the best way for professionals to avoid involvement in litigations. In addition, the department requires students (at their expense) to obtain professional liability insurance prior to enrollment in any field placement course. Students can apply for Professional Liability Insurance through professional organizations (for example, as listed on the ACA web site at www.counseling.org). Fees for professional liability insurance obtained through professional organizations are in addition to the organization’s membership fees.
**Licensure and certification**

The National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc. (NBCC) is the national professional certifying agency for professional counselors at the national level. Professionals who obtain certification by the NBCC may refer to themselves as National Certified Counselors (NCCs). Graduation from our MS in Mental Health Counseling satisfies the educational requirements for the NCC. In addition, the NBCC administers the National Counselor Examination (NCE) for Licensure and Certification as a requirement for eligibility for the NCC.

NJ licensure as a Professional Counselor (LPC) requires, in part, 60 hours of graduate coursework and graduation from a CACREP-accredited Master’s degree. These requirements are satisfied when students graduate from our MS in Mental Health Counseling. Many states have licensure requirements that are similar to those in effect in NJ, however students must ascertain their own needs if they are preparing to practice in other states, and the department does not guarantee that our program meets education requirements for LPC or any other license/certification in any jurisdiction outside New Jersey.

Licensure and certification of other professional specialties (for example, Alcohol/Substance Abuse Counseling, Substance Abuse Coordinator, etc.), have varying requirements. Students may consult with their advisors to ascertain whether the courses they take are adequate for such careers.

**PROFESSIONAL/STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/STATE BOARDS**

Students are encouraged to join and participate in the activities of national, state and local professional counseling organizations. The department faculty members recognize that students' financial resources are limited. Therefore, the department faculty does not require that you become a member of one or more professional organizations pertinent to your professional goals. However, the department does believe that membership in professional organizations is an important aspect of professionalism, and therefore strongly encourages you to join professional organizations if you are able to do so. Most professional organizations offer student affiliate rates, making the process more affordable for students.

**National Level:**

*The American Counseling Association*

The American Counseling Association is a not-for-profit, professional, and educational organization that is dedicated to the growth and enhancement of the counseling profession. Founded in 1952, ACA is the world’s largest association exclusively representing professional counselors in various practice settings. The website for the American Counseling Association is [www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org).

*Other professional national counseling organizations:*

- [American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists](http://www.aamft.org) (AAMFT)
- [American Mental Health Counselors Association](http://www.amhca.org) (AMHCA)
- [American Rehabilitation Counseling Association](http://www.arca.org) (ARCA)
- [American School Counselor Association](http://www.asca.org) (ASCA)
- [American College Counseling Association](http://www.acca.org) (ACCA)
- [National Employment Counselors Association](http://www.neca.org) (NECA)
- [International Association of Addiction and Offender Counselors](http://www.iaaoc.org) (IAAOC)
- [Counselors for Social Justice](http://www.csj.org) (CSJ)
- [Association for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Issues in Counseling](http://www.aglbic.org) (AGLBIC)
Association for Counselors and Educators in Government (ACEG)
Counseling Association for Humanistic Education and Development (C-AHEAD)
Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education (AACE)
Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW)
Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD)
Association for Adult Development and Aging (AADA)
Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling (ASERVIC)
Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES)
National Career Development Association (NCDA)
International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (IAMFC)

State-Level: New Jersey Counselor Association
New Jersey Counseling Association (NJCA)
New Jersey Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (NJAMFT)

Student Organizations

Chi Sigma Iota (CSI)

Chi Sigma Iota is an international honor society for counseling. Students are eligible to become members when they have completed at least one semester of full-time study (9 credit hours) and have a grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Monmouth University’s chapter of Chi Sigma Iota is Mu Upsilon Omega, and the faculty co-advisors for the Psychological Counseling program are Drs. Stephanie Hall and David Burkholder. Contact Dr. Hall by e-mail at shall@monmouth.edu and Dr. Burkholder at dburkhol@monnnmouth.edu.

To join, or for more information about CSI, please visit the CSI Web site at www.csi-net.org

Counseling Student Association (CSA)

All graduate students enrolled in the Master’s in Mental Health Counseling program at Monmouth University are members of the Counseling Students Association (CSA). Each semester, the CSA sponsors events such as a semi-annual Labyrinth Walk, trips to relevant shows and workshops in New York, guest speakers on campus, an annual Meet & Greet to welcome our incoming counseling students, and more.

In addition to fundraisers, and initiating and promoting charitable efforts, the CSA has also offered reimbursements to students for their attendance at the annual American Counseling Association (ACA) conference. The CSA is a dynamic organization that is run by and for all our department's graduate counseling students. Please email Dr. Jodry at jiodry@monmouth.edu with any questions.

State Licensing Board Websites
Professional Counselor Examiners Committee
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee
Appendix A

Department of Psychological Counseling
Petition for Course Overload (override 9 credit limit)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name: ___________________________</th>
<th>Date of Request: ___________________________</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student I.D. #: ___________________________</td>
<td>Student’s Telephone #: ______________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student’s signature: _______________________</td>
<td>Indicate Program of Study (MS, MA, etc) ______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Courses to be registered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester and Year</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</table>

Checklist to verify satisfaction of suggested criteria:

_____ Student must be full admit into the program, not conditional admit. Advisors will verify this when considering the request.

_____ Student must have completed at least 9 credits at Monmouth. Student must attach a transcript to verify meeting this requirement.

_____ In the credits completed in our program thus far, student attained a cumulative GPA of at least 3.35 before the request can be granted. Student must attach a transcript to verify meeting this requirement.

_____ Students will not be permitted to take more than 9 credits during any semester in which they are enrolled in a field placement course (practicum or internship). This includes the entire summer.

_____ Student will have sufficient prior experience in the field.

_____ In addition to meeting the above criteria, the advisor supports the student’s request and the specific combination of 12 credits that are proposed by the student.

Additional comments from advisor:

Advisor’s approval:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Student’s advisor (print name)</th>
<th>Advisor’s signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please submit this completed and signed form to the Department Chair. Thank you.
Appendix B

Department of Psychological Counseling
Petition for Removal of Conditional Status

Student’s Name: _______________________________ Date of Request: ___________________
Student I.D. #: ___________________________ Student’s Telephone #: ___________________________
Student’s signature: ___________________________ Indicate Program of Study (MS, MA, etc) __________

This form is to be used when student requests to be taken off conditional status. Student must explain how the conditions have been met and attach proof of the original conditions (for example, admission form stating conditions) and proof of satisfaction of these (i.e., transcript/audit, etc.).

Explain How Conditions Were Satisfied

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Faculty approval:

Student’s advisor (print name) ________________________________
Advisor’s signature__________________________ Date________________________

Additional comments from advisor:

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Please submit this completed and signed form to the Department Chair.
Thank you.
Appendix C

Department of Psychological Counseling
Petition for Registration with Override

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester and Year</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

This form is to be used when the student requests to be registered with override – for example, register for courses while on conditional status, override a prerequisite, or enroll into a course over capacity limit.

Course(s) to be registered:

Faculty approval:

This section to be used when overriding prerequisites or course capacity:

Professor teaching the course (print name) ________________________________
Professor’s signature ________________________________ Date __________

This section to be used when registering for courses while on conditional status:

Student’s advisor (print name) ________________________________
Advisor’s signature ________________________________ Date __________

Please submit this completed and signed form to the Department Chair.
Thank you.
### Appendix D

**Commonly used forms – students in Department of Psychological Counseling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORM</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>DESTINATION</th>
<th>DEADLINES</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change of Program</td>
<td>Change major/degree</td>
<td>eForms (student or advisor initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>If student-initiated, must be preapproved by advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change of Program</td>
<td>Update a degree program to the most current description and requirements</td>
<td>eForms (student or advisor initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>July 1 of the academic year when the form is submitted</td>
<td>Required if student did not complete program in 5 years. If student-initiated, must be preapproved by advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overload Petition</td>
<td>Permission to take more than 9 credits in Fall or Spring semester</td>
<td>Hard-copy (available at the department); student handbook</td>
<td>Advisor, then Chair</td>
<td>Prior to registration for the semester in question</td>
<td>Must attach current transcript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer of Credits</td>
<td>Transfer free-standing (not applied toward any degree) graduate credits toward MU degree</td>
<td>eForms (student or advisor initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Must be preapproved by advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Substitution</td>
<td>Substitute another course for one listed in require curriculum</td>
<td>eForms (student or advisor initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Must be preapproved by advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Application</td>
<td>Petition for permission to take PC 595 (Practicum in Counseling)</td>
<td>Hard-copy – in Field Placement Handbook (at Department’s web site), form FP-1/P</td>
<td>Advisor, then Field Placement Coordinator</td>
<td>Summer semester – due by prior February 15. Fall semester – due by prior March 15. Spring semester – due by prior October 15.</td>
<td>Must attach current degree audit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship Application</td>
<td>Petition for permission to take PC 680 (Internship in Counseling)</td>
<td>Hard copy – in Field Placement Handbook (at Department’s web site), form FP-1/I</td>
<td>Advisor, then Field Placement Coordinator</td>
<td>Summer semester – due by prior February 15. Fall semester – due by prior March 15. Spring semester – due by prior October 15.</td>
<td>Must attach current degree audit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Placement Approval</td>
<td>Approval of specific placement to complete PC 595 or PC 680</td>
<td>Hard copy – in Field Placement Handbook (at Department’s web site), form FP-2</td>
<td>Field Placement Coordinator</td>
<td>Summer semester – due by prior February 15. Fall semester – due by prior March 15. Spring semester – due by prior October 15.</td>
<td>Must be signed by site supervisor for proposed placement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Application</td>
<td>Application to be permitted to graduate with MA or MS degree</td>
<td>eForms (student initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>Consult the current academic calendar</td>
<td>Must be preapproved by advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate Application</td>
<td>Application to be permitted to receive the post-Master’s certificate.</td>
<td>eForms (student initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>Consult the current academic calendar</td>
<td>Must be preapproved by advisor.</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add a course</td>
<td>Request permission to register for a course during add/drop period</td>
<td>eForms</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>Consult the current academic calendar</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdraw from a course</td>
<td>Request permission to drop a course in progress during the semester</td>
<td>eForms (student initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>Consult the current academic calendar</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study Form</td>
<td>Approve an independent study project</td>
<td>Hard-copy (available at the department)</td>
<td>Supervising professor, then chair</td>
<td>End of add/drop period (consult the current academic calendar).</td>
<td>An independent study CAN NOT be used to complete any course currently listed in Monmouth’s Graduate Catalog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Override Petition</td>
<td>Register for a course with an override (to override a prerequisite or capacity limit)</td>
<td>Hard-copy (available at the department); student handbook</td>
<td>Course professor, then chair</td>
<td>End of add/drop period (consult the current academic calendar).</td>
<td>This form cannot be used to register for field placement courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of Conditional Status</td>
<td>Permission to drop conditional status (after conditions have been satisfied)</td>
<td>Hard-copy (available at the department); student handbook</td>
<td>Advisor, then Chair</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change of Advisor</td>
<td>Permission to change advisors</td>
<td>Hard-copy (available at the department)</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study Application</td>
<td>Permission to register for an independent study</td>
<td>Hard-copy (available at the department and on Registrar’s web site)</td>
<td>Supervising faculty member, then Chair</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>It is NOT permissible to take any existing course (currently listed in the catalog) as an independent study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leave of Absence</td>
<td>Apply for a leave of absence from matriculation (must be filed if student wants to take a semester off and not take courses, and yet remain in the program)</td>
<td>eForms (student initiated)</td>
<td>Registrar’s</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix E

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialization Area Options</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALCOHOL &amp; DRUG COUNSELING</strong> – 12 credits: All of the following courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester Taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 540</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 542</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 544</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEVELOPMENT &amp; LEARNING</strong> – 9 credits: At least three of the following courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 519</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 524</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPIRITUALITY &amp; COUNSELING</strong> – 9 credits: At least three of the following courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 517</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 521</td>
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<td>PC 522</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COUPLES &amp; FAMILY COUNSELING</strong> – 9 credits: All of the following courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 528</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILD &amp; ADOLESCENT COUNSELING</strong> – 9 credits: At least three of the following courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC 524</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 528</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 518</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC 520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CUSTOMIZED AREA</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have completed the above courses and I am requesting the department to issue a specialization area certificate.

Student Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

As the student’s advisor, I certify that I verified the above information.

Advisor Name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Chair’s Approval Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Note: Transcript or degree audit showing completion of above courses must be attached.
Appendix F

Professional Development Committee
Policies and Procedures

1. The faculty member who has become aware of concern(s) will meet with the student to discuss the concern(s) and hear the student’s perspective. If deemed necessary, the faculty member (hereafter referred to as the referring faculty) will refer the student to the Professional Development Committee (PDC). The referring faculty member will document this referral and the reasons for doing so with a written communication to the student, copying the student’s faculty advisor, the department chairperson, and the PDC.

   **Note:** Faculty will initiate the review process at any time for students who engage in illegal or unethical (as defined by the American Counseling Association’s code of ethics) activities or for students whose professional performance is deemed to present an immediate threat to the well-being of others. In such cases and depending upon the level of perceived threat, the full counseling faculty may recommend immediate discontinuation from the program.

2. Within 7 calendar days of the receipt of the referral, the PDC will contact the student to set up a meeting. During this meeting the committee and the student will develop a professional development plan. This professional development plan will include:

   a. PDC expectations of the student and specific behaviors required

   b. Tasks the student will engage in to facilitate his or her success (including timeframes)

   c. Consequences for not successfully completing the expected tasks or engaging in the required behaviors

   d. Signatures of the PDC members and the student. These signatures will confirm the PDC’s and the student’s understanding of the concerns, required actions and their time frame, and consequences of their non-completion. Both the PDC and the student will retain copies of the signed professional development plan, and a copy will be forwarded to the student’s academic advisor and the department chairperson.

   **Note:** In some cases, a second meeting between the student and the PDC may be required to complete the professional development plan. If needed, this second meeting will be scheduled during the first meeting and its scheduled date/time will be documented and signed by the PDC members and the student.

3. The PDC will monitor the student's progress in following through with the professional development plan. If the student does not comply with the professional development plan, or if new concerns develop, the PDC may consult the department chairperson and/or the full department faculty regarding the development of additional/alternative remedial strategies and/or evaluation of the student’s fitness for continuation in the program. The department chairperson, the student’s academic advisor, the PDC, and the student will all retain signed copies of any revision(s) made to the professional development plan as a result of consultation with the full counseling faculty.
4. The student will provide to the PDC appropriate documentation supporting successful completion of the required actions, at which time the PDC will review the received documentation and determine whether the professional development plan was successfully completed. This may require a meeting between the PDC and the student. In addition, the PDC may request interim meetings with the student to monitor the implementation of the professional development plan.

5. If a student does not show for any scheduled meeting with the PDC and fails to provide timely and sufficient documentation explaining the absence, the PDC may consider such failure to attend as evidence of non-compliance with the referral to the PDC and/or the terms of the professional development plan. At that time, the PDC may recommend to the chairperson to suspend the student’s progress in the program, which may include blocking the student from registering for future classes and withdrawing the student from current and future courses. If such a block and/or withdrawal from classes is implemented, the chairperson will notify the student in writing with copies to the student’s academic advisor and the PDC.

6. All faculty recommendations for dismissal from the counseling program will be forwarded to (and will be the ultimate decision of) the Dean of the McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

If the student wishes to appeal any portion of the above process, he or she can subsequently follow the administrative appeals process as outlined in Monmouth University Student Handbook.

**Note:** The Department of Psychological Counseling reserves the right to modify this process as appropriate and with notice to all students.
Student name: ____________________________________________ Date ________________

For you to continue your progress toward receiving your mental health counseling degree, the faculty is collectively requiring that you engage in the following behaviors that relate to the competencies addressed within our program’s student handbook.

**Domain A: Professional Responsibility**
Behavior the student will demonstrate:

1. __________________________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________________________

**Domain B: Therapeutic Skills and Abilities**
Behavior the student will demonstrate:

1. __________________________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________________________
To successfully engage in the aforementioned behaviors, the student will (including dates of expected completion):

1. __________________________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________________________

4. __________________________________________________________________________

5. __________________________________________________________________________

I understand and agree to the conditions of this document. Any breach of this agreement constitutes grounds for being removed from the mental health counseling program. I understand that I can appeal this plan prior to signing the agreement/plan. I understand and agree to all of the conditions of this document. If I do not follow through on completing all of the tasks outlined in this contract within the time stated on this document, I understand I will be terminated from the mental health counseling program. I also understand the program’s professional development process and am clear that there are certain behaviors that, if violated, will supersede this agreement and may result in immediate removal from the program (e.g., ethics violations).

Date         Student

Date         Professional Development Committee

Adapted from Kress & Protivnak (2009)