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Counseling Program Mission Statement

To effectively manage the multi-faceted and complex challenges faced in today's society, individuals require effective maturation in self-concept and personal development, positive adjustment to social, cultural, familial and personal relationships, productive vocational skills, and mastery of the cognitive, behavioral and emotional dynamics that permeate the human experience.

For this reason, the Counseling Program has as its primary mission the preparation of a diverse group of learners from the Northern Kentucky region, the nation, and the world community who can competently and ethically implement wellness concepts, psychological principles, developmental understanding, theoretically based interventions, and counseling techniques to provide clients with the best opportunity to achieve a healthy functioning in the areas of educational, personal, social, and career development.

Working within the human services, mental health, and education fields demands well-rounded professionals. For this reason, program offerings and extracurricular activities challenge students to develop professionally, personally, and socially. Graduates of the Counseling Programs are prepared to deliver effective service in a variety of professional job placements (Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling) and are eligible to stand for licensure and/or certification in their respective area of specialty.

Counseling Program Learning Objectives

As a result of successfully completing the graduate program in counseling, students can expect to have gained didactic knowledge and supervised experience in skills, functions, beliefs and characteristics of effective counseling. As detailed in the following table, the program systematically documents and reviews aggregated data pertaining to the broad learning objectives developed to assist students in gaining an overview of expected accomplishments. This review drives and informs any needed program response.

CACREP Core Area	CACREP Learning Objectives	Course-Specific Learning Experience & Key Assessment Points	Status	Response
Professional Identity and Ethics (KOA 1)	Demonstrate an understanding of the counseling profession	COU 600/602 <i>Counselor Interview, Professional Identity Paper</i> COU 601 <i>Exams, Ethical Case Presentation, Informed Consent Document</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop an identity as a counselor	COU 600/602 <i>Professional Identity Paper</i>	Met	None needed
	Demonstrate a willingness to provide counseling services within the ethical guidelines of the counseling profession	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Counseling Theory (KOA 2)	Gain significant knowledge of major counseling theories in the context of individual and group counseling	COU 641 <i>Exams, Reflections Papers, Theory Application Paper</i>	Met	None needed
	Apply this knowledge to the counseling process	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Helping Relationships (KOA 3)	Demonstrate effective individual and group counseling techniques which facilitate client growth	COU 640 <i>Transcriptions, Reaction Papers</i>	Met	None needed
	Demonstrate the ability to evaluate progress toward goals	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Social and Cultural Diversity (KOA 4)	Develop an awareness of, and an appreciation for, social and cultural influences on human behavior	COU 610 <i>Multicultural Self-Assessment, Cultural Immersion Experience, Journals</i>	Met	None needed
	Recognize the impact of individual differences on the counseling process.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Human Growth and Development (KOA 5)	Develop an understanding of the aspects of human growth and an appreciation for the nature of human development and	COU 620 <i>Exam, Quizzes, Reaction Papers, Developmental Topic Presentation and Paper</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop an understanding of the above integration within the counseling process.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Career Development (KOA 6)	Develop an understanding of career development and related life factors and the effects on an individual's mental health and lifestyle	COU 630 <i>Readings, Quizzes, Career Assessments & Exams</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop an understanding of the above application within counseling	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Group Counseling (KOA 7)	Develop both theoretical and experiential understandings of group process, development, dynamics, group counseling theories, methods, skills, and other group approaches.	COU 650 <i>Exams, Journals, Group Leadership Experience, Group Plan, Group Plan Activity Presentation</i> COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed
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Assessment (KOA 8)	Gain knowledge and skills in assessment techniques, including standardized, instruments, interviewing, and suicide and risk of violence assessment	COU 660 <i>Quizzes, Exam, & Assessment Proposal</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop an understanding of the above application to individual and group appraisal.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Addictions (KOA 9)	Gain knowledge and skills in assessment and treatment of individuals with addictive issues.	COU 675 <i>Midterm & Final Exam, Abstinence Experience Project, Special Topics Presentation, 12 Step Reflection</i>	Met	None needed
	Gain knowledge and skills in assessment and treatment of individuals with addictive issues.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Research and Program Evaluation (KOA 10)	Develop the ability to read, critique, evaluate, and contribute to professional research literature.	COU 680 <i>Quizzes, Exams, Research Proposal</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop the ability to read, critique, evaluate, and contribute to professional research literature.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Crisis Intervention (KOA 11A) (KOA 11B)	Demonstrate sufficient knowledge associated with counseling in crisis settings and addressing trauma in clients.	COU 622 COU 674 <i>Crisis Interview, Crisis Narrative, Movie Papers, Parenthood Systems Paper, Paper Tigers Paper, Theory Presentation, Techniques Handbook</i>	Met	None needed
	Demonstrate sufficient skills associated with counseling in crisis settings and addressing trauma in clients.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Psychodiagnosis (KOA 12)	Develop a working knowledge of psychodiagnosis	COU 670 <i>Character Worksheets, Opinion Papers, Disorder Mini-Presentation, Reverse Case Example, Exam</i>	Met	None needed
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	Develop an understanding of the ethical application of psychodiagnosis.	COU 670 <i>Character Worksheets, Opinion Papers, Disorder Mini-Presentation, Reverse Case Example, Exam</i> COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop an understanding of psychodiagnosis effect on treatment and counseling practice.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Mental Health Systems (KOA 13)	Demonstrate sufficient knowledge and skills associated with working in multi-disciplinary Mental Health care setting.	COU 600 <i>Readings, Exams, LPC Interview Paper, Digital Reflection Journal</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop practical knowledge in the areas of service, prevention, treatment, referral, and program management.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Treatment planning (KOA 14)	Develop a working knowledge of treatment planning	COU 671 <i>Quizzes, Exams, & Treatment Plan Paper</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop an understanding of the ethical application and its effect on counseling practice.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Comprehensive School Counseling (KOA 15)	Develop and demonstrate and understanding of the foundations of school counseling, including the school environment, educational processes, multifaceted prevention and interventions and effective program assessment skills to access and obtain data to evaluate intervention effectiveness.	COU 602 <i>Professional Advocacy, School Counselor Interview, Readings, Exams</i>	Met	None needed
		COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Evidence Based Counseling Services in the Schools (KOA 16)	Evaluate school counseling efficacy related to closing the achievement, opportunity and attainment gaps.	COU 654 <i>Needs Assessment, MEASURE, Classroom Guidance Presentation, Small Group</i>	Met	None needed
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		<i>Counseling Plan, Program Evaluation</i>		
	Identify instruments for measuring school counseling outcomes	COU 654 <i>Needs Assessment, MEASURE, Classroom Guidance Presentation, Small Group Counseling Plan, Program Evaluation</i>	Met	None needed
	Use achievement related data to demonstrate school counselor efficacy.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed

Supervisor Evaluations (Experiential Learning)	Develop, through supervised practicum and internship experiences, an integration of the knowledge and skills needed to be successful as practicing counselors.	COU 690, 693, 691, 692 <i>Site & University Supervisor Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed
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Continual Qualitative Evaluation (Personal Growth and Understanding)	Develop, through self-reflection and insight, and understanding of oneself and the use of self in the counseling process.	COU 640, 601, 641, 650, 674, 675, 600, 621, 642, 673, 678 <i>Ongoing reflection, course integration, advising, professional monitoring and clinical supervision.</i>	Met	None needed
	Develop a personal approach to counseling and client advocacy with a clear understanding of counselor functions.	COU 690/691/692 <i>Evaluations</i>	Met	None needed