CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY (COUNSELING PRACTICE), MA

Roosevelt offers both master’s and doctoral degrees in psychology: the Master of Arts (MA), the Doctor of Psychology (PsyD), and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). The MA degrees are in the areas of clinical, clinical (counseling practice) and industrial/organizational psychology (including an option for combined IO MA/MBA); the PsyD is in clinical psychology, and the PhD is in industrial/organizational psychology.

This program is designed for those who are interested in clinical practice at the master’s level. In Illinois (and in many other states), completion of this program qualifies graduates to apply for licensure as a professional counselor (LPC and, later, LCPC). This is a 60 credit hour program that provides broad-based training in psychological assessment and intervention as well as in the theory and research that supports these practices. This program also provides appropriate preparation for those wishing to apply to PsyD and PhD programs in clinical or counseling psychology. Those planning to apply to PhD programs should ensure that they secure research experience within the program while they pursue their MA degree.

The curriculum of the Clinical Psychology (Counseling Practice) satisfies the educational requirements for the professional counselor and clinical professional counselor licensed in Illinois, Roosevelt’s home state, and in many other states. Students are urged to check with the Board that oversees these licenses in the state in which they intend to practice after completing the degree to ensure that this curriculum satisfies the state’s requirements. (An index of State Licensing Boards can be found by visiting the National Board for Certified Counselors (http://www.nbcc.org/directory). Applicants planning for a career in professional counseling should be aware that Roosevelt University’s College of Education also offers a program designed to prepare students for this profession, the MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Admission

Applicants must meet the graduate admission requirements of the university, as detailed in the Policies and Procedures section of the university website, and have completed at least 18 credit hours in psychology at the undergraduate level with at least a 3.0 (B) average. Undergraduate courses must include general psychology, abnormal psychology, introductory statistics, research methods, theories of personality, and one junior/senior level psychology course. Some students may be admitted with undergraduate deficiencies. In such cases, undergraduate courses may be taken concurrently with some graduate courses with the permission of the program director, but these courses will not earn graduate credit.

Students will be admitted as part of either the Schaumburg or Chicago campus cohorts. Students will be expected to complete all necessary coursework on their designated campus.

Standards:

General GPA standards: Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 (B) grade point average. No more than two grades of C+, C, or C- (six credit hours) will be counted toward the MA degree. For additional information concerning grading and academic discipline, see the general university regulations.

Time limit: Students are allowed six years in which to complete the MA degree and only courses completed within six years from the time the student enters the program will be counted toward the degree.

Competency requirement: The competency requirement is designed to ensure that all students seeking the MA degree demonstrate an acceptable level of mastery of general psychology. It is a prerequisite for all 600-level courses. The competency requirement must be met within the first 18 credit hours of graduate credit. Students who fail to satisfy the competency requirement within this time period will be considered for dismissal from the program. Students can meet the competency requirement in one of the two ways detailed below.

1. GRE method: Students must earn a score of at least the 70th percentile on the psychology subject test of the Graduate Record Examination.
2. Grade point average method: Students must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the following courses: PSYC 505 FOUNDATIONS OF COUNSELING, PSYC 516 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, PSYC 530 ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS, and PSYC 519 BASIC CLINICAL SKILLS. All courses that count toward meeting the competency requirement must be taken at Roosevelt University.

Academic integrity: The Department of Psychology holds graduate students to professional standards of academic integrity. The Department considers actions that present the work of another as one’s own to be unethical and inappropriate. Cheating and plagiarism are never tolerated. The department defines plagiarism as presenting the ideas or words of another as one’s own. Students must follow the rules for appropriate citation and quotation of the words of others, as outlined in the current edition of the American Psychological Association’s publication manual, in all papers and theses. Students who violate these standards regarding cheating and plagiarism will be considered for dismissal from the program.

Ethical, professional and interpersonal competency: Because the psychology programs prepare mental health practitioners, the department is accountable to the public regarding the development of professional and ethical behavior. Thus, in addition to the evaluation of academic performance, students will be evaluated regularly on appropriate professional and interpersonal behavior. Students who fail to meet academic standards or fail to meet expectations of appropriate professional and interpersonal behavior will be considered for dismissal from the program.

Program Governance and Personnel

The Department of Psychology appoints a Program Evaluation Group to oversee the administration and development of the MA programs in Clinical Psychology and Clinical Psychology (Counseling Practice). The PEG is led by the director of Clinical MA Programs and is additionally composed of the director of training (who oversees practicum/internship placements) and several other faculty members appointed each academic year. In addition, each year a student in one of the clinical MA programs is invited to represent student interests on the PEG. The PEG is responsible for decisions on student admission and for recommendations on student remediation or dismissal.

Requirements

Total program is 60 credit hours. This includes six credit hours of practicum/internship experience, which may begin after the student has completed 36 credit hours or required program credit. The term practicum and internship are often used interchangeably in the field. The internship
consists of not less than 750 hours of professionally supervised training and service in an approved agency or institution, over a period of not less than two semesters. This experience satisfies the requirements for the professional counselor and the clinical professional counselor license in Illinois, Roosevelt’s home state. As other states may have slightly different internship requirements, students are urged to consult the Board that oversees these licenses in the state in which they intend to practice. The program’s practicum requirement will not be reduced, but additional internship experiences can be added as elective credit, if necessary.

Students who come into the program with significant clinical experience, and who are able to manage a full-time course load of four courses in their first three semesters (Fall, Spring, Summer), are potentially capable of completing the program in a two-year fast track. The majority of students complete the program in three years.

Given the time demands of the internship experience, it is never possible for a student to maintain full-time employment during semesters in which the internship is completed. A student who has not completed the internship during the semesters in which he/she is registered for PSYC 697A MA CLINICAL INTERNSHIP and PSYC 697B MA CLINICAL INTERNSHIP must maintain continued registration during subsequent semesters until completion of the internship by registering for PSYC 697Y MA CLINICAL INTERNSHIP CONTINUED (zero-credit course). Internship placements are located in the broader Chicagoland area. Students are matched in various clinical settings that include but are not limited to: hospitals, community mental health and substance abuse centers, forensic settings, schools, psychiatric facilities, social service agencies, and private practices.

During the practicum/internship year, students will also be required to take the Counseling Preparation Comprehension Examination (CPCE), (Lab Fee, 697A). Students admitted after the 2015-2016 academic year will be required to meet minimum competency on the exam, as outlined in the student manual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 649</td>
<td>GROUP COUNSELING THEORIES &amp; PROCESSES</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 656</td>
<td>COUPLES &amp; FAMILY COUNSELING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 697A</td>
<td>MA CLINICAL INTERNSHIP (Semester 1)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 697B</td>
<td>MA CLINICAL INTERNSHIP (Semester 2)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>One 3 credit hour elective</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
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<td>60</td>
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CHS 417     CAREER AND LIFE-STYLE PLANNING 3
PSYC 505    FOUNDATIONS OF COUNSELING       3
PSYC 515    CHEMICAL DEPENDENCE             3
PSYC 516    PSYCHOPATHOLOGY                 3
PSYC 519    BASIC CLINICAL SKILLS (with grade B or better) 3
PSYC 530    ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS       3
PSYC 570    BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOR FOR COUNSELING 3
PSYC 580    LEARN BASES OF BEHAVIOR FOR COUNSELING 3
PSYC 605    PROFESSIONAL, LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES 3
PSYC 606    HUMAN DEVELOPMENT                3
PSYC 619    ASSESSMENT IN COUNSELING         3
PSYC 623    THEORIES OF COUNSELING & PSYCHOTHERAPY 3
PSYC 640    MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE IN SETTINGS 3
PSYC 641    COGNITIVE/BEHAVIORAL COUNSELING 3

or PSYC 642  PSYCHODYNAMIC COUNSELING        3
PSYC 645    MULTICULTURAL COUNSELING         3