Belhaven
UNIVERSITY
COUNSELING

Annual report

2025-2026

Welcome

The Counseling Program at Belhaven University is pleased to provide the annual report for the 2025-2026 academic year. The Department of Counseling is part of the School of Humanities and Ministry. The counseling program prepares students to work in a variety of settings. The program offers both a clinical mental health specialization and a marriage and family counseling specialization.

Our goal is to provide an educational experience that fosters your growth as a competent, ethical, and compassionate professional counselor while supporting your personal and spiritual development. As a Christ-centered institution, Belhaven University seeks to cultivate an environment in which students deepen their relationship with God, develop greater self-awareness, and acquire the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary for effective counseling practice.

The counseling curriculum is intentionally designed to prepare students for professional practice by integrating academic coursework, clinical training, and supervised experiences. The program aligns with the educational requirements established by the Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors and meets the standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

The counseling program offers a majority of the courses online, with two courses including an on-campus intensive. Students engage in a clinical practicum and internship at a site in the area in which they live. The Counseling Department faculty provide a wide range of expertise across various subfields of counseling including multiculturalism, integration, trauma, childhood therapy, addictions, and more.

Core Faculty

- Dr. Justin Kelly, LPC-S, Associate Professor, Chair
  jkelly@belhaven.edu
- Dr. DeAron Washington, LPC, Assistant Professor
  dwashington@belhaven.edu
- Dr. Wendy Celoria, LPC-S, Assistant Professor, Clinical Coordinator
  wceloria@belhaven.edu
- Dr. Jan Lemon, LPC-S, Associate Professor
  jlemon@belhaven.edu

Full-time Affiliate Faculty

- Dr. Clayr Simnacher, LPC-S, Specialty Instructor
  csimnacher@belhaven.edu

Staff

- Ms. Marnee' Tompkins, EdS, Program Coordinator
  mtompkins@belhaven.edu

Dean

- Dr. Seth Parry, Dean of School of Humanities and Ministry
  sparry@belhaven.edu

Program Overview

Program Introduction

The Master of Arts in Counseling is a 60-hour program that consists of a mix of synchronous, asynchronous, and intensive courses. All courses follow the current educational guidelines as established by both the State of MS LPC Board of Examiners as well as CACREP. Students must choose between clinical mental health and marriage and family specializations. Each of the educational paths leads to LPC licensure in MS. The educational requirements set forth in this program may meet the licensure requirements in other states. While we make every effort to notify students if our degree meets their state's licensure requirements, it is the student's responsibility to know their state's specific licensure educational requirements prior to enrolling at Belhaven University.

Students are provided an account with CORE, which is software we use for your practicum and internship experience. The fee for this account is built into the degree program.

The counseling program also has two, in-person intensives tied to counseling skills courses that are offered each summer. These courses introduce students to counseling skills and offer hands-on, in-person opportunities to practice their skills while receiving feedback from their professors and peers.

All students also complete a clinical internship experience that totals 700 hours. This section of the program allows students to engage face-to-face with clients as they begin utilizing the skills they have been learning in class.

Counseling Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Master of Arts in Counseling Program at Belhaven University is to prepare ethically and culturally competent professional counselors through rigorous, integrative academic and clinical training. The program equips students with the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions necessary to provide culturally responsive, evidence-informed counseling services to diverse populations. The Counseling Program is grounded in a Christian worldview, while adhering to all professional standards. Graduates exemplify the love of Christ through ethical practice, skilled counseling, and a commitment to promoting and advocating for the well-being and dignity of their clients.

Program Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate the professional knowledge, ethical reasoning, research literacy, and clinical decision-making competencies necessary for effective counseling and professional licensure.
2. Students will develop effective counseling and clinical practice skills across individual, group, career, assessment, and multicultural contexts.
3. Students will demonstrate professional dispositions necessary for effective counseling.
4. Student will apply developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive counseling through a biblically-integrative approach that honors all professional standards.

Key Performance Indicators

CACREP has determined certain courses to serve as core curriculum, in which to evaluate student progress and program effectiveness. The following courses are considered core curriculum by CACREP, according the latest standards approved by CACREP.

- COUN 601: Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics
- COUN 611: Human Growth and Development
- COUN 612: Lifestyle and Career Development
- COUN 614: Social and Cultural Foundations
- COUN 615: Research and Evaluation
- COUN 616: Testing and Appraisal
- COUN 620: Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills
- COUN 622: Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality
- COUN 623: Group Counseling

Core Curriculum 1: Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethics						
KPI 1: Students will analyze and apply professional counseling roles, ethical standards, and relevant legal requirements when responding to counseling situations.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.A.10 Ethical standards of professional counseling organizations and credentialing bodies, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling across service delivery modalities and specialized practice areas	COUN 601: Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics	Informed consent assignment	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 603: Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling	Crisis intervention assignment	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 2: Social and Cultural Identities and Experiences						
KPI 2: Students will apply multicultural counseling, social justice, and advocacy principles in culturally responsive case conceptualization and counseling practice.						
CACREP Standards	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.B.1 Theories and models of multicultural counseling, social justice, and advocacy 3.B.11 The role of religion and spirituality in clients' and counselors' psychological functioning	COUN 614: Social and Cultural Foundations	Unit 1 Writing Assignment: Essay on Cultural Development and Experiences with Prejudice, Discrimination, and Racism (3.B.1)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 630: Integration of Counseling and Christianity	Final Assignment: Integrative Treatment Planning in Christian Counseling (3.B.11)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 3: Lifespan Development						
KPI 3: Students will apply theories of individual and family development across the lifespan when conceptualizing client needs and selecting developmentally appropriate counseling interventions.						
CACREP Standards	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.C.1 Theories of individual and family development across the lifespan 3.C.4 Theories of personality and psychological development	COUN 611: Human Growth and Development	Final paper (3.C.1)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 622: Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality	Final exam (3.C.4)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 4: Career Development						
KPI 4: Students will apply career-development theories, assessment information, and occupational resources to develop culturally and developmentally responsive career-counseling interventions.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.D.1 Theories and models of career development, counseling, and decision-making 3.D.5 Strategies for assessing abilities, interests, values, personality, and other factors that contribute to career development	COUN 612: Lifestyle and Career Development	Final paper (3.D.1)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 616: Testing and Appraisal	Wellness assessment tool (3.D.2)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 5: Counseling Practice and Relationships						
KPI 5: Students will demonstrate culturally responsive counseling skills, including relationship building, interviewing, case conceptualization, goal development, and selection of appropriate interventions.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.E.9 Interviewing, attending, and listening skills in the counseling process	COUN 620	Video 3: Counseling skills	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 682: Internship 2	Case conceptualization 2	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 6: Group Counseling and Group Work						
KPI 6: Students will apply group counseling theories and group process principles when planning, facilitating, and evaluating culturally responsive counseling groups.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.F.2 Dynamics associated with group process and development 3.F.6 Application of technology related to group counseling and group work	COUN 623: Group Counseling	Writing assignment 2: Group counseling analytical essay (3.F.2)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 603: Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling	Cognella completion certificate (3.F.6)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 7: Assessment and Diagnostic Processes						
KPI 7: Students will select, interpret, and ethically use assessment and diagnostic information to conceptualize client needs and inform counseling interventions.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.G.16 Procedures to identify client characteristics, protective factors, risk factors, and warning signs of mental health and behavioral disorders	COUN 610: Abnormal Psychology and Psychopathology	Case study video and presentation	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 616: Testing and Appraisal	Assessment Selection, Interpretation, and Feedback Project	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Core Curriculum 8: Research and Program Evaluation						
KPI 8: Students will critically evaluate counseling research and apply appropriate research or program-evaluation methods to inform counseling practice and program improvement.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
3.H.6 Analysis and use of data in research	COUN 615: Research and Program Evaluation	Research Proposal	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 616: Testing and Appraisal	Assessment instrument critique paper	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Specialized Practice Area: Clinical Mental Health Counseling						
KPI CMHC: Students will develop essential counseling skills related intake, diagnosis, case conceptualization, and treatment planning skills in the area of clinical mental health counseling.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
5.C.1 Etiology, nomenclature, diagnosis, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental, behavioral, and neurodevelopmental disorders 5.C.4 Intake interview, mental status evaluation, biopsychosocial history, mental health history, and psychological assessment for treatment planning and caseload management	COUN 643: Advanced Psychopathology: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning (5.C.1)	Final Paper: From Diagnosis to Treatment	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 640: Advanced Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills (5.C.4)	Advanced Clinical Analysis: The Biopsychosocial-Spiritual Conceptualization	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Specialized Practice Area: Marriage and Family Counseling						
KPI MFC: Students will select appropriate marriage and family counseling skills demonstrated through treatment planning and interventions.						
CACREP Standard	Course	Assessment 1	Target	Course	Assessment 2	Target
5.F.10 Techniques and interventions of marriage, couple, and family counseling 5.F.11 Conceptualizing and implementing treatment, planning, and intervention strategies in marriage, couple, and family counseling	COUN 661: Advanced Marriage Counseling	Skill Demonstration 2 (5.F.10)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.	COUN 663: Human Sexuality	Treatment Planning and Ethical Dilemma Paper (5.F.11)	At least 80% of students will score an 80 or better.

Student Assessment

Students will be assessed for a variety of issues, concerns, and progress at the following points along their academic journey. Although this list is not exhaustive, core faculty and/or auxiliary faculty will formally assess students for career goals, skill development, academic progress, and professional dispositions at these crucial points in the counseling program.

1. Admissions interview
2. COUN 620: Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills
3. COUN 680: Practicum
4. COUN 681: Internship 1
5. COUN 682: Internship 2
6. COUN 690: CPCE and Program Evaluation

In addition, students are informally evaluated in each course they take in the program for career goals, skill development, academic progress, and professional dispositions. If an issue is noted by a professor between the formal assessment time periods, that professor should reach out to the student in writing via their student email or through comments left through Belhaven's LMS (Canvas) on the assignment. Please note that this process mirrors the mild and moderate remediation plans and is designed to flow into that process, should initial attempts to resolve the issue fail.

Assessment 1: Admissions Interview

Each student considered for entrance into the counseling program will participate in a group interview. The interview will assess each student's career goals to ensure that their goals line up with the mission and goals of the counseling program at Belhaven. In addition, students are assessed on their initial professional dispositions. Students who are in the admissions process by committee are also evaluated based on a writing sample provided in the admissions process, and they are evaluated based on their letters of recommendation.

Assessment 2: COUN 620, Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills

Each student will be formally assessed through their video assignments for practicum readiness. Students are evaluated using the Professional Counseling Dispositions Assessment (PCDA). Students are also evaluated on basic counseling skills.

Assessment 3: COUN 680, Clinical Practicum

Individual supervisors will complete a PCDA on each student at mid-terms. The PCDA measures professional dispositions in students. Individual and group supervisors will complete the CCS-R on students at the completion of the semester. Belhaven Counseling Department also conducts a background check prior to the student beginning to see clients.

Assessment 4: COUN 681, Internship 1

Individual supervisors will complete a PCDA on each student at mid-terms. The PCDA measures professional dispositions in students. Individual and group supervisors will complete the CCS-R on students at the completion of the semester.

Assessment 5: COUN 682, Internship 2

Individual supervisors will complete a PCDA on each student at mid-terms. The PCDA measures professional dispositions in students. Individual and group supervisors will complete the CCS-R on students at the completion of the semester.

Assessment 6: COUN 690, CPCE

Students will take the CPCE, administered at a Pearson VUE location. This exam tests students on the core educational areas outlined by CACREP and prepares students for taking the NCE after graduation.

Program Outline

Counseling Core Curriculum (39 hours)

- COUN 600: Program Orientation (0 hours)
- COUN 601: Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics (3 hours)
- COUN 603: Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling (1 hour)
- COUN 610: Abnormal Psychology and Psychopathology (3 hours)
- COUN 611: Human Growth and Development (3 hours)
- COUN 612: Lifestyle and Career Development (3 hours)
- COUN 613: Substance Use Disorders: Diagnosis and Treatment (3 hours)
- COUN 614: Social and Cultural Foundations (3 hours)
- COUN 615: Research and Evaluation (3 hours)
- COUN 616: Testing and Appraisal (3 hours)
- COUN 620: Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills (3 hours)
- COUN 621: Marriage and Family Therapy (3 hours)
- COUN 622: Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality (3 hours)
- COUN 623: Group Counseling (3 hours)
- COUN 630: Integration of Counseling and Christianity (2 hours)

Clinical Practice (9 hours)

- COUN 680: Practicum (3 hours)
- COUN 681: Internship 1 (3 hours)
- COUN 682: Internship 2 (3 hours)

Specialties (students must choose one specialty – 12 hours)

Clinical Mental Health (12 hours)

- COUN 640: Advanced Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills
- COUN 641: Crisis and Trauma Counseling
- COUN 642: Childhood and Adolescent Disorders and Treatment
- COUN 643: Advanced Psychopathology: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

Marriage and Family (12 hours)

- COUN 660: Family Systems Theory
- COUN 661: Advanced Marriage Counseling
- COUN 642: Childhood and Adolescent Disorders and Treatment
- COUN 663: Human Sexuality

Progression of Courses

Fall Entrance – Clinical Mental Health Specialization

Clinical Mental Health Course Progression (Fall Entrance)		
	Course No.	Name
Semester 1 - Fall	COUN 600	**Program Orientation**
	COUN 601	**Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics**
	COUN 621	Marriage and Family Therapy
	COUN 611	Human Growth and Development
Semester 2 - Spring	COUN 610	**Abnormal Psychology and Psychopathology**
	COUN 612	**Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality**
	COUN 613	Substance Use Disorders: Diagnosis and Treatment
Semester 3 - Summer	**COUN 620**	**Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills**
	COUN 614	**Social and Cultural Foundations**
	COUN 622	Lifestyle and Career Development
Semester 4 - Fall	COUN 630	**Integration of Counseling and Christianity**
	COUN 603	**Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling**
	COUN 615	**Research and Evaluation**
	COUN 680	Practicum
Semester 5 - Spring	COUN 623	**Group Counseling**
	COUN 616	Testing and Appraisal
	COUN 681	Internship 1
Semester 6 - Summer	**COUN 640**	**Advanced Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills**
	COUN 641	Crisis and Trauma Counseling
	COUN 682	Internship 2
Semester 7 - Fall	COUN 643	**Advanced Psychopathology: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning**
	COUN 642	Childhood and Adolescent Disorders and Treatment
	COUN 690	CPCE Comprehensive Program Evaluation

*Courses in bold are synchronous

**Courses highlighted in blue are a 7-week course with a mandatory intensive

Fall Entrance – Marriage and Family Specialization

Marriage and Family Course Progression (Fall Entrance)		
	Course No.	Name
Semester 1 - Fall	COUN 600	**Program Orientation**
	COUN 601	**Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics**
	COUN 621	Marriage and Family Therapy
	COUN 611	Human Growth and Development
Semester 2 - Spring	COUN 610	**Abnormal Psychology and Psychopathology**
	COUN 612	**Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality**
	COUN 613	Substance Use Disorders: Diagnosis and Treatment
Semester 3 - Summer	**COUN 620**	**Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills**
	COUN 614	**Social and Cultural Foundations**
	COUN 622	Lifestyle and Career Development
Semester 4 - Fall	COUN 630	**Integration of Counseling and Christianity**
	COUN 603	**Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling**
	COUN 615	**Research and Evaluation**
	COUN 680	Practicum
Semester 5 - Spring	COUN 623	**Group Counseling**
	COUN 616	Testing and Appraisal
	COUN 681	Internship 1
Semester 6 - Summer	**COUN 661**	**Advanced Marriage Counseling**
	COUN 660	Family Systems Theory
	COUN 682	Internship 2
Semester 7 - Fall	COUN 642	Childhood and Adolescent Disorders and Treatment
	COUN 663	Human Sexuality
	COUN 690	CPCE Comprehensive Program Evaluation

*Courses in bold are synchronous

** Courses highlighted in blue are a 7-week course with a mandatory intensive

Spring Entrance – Clinical Mental Health Specialization

Clinical Mental Health Course Progression (Spring Entrance)		
	Course No.	Name
Semester 1 - Spring	COUN 600	**Program Orientation**
	COUN 610	**Abnormal Psychology and Psychopathology**
	COUN 612	**Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality**
	COUN 613	Substance Use Disorders: Diagnosis and Treatment
Semester 2 - Summer	COUN 620	**Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills**
	COUN 614	**Social and Cultural Foundations**
	COUN 622	Lifestyle and Career Development
Semester 3 - Fall	COUN 601	**Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics**
	COUN 621	Marriage and Family Therapy
	COUN 611	Human Growth and Development
Semester 4 - Spring	COUN 623	**Group Counseling**
	COUN 616	Testing and Appraisal
	COUN 680	Practicum
Semester 5 - Summer	COUN 640	**Advanced Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills**
	COUN 641	Crisis and Trauma Counseling
	COUN 681	Internship 1
Semester 6 - Fall	COUN 630	**Integration of Counseling and Christianity**
	COUN 603	**Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling**
	COUN 615	**Research and Evaluation**
	COUN 682	Internship 2
Semester 7 - Spring	COUN 643	**Advanced Psychopathology: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning**
	COUN 642	Childhood and Adolescent Disorders and Treatment
	COUN 690	CPCE Comprehensive Program Evaluation

*Courses in bold are synchronous

** Courses highlighted in blue are a 7-week course with a mandatory intensive

Spring Entrance – Marriage and Family Specialization

Marriage and Family Course Progression (Spring Entrance)		
	Course No.	Name
Semester 1 - Spring	COUN 600	**Program Orientation**
	COUN 610	**Abnormal Psychology and Psychopathology**
	COUN 612	**Theories of Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Personality**
	COUN 613	Substance Use Disorders: Diagnosis and Treatment
Semester 2 - Summer	COUN 620	**Counseling and Psychotherapy Skills**
	COUN 614	**Social and Cultural Foundations**
	COUN 622	Lifestyle and Career Development
Semester 3 - Fall	COUN 601	**Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics**
	COUN 621	Marriage and Family Therapy
	COUN 611	Human Growth and Development
Semester 4 - Spring	COUN 623	**Group Counseling**
	COUN 616	Testing and Appraisal
	COUN 680	Practicum
Semester 5 - Summer	COUN 661	**Advanced Marriage Counseling**
	COUN 660	Family Systems Theory
	COUN 681	Internship 1
Semester 6 - Fall	COUN 630	**Integration of Counseling and Christianity**
	COUN 603	**Technology and Teletherapy in Counseling**
	COUN 615	**Research and Evaluation**
	COUN 682	Internship 2
Semester 7 - Spring	COUN 642	Childhood and Adolescent Disorders and Treatment
	COUN 663	Human Sexuality
	COUN 690	CPCE Comprehensive Program Evaluation

*Courses in bold are synchronous

** Courses highlighted in blue are a 7-week course with a mandatory intensive

Aggregate Student Assessment

Summary of Clinical Mental Health Program

Following the 2024 CACREP standards, the clinical mental health program for the 2025-2026 academic year engaged in student assessment and program assessment to ensure the quality of instruction and educational materials for students in the clinical mental health program.

Clinical Mental Health and Marriage and Family Aggregate Data

Admissions: The following data represents the application and acceptance rates for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Semester	Applied	Accepted	Enrolled
Fall 2025	129	34 (26.3%)	22 (17.1%)
Spring 2026	60	17 (28.3%)	10 (16.6%)
Totals	189	51 (27%)	32 (16.9%)

Marriage and Family Counseling

Semester	Applied	Accepted	Enrolled
Fall 2025	36	9 (25%)	6 (16.6%)
Spring 2026	29	10 (34.5%)	8 (27.6%)
Totals	65	19 (29.2%)	14 (21.5%)

Note: Fall 2025 had 33 students accepted and 24 registered who were uncategorized at the beginning of the semester. Spring 2026 had 14 students accepted and 7 students registered who were uncategorized. This option is no longer available for all new students. All new incoming students are forced to declare a specialization upon entry into the program.

Program Totals (CMHC + MFC + Uncategorized)

Semester	Applied	Accepted	Enrolled
Fall 2025	165	76 (46.1%)	52 (31.5%)
Spring 2026	89	41 (46.1%)	25 (28.1%)
Grand Total	254	117 (46.1%)	77 (30.3%)

KPIs: All KPIs except KPI 7 were met. KPI 7 reads, "Students will select, interpret, and ethically use assessment and diagnostic information to conceptualize client needs and inform counseling interventions." Part of the reason for KPI 7 being lower than the rest of the KPIs is due to missing data. The program is preparing for its first graduates in the Fall 2026. Because of this, some data for KPI 7 has not been able to be gathered. The rest of the KPIs had more data points in which to give more accurate data. The counseling department will continue to evaluate this KPI for the 2026-2027 academic year in light of its lower score.

KPIs are considered met if the total aggregate score is above 80%.

1. KPI 1 – Professional Orientation to Counseling and Ethics: 98.4% average
2. KPI 2 – Social and Cultural Identities and Experiences: 86.5% average
3. KPI 3 – Lifespan Development: 85.9% average
4. KPI 4 – Career Development: 100% average
5. KPI 5 – Counseling Practice and Relationships: 92.1% average
6. KPI 6 – Group Counseling and Group Work: 95.9% average
7. KPI 7 – Assessment and Diagnostic Processes: 65.5% average
8. KPI 8 – Research and Program Evaluation: 95.2% average
9. CMHC – 84.2% average
10. MFC – 81.8% average

Professional Dispositions: For the 2025-2026 academic year, 100% of students received "at level" or "exceeds" for all professional dispositions measured by internship 2. To get these numbers, scores are measured 5 points for "exceeds" and 4 points for "at level." On an individual level students' scores at examined by total score for a section. For aggregate scores, the total Likert-scale values are averaged. Students are expected to make "at level" or higher. For departmental reporting, averages are expected to be at least 80% or higher.

Aggregate Scores Averaged
Professionalism: 93.6% average
Accountability/Conscientiousness: 96.8% average
Self-regulation: 96.2% average
Interpersonal Skills: 99% average

Pass Rates on Credentialing Exams:
The counseling program did not have any graduates for the 2025-2026 academic year. The first cohort will graduate Fall 2026.

Degree Completion Rates:
The counseling program did not have any graduates for the 2025-2026 academic year. The first cohort will graduate Fall 2026.

Employment Rates:
The counseling program did not have any graduates for the 2025-2026 academic year. The first cohort will graduate Fall 2026.

Fieldwork Rates:

Practicum Placement 2025-2026 Academic Year

Fall 2025	Total	Placed	Not Placed	Percentage
CMHC	9	7	2	78%
MFC	4	3	1	75%
Spring 2026				
CMHC	9	7	2	78%
MFC	1	1	0	100%
Summer 2026				
CMHC	1	1	0	100%
MFC*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*No students applied for practicum Summer 2026 in MFC

Internship Placement 2025-2026 Academic Year

Fall 2025	Total	Placed	Not Placed	Percentage
CMHC*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MFC*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring 2026	7	7	0	100%
CMHC	3	3	0	100%
MFC				
Summer 2026				
CMHC	7	7	0	100%
MFC**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*No students eligible for internship in Fall 2025

**No students applied for internship in Summer 2026 in MFC

Faculty Updates

The counseling department added one new full-time core faculty member – Dr. Jan Lemon – who began in January 2026. Dr. Wendy Celoria was officially named the clinical director for student practicum and internship experiences. Dr. Justin Kelly was elected as President-Elect for the Mississippi Association for Counselor Educators and Supervisors (MACES), which is part of the Mississippi Counseling Association. Dr. Kelly also presented on professional wisdom at the 2026 Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS) annual conference. Dr. Kelly, Dr. Washington, Dr. Celoria, and Dr. Lemon each presented at the 2025 Mississippi Counseling Association annual conference.

2026-2027 Annual Report

Next year's annual report will be better able to provide a more comprehensive picture of the progress of the counseling program. Our first cohort graduates in December 2026. Due to the infancy of the program, the counseling department was unable to collect all data for the 2025-2026 academic year. Next year's annual report will be able to include CPCE and NCE performance scores. Also, counseling faculty will be able to track alumni successes, and the counseling department will have more students progressing through all coursework for enhanced data collection.