

Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling

Graduate Counseling Program State University of New York at New Paltz



The MS in mental health counseling program offers students the opportunity to pursue a specialized course of study leading to a 60-credit master of science degree in mental health counseling. It serves both students looking to become licensed as mental health counselors and those seeking to eventually proceed into doctoral programs. Degree requirements cover a core curriculum and specialization courses. Three required fieldwork courses provide unique, varied, and intense hands-on mental health counseling training experiences under supervision of licensed professionals. The program is registered with the State Education Department as meeting the educational requirements necessary for mental health counseling licensure in New York, which makes this a very marketable degree.

Admissions Requirements

The Department's Graduate Admissions Committee makes admissions decisions based on the following required criteria:

1. Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution
2. Minimum grade point average of 3.0 for all undergraduate work with at least a 3.0 average in psychology courses, or strong evidence of recent academic achievement
3. Successful completion of undergraduate General Psychology, Statistics, Experimental Methods or Research Methods in Psychology
4. Satisfactory scores on the Graduate Record Examination (General Test); Psychology Subject GRE scores optional
5. Completed application for admission to the Master of Arts Program in Psychology
6. Two official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work
7. Three letters of recommendation
8. International Students must meet these additional university-wide requirements for admission: http://www.newpaltz.edu/admissions/intern_academic.html

Application Information

Application materials:

- Download applications or apply online at <http://www.newpaltz.edu/graduate/applications.cfm>
- You can also obtain application materials by contacting The Graduate School at HAB 804, SUNY New Paltz, 1 Hawk Dr., New Paltz, NY 12561-2443

Application Deadlines:

- **Students are only admitted for the Fall semester:** Application review begins Feb 15 and continues until the class is filled.
- **Assistantships:** Graduate assistantships are available to selected students each year. Current stipends are \$2,500 per semester (\$5,000 per academic year) plus a six-credit tuition waiver per semester. Assistantship duties involve assisting faculty in teaching and research. Contact the Graduate Coordinator for further information about assistantships.
- Admission to SUNY New Paltz and to the Graduate Psychology Program is based on academic qualifications, without regard to race, color, sex, disability, age, marital status, or religion.

Course Requirements

Methodology Requirement (6 credits)

PSY501 ANOVA or PSY503 Correlation and Multiple Regression
PSY507 Research Methods

Human Growth & Development Requirement (3 credit)

PSY527 Human Growth and Development

Human Growth & Development Electives (6 credit)

Choose two:

PSY516 Organizational Psychology
PSY528 Infancy and Childhood
PSY529 Adulthood
PSY531 Middle Childhood and Adolescence
PSY556 Contemporary Social Psychology
PSY560 Cognitive Processes
PSY570 Cognitive Neuroscience

Mental Health Counseling Requirement (36 credits)

COU510 Counseling Theories
COU515 Counseling Skills
COU520 Career Development, Counseling, and Assessment
COU525 Multicultural Counseling
COU530 Foundations of Mental Health Counseling (4 credits)
COU540 Psychopathology
COU545 Group Dynamics and Counseling
COU550 Couple and Family Counseling
COU771 Ethics and Professional Orientation: MHC Internship 1 (4 credits)
COU772 Ethics and Professional Orientation: MHC Internship 2 (4 credits)

Electives (3-6 credits)

Choose electives from the two classes listed below or from classes above not used to meet those requirements.

COU565 Disaster Mental Health
PSY576 Families in Transition

Contact Us

Graduate Study, Dept. of Psychology, JFT 302, SUNY New Paltz, 600 Hawk Drive, New Paltz, NY 12561-2440; (845) 257-3467; email: gradpsych@newpaltz.edu