The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Master's Program at the University of Tennessee

Required Courses

The following are the required course or course areas of the CMHP. The notes with each provide context within the program. Formal course descriptions are found in the online catalog. You may use the following link to the UT catalog. Once there, select the most recent graduate catalog. [http://catalog.utk.edu/index.php](http://catalog.utk.edu/index.php)

**COUN535 Orientation to Counseling and Ethics;** Fall only; Prerequisite to Practicum. This is a first course for our new students in most cases. CMHP & School Counseling Program (SCP) students are introduced to the counseling profession, key organizations, ethics, and settings. The course includes a service learning component related to helping relationships. Admission to the course is normally by permission only, in order to ensure enough places for all new CMHP & SCP students.

**COUN480 Skills for Counseling;** Offered fall & spring; Prerequisite for Practicum. This course addresses foundational counseling skills. CMHP students take the course very early in their graduate program. It is also widely used by students from other fields who wish to have an introduction to foundational counseling skills.

**COUN554 Group Dynamics & Methods;** Offered fall & spring, usually taken in fall by CMHP students; Prerequisite to Practicum This is a critical core course focused in group counseling skills, as well as counselor development.

**COUN551 Theory & Practice of Counseling;** Offered fall semesters. Prerequisite to Practicum. Normally offered summer and fall. This course provides a study of counseling theories that provide techniques and perspectives that add to the therapeutic relationship skills from COUN480: Skills for Counseling, as well as continue the development of counselor self-awareness and the philosophical basis of helping relationships.

**COUN570 Cross-Cultural Counseling;** Offered fall semesters. This course introduces counseling students to multi-cultural concepts important in counselors work and usually includes a cultural emersion experience.

**COUN555 Practicum in Counseling;** CMHP sections are spring semesters only – This course includes at least 100 hours at a counseling setting with at least 40 hours in direct service to clients, as well as supervision, class meetings, and assignments that enhance skill development and ensure quality client service. Students must apply for practicum the semester prior. Applications are due October 1st. Please be aware that Practicum setting needs and client care normally preclude full-time work outside of Practicum.

**COUN525 Formal Measurement in Counseling and Education;** Offered spring semesters. This course introduces counselors to assessment methods used in counseling as well as the tools necessary to research community needs and evaluate intervention programs.
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Required Courses Continued...

COUN552 Career Development; Offered fall and some summers – This course is focused on career counseling applied across counseling settings and the critical area of career development (finding meaningful work or professional identity) in all persons’ lives.

COUN556 Professional Issues in Clinical Mental Health Settings; Offered spring semesters; Addresses key professional issues faced by mental health counselors, such as program funding, laws/regulations related to mental health counseling, managed care, and program development.

COUN559 Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling; 9CR; Offered fall, spring and summer semesters; Includes at least 900 hours at a counseling setting, across an academic or calendar year, with at least 360 hours in direct service to clients, as well as supervision, class meetings, and assignments that enhance skills development and ensure quality client service. Students must apply for internship semesters prior to beginning internship. Applications are due March 1st. Note that the required hours for internship may severely limit non-internship work opportunities.

Educational Psychology 550 Conceptual Statistics and Research Design; 3CR; Normally offered each semester – This is the research class normally used by CMHP students.

COUN504 Counseling through the Lifespan; Offered spring semester. This course helps counselors explore the stages, paths, processes and concepts of human development that are important in the work of counselors, particularly from a wellness model.

Psychopathology Course Area – School Psychology 690; Psychopathology in Schools and Mental Health Settings; Offered summers only. This course helps counselors explore the development of pathology or areas of mental illness and develop skills diagnostic skills using the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association.

COUN 540 Psychopharmacology for Mental Health and School Settings; Offered every other summer only (2013, 2015); Designed specifically to provide needed background for counselors related to psychopharmacology.

Elective Study – CMHP students complete four electives or a thesis and two electives. Advisors give input and approve elective choices. MHCP students are encouraged to develop a set of electives around a theme or area of specialization. Electives are available from within and from outside the program and department.

COUN 562: Child-Centered Play Therapy; 3CR; Offered most summers. This is an important elective course for counselors interested in serving troubled children and youth, or who want to understand counseling for adolescents and adults better through understanding psychotherapy for children. This course is needed by CMHP students interested in serving children as a significant part of their internship.