Master’s in Counseling
at Central Michigan University

Welcome

The Department of Counseling and Special Education offers programs that prepare students to work as counseling personnel in public and private schools, higher education institutions, community-based social service agencies, and private practices.

Many courses in this graduate degree program are offered afternoons, evenings, and weekends to better accommodate nontraditional students.

Candidates will choose one of two available program options: School Counseling or Professional Counseling. Students who successfully complete either the School Counseling or Professional Counseling program option will earn a Master of Arts degree in Counseling.

These two program options are offered in a face-to-face format on-campus and off-campus through the CMU Global Campus. With both program options the student is eligible to apply for licensure as a Professional Counselor (LPC) in the state of Michigan.

Counseling Faculty

Counseling faculty are licensed professional counselors. Full-time counselor education faculty hold doctoral degrees in counselor education or counseling psychology from schools including the University of Iowa, the University of New Mexico, and the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

CMU is an AA/EO institution, providing equal opportunity to all persons, including minorities, females, veterans and individuals with disabilities. See www.cmich.edu/aaeo.

Program Philosophy

The faculty has developed a graduate program with a hands-on approach to learning, stressing personal growth and development. Communication and cooperation between students are considered essential parts of the learning process and are strongly encouraged. Professional standards of conduct and sensitivity to multicultural and special needs issues are promoted.

It is hoped that students will develop their own approach to counseling based on the integration of their own life experiences and the theories and concepts presented. Teaching excellence is a top priority of the faculty. The M.A. in Counseling faculty believe that an effective helper is a combination of a growing self and a person with special skills developed through exposure to counseling theory, techniques, and personal experiences with self-examination.

Admission Requirements

Application deadlines:
February 1 for fall admission and September 1 for spring admission.

- A complete application includes: a graduate application, all transcripts from undergraduate and graduate degree work, recent (not more than five years old) Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score to be sent directly to the Department of Counseling and Special Education, written statement of purpose and general plans for graduate study, and 2 letters of recommendation (one professional [e.g. supervisor, employer, academic professor/instructor] and one personal [not a family member]).

- The GRE assesses verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing. Testing centers, test dates, registration and seating availability can be found here: http://www.ets.org/gre. When selecting a test date, make sure your scores will be reported in time for your application deadlines of February 1st or September 1st. For computer-delivered tests, score reports are sent to your designated score recipients approximately 10–15 days after your test date, but can take up to six weeks for paper-based scoring. CMU must receive the official score report from the testing company, rather than from the applicant.

- The written statement should consist of a 2-3 page APA formatted essay detailing the following: (1) an explanation of why the applicant wants to enter the Counseling program/profession, (2) what skills the applicant possesses that would make the applicant successful in the graduate program in Counseling, and (3) how the Counseling program is congruent with the applicant’s career goals.

- Two letters of recommendation are required for your application. One should be a professional reference from an academic instructor, current/past supervisor, colleague etc. The second should be a personal reference from a mentor, advisor, volunteer manager, etc. Letters written from family members or friends are not acceptable.

- The applicant’s cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) (2.7 minimum), 2 letters of recommendation, written statement of purpose and general plans for graduate study, and GRE score all are considered in determining admission. Students who have below a 2.7 minimum undergraduate GPA are still encouraged to apply and will receive consideration. All application materials and GRE score must be received in the Department of Counseling and Special Education (321 EHS Building, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859) before a decision will be made whether to invite the applicant on-campus for the in-person interview process, which will be conducted on the third Friday in October and March of each year.

- If an applicant has met all of the requirements and is invited on campus for the interview process by department faculty, the applicant will participate in a ½ day in-person interview on the main campus in Mount Pleasant, MI. Attendance at the interview is mandatory and the dates of the interview will be made available in advance for you to make accommodations to be there.

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Center for Community Counseling & Development

The Center for Community Counseling & Development is a training center for Central Michigan University graduate students studying to become professional counselors while under the direct supervision of an experienced clinical supervisor. We are pleased to offer free services to members of the CMU community and residents of the Mt. Pleasant area and we welcome the opportunity to assist you in navigating everyday life and relationships - however we are not able to treat those who have been diagnosed with significant psychological/medical disorders or who are in acute distress.

Services we do provide:
- Individual counseling for children, adolescents and adults
- Couples and family counseling
- Assistance with personal development & improvement and decision-making
- Counseling for emotional struggles and painful events
- Career and employment counseling
- Counseling for relationship issues
- Counseling for transition issues and school difficulties

Apply Online
http://apply.cmich.edu

More Information

Counseling Unit Coordinator
Department of Counseling and Special Education
321 Education and Human Services
Central Michigan University
Mount Pleasant, MI 48859
Telephone: (989) 774-3205
Fax: (989) 774-2305
Email: cse@cmich.edu
Website: www.cse.cmich.edu

CMU’s Counseling program is also available in a cohort format at select off-campus locations in Michigan. For more information see CMU’s Global Campus, at www.global.cmich.edu, or send an email to Dr. John Farrar at farra1jv@cmich.edu.