

Master of Science in Counseling



We endeavor to support the principles of dignity, respect, integrity, value and equality in all we do. We prepare professional counselors who promote the social, psychological and physical well-being of individuals, families, communities, and organizations in order to continually improve global welfare.

~The OSU-Cascades Counselor Education and Supervision Program faculty

▶▶▶ The Program

The M.S. program emphasizes academic excellence, competence in counseling skills, and personal growth. The part time program has night and weekend classes. Course work integrates academic knowledge and theory with closely supervised counseling practice and 15 internship credit hours. Applicants must have minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 90 hours of a completed bachelor's degree, personal and emotional suitability, and volunteer or paid experience in the helping professions. Educational and professional goals of each candidate are also considered.

▶▶▶ The Future

The program is designed to prepare persons for work as school counselors, or community and agency counselors. Employment settings for graduates of this program would include schools and other educational settings, mental health programs, substance abuse treatment programs, child and adolescent treatment centers, nonprofit counseling centers, and professional private practice. The program is recognized by the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and the National Board of Certified Counselors as a program that meets the course work necessary for licensing or certification. This accreditation allows the student to take exams needed to meet initial eligibility requirements for licensure as an Oregon Licensed Professional Counselor.

▶▶▶ At OSU-Cascades, You Can Have It All

The M.S. in Counseling program offers students the unique opportunity to complete a graduate degree while continuing to work, live and play in Central Oregon. Students will find a personal approach to academics, including high-quality advising, smaller classes and creative course delivery that includes one-on-one learning with a world-class faculty. OSU-Cascades fosters an environment that incorporates community, culture, the arts, recreation, and the unmatched beauty of Central Oregon into the learning experience.

Please Note: This document is only meant to give prospective students a general idea as to the program curriculum. Formal advising documents can be requested from OSU-Cascades.

▶▶▶ School Counseling Program Options

School Counseling (teaching experience/teaching license)

This program is designed for students who have already obtained a teaching credential and have at least two years of teaching experience. If you are a licensed teacher, you can be admitted to the M.S. program in counseling and complete the required courses for the Initial and Continuing School Counselor license as a part of your M.S. degree.

School Counseling (non-teaching experience)

This program is designed for persons without a teaching license or teaching experience. Students must complete the M.S. in Counseling Degree to be eligible for the Initial School Counselor license. Coursework in this track includes 125 hours of school-based observations (COUN 511/COUN 512) and at least 75 hours of direct responsibility for classroom instruction (COUN 512).

▶▶▶ Community Counseling Program

The community counseling track is designed for persons who want to work in community agencies, treatment programs, community colleges, and other counseling centers.

▶▶▶ Licensing Opportunities

School Counselor Licenses

The school counseling program has Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSCP) approval to offer both initial and continuing state licensure as a school counselor. Individual advisement by your major professor is necessary to evaluate readiness for licensure. (For further information on TSCP, go to www.tspc.state.or.us/)

Licensed Professional Counselor

All M.S. graduates are eligible to apply for licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) from the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapist's (www.oblcpct.state.or.us). Graduate students in counseling are eligible to take the National Counselor Examination (www.nbcc.org) during the last quarter of their degree program. The results of this examination and other post-degree experiences required by OBLPCT are used to award LPC status in Oregon.

▶▶▶ Contacts at OSU-Cascades *Visit our webpage at osucascades.edu*

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