



Central to Making an Impact.

Central's Clinical Professional Counseling program prepares a diverse population of students to enter the professional counseling field as multiculturally competent practitioners who utilize systemic clinical counseling and ethical practices in alignment with the eight common core professional counseling standards of The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and the nine content areas established by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC). In line with Central's core values, our program commits to embrace and strengthen Diversity and Inclusion, providing an enriching and equitable learning environment where every individual is valued, and promoting diversity of people and ideas.

Programs Options

- **Clinical Mental Health:** Understand the clinical principles of assessment, DSM diagnostics, biopsychosocial case conceptualization, treatment planning, crisis intervention, and trauma-informed counseling.
- **Clinical Rehabilitation:** Understand environmental, attitudinal, and individual barriers for people with disabilities. Demonstrate knowledge of strategies to advocate for persons with disabilities.
- **Addiction Recovery:** Learn the etiological models of addiction, classification of drugs, and diagnostic categories of substance use disorders. Psychotherapeutic treatment approaches such as screening and assessment, motivational interviewing, psychopharmacology, and recovery and relapse prevention principles are discussed. A review of professional issues, family systems, and cross-cultural considerations will be included.
- **Gerontology Counseling:** Focus on the mental, emotional, and physical problems faced by aging individuals including issues that might occur as a person begins nearing the end of their life. Gain the tools to meet the needs of an aging population.

Program Features

- Matriculated students begin coursework each fall semester
- 60- to 63-credit program
- Attend full- or part-time
- Courses offered in evening hours for working adults
- Clinical counseling field experiences
- Access to state-of-the-art clinical counseling laboratory
- Financial aid is available
- No GMAT/GRE required



Accredited by The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Program (CACREP), the degree provides the academic background necessary to pursue licensing as a Licensed Professional Counselor-Associate (LPC-A), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), and/or Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) as well as certification as a National Certified Counselor (NCC) and/or a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC).



What You'll Gain

- Ability to assist individuals experiencing emotional, mental, social, and physical changes and disabilities
- Skills to practice in clinical mental health, clinical rehabilitation, and addictions counseling settings
- Mindfulness-informed theoretical approach that enhances effectiveness in promoting development and change
- Knowledge of current ethical and legal codes.
- Commitment to mental, emotional, social, and physiological wellness
- Communication and advocacy skills
- Understanding of the diagnostic process including differential diagnosis and use of current diagnostic classification systems
- Ability to facilitate intake interviews, mental status evaluations, biopsychosocial histories, mental health histories, and psychological assessments for treatment planning and caseload management
- Recognition of the special problems and concerns facing people with a wide range of mental and physical challenges and disabilities, as well as other socially stigmatizing conditions



DID YOU KNOW?

- 100% employment rate within 6 months of graduation
- 100% pass rate for the National Counselor Examination
- 100% first-time pass rate for the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination

NOTE: Because admission to the Master of Science in Counselor Education: Clinical Professional Counseling is a highly competitive process, meeting the minimum graduate and program specific application criteria and requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program.

Applying for Admission

Admission to the Clinical Professional Counseling program is made on a competitive basis only once per year. Candidates for admission will be considered on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education
2. Grade point average: Minimum 2.70 grade point average (GPA) for all undergraduate courses and a 3.00 for all graduate courses, based on a 4.00-point scale where A is 4.00
3. Three recommendations from individuals able to testify to the student's suitability as a prospective counselor
4. Two to three-page typewritten (double-spaced) essay describing the following:
 - Reasons for entering the counseling profession
 - Personal and professional experiences that influenced you to pursue the counseling profession
 - Personal characteristics you believe will contribute to your success as a counselor

A formal interview by the program's faculty admissions committee will assess the prospective student's application materials as well as personal/professional attributes and life experiences that may support the individual's ability to be successful in the field of clinical professional counseling.

All applications must be fully completed and received by February 1 in order to be considered for admission beginning the following fall academic semester. The graduate admissions application (including the provision of all required documents and supplemental materials) is completed via online submission protocols outlined by the Office of Graduate Admissions. For additional information regarding the graduate admissions application process, please visit ccsu.edu/grad/admission.



ABOUT CENTRAL:

Central Connecticut State University is the largest university within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system. Founded in 1849, Central is also the state's oldest publicly funded university. Our campus is located in New Britain, Connecticut. Central is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

