

COMMUNITY COUNSELING (MEd)

The education field needs professionals who can meet client concerns from diverse cultural perspectives. The MEd in Community Counseling prepares professionals who are knowledgeable about cultural influences on human development.

CURRICULUM

Completion of the MEd degree program requires 60 semester hours of graduate study focused in two major areas: counseling core and a specialty area. This includes 700 clock hours of practicum and internship experience (taken for six semester hours of credit). Students must also take and pass a comprehensive examination during their final semester of study. Students have five years from acceptance to complete the program.

For more information about the following items, please refer to the Counseling Student Handbook 2023-2024 (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/education/counseling-psychology/community-counseling-med/2023_MASTERSHANDBOOK_CPSY.pdf).

Students should present transcript evidence of successful completion ("B" or better) of an introductory statistics course or its equivalent. Ideally, students will have completed this course prior to the start of the program.

This program meets Illinois requirements for LPC/LCPC (counseling compact included).

Coursework

Code	Title	Hours
Counseling Core		45
CPSY 420	Counseling Skills	
CPSY 421	Professional Issues Counseling	
CPSY 423	Theory Counseling & Psychotherapy	
CPSY 424	Career Development & Counseling	
CPSY 425	Assessment in Counseling	
CPSY 426	Group Counseling: Theory and Practice	
CPSY 427	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	
CPSY 433	Multicultural Counseling	
CPSY 437	Addiction Counseling	
CPSY 440	Practicum ¹	
CPSY 441	Internship ¹	
CPSY 444	Family Therapy I	
CPSY 454	Human Development: Cognitive, Aff & Phys Bases	
CPSY 528	Clinical Appraisal and Treatment Planning	
RMTD 400	Introduction to Research Methodology	
Track Requirements		15

All students must choose either the Clinical Mental Health Track or the Research Track.

Clinical Mental Health Track

CPSY 527	Prevention, Advocacy, and Outreach: Community-Based	
CPSY 532	Advanced Theories in Psychotherapy	
CPSY 535	Seminar in Supervision & Consultation	
CPSY 441	Internship ²	

Elective		
<i>Research Track</i>		
RMTD 430	Psychological Measurement	
RMTD 482	Introduction to Linear Models	
	or RMTD 421 Educational Research II: Building a Body of Evidence Quantitative Method	
CPSY 499	Independent Research	
Two (2) electives in Research Methods or Statistics		
Total Hours		60

¹ Practicum/Internship requires 700 hours of supervised experience in a setting relevant to community counseling practice.

² The course is completed twice, once during the spring and once during the summer.

Suggested Sequence of Courses

The below sequence of courses is meant to be used as a suggested path for completing coursework. An individual student's completion of requirements depends on course offerings in a given term as well as the start term for a major or graduate study. Students should consult their advisor for assistance with course selection.

Course	Title	Hours
Year One		
Fall		
CPSY 420	Counseling Skills	3
CPSY 424	Career Development & Counseling	3
CPSY 433	Multicultural Counseling	3
CPSY 454	Human Development: Cognitive, Aff & Phys Bases	3
Hours		12
Spring		
CPSY 421	Professional Issues Counseling	3
CPSY 423	Theory Counseling & Psychotherapy	3
CPSY 427	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CPSY 528	Clinical Appraisal and Treatment Planning	3
Hours		12
Summer		
CPSY 425	Assessment in Counseling	3
CPSY 426	Group Counseling: Theory and Practice	3
CPSY 437	Addiction Counseling	3
CPSY 444	Family Therapy I	3
Hours		12
Year Two		
Fall		
CPSY 440	Practicum	3
RMTD 400	Introduction to Research Methodology	3
Track Course #1		3
Hours		9
Spring		
CPSY 441	Internship	3
Track Course #2		3

Track Course #3	3
Hours	9
Summer	
Track Course #4	3
Track Course #5	3
Hours	6
Total Hours	60

Program Length

Full-time students complete the program in two years, including at least one summer. Part-time study is also available.

Comprehensive Assessment

A proctored examination is required. See program handbook for details. Comprehensive examination application deadlines are as follows (see the School of Education Academic Calendar for comprehensive exam dates)

Licensure

The curriculum of the MEd program reflects current requirements for licensure in the State of Illinois. Licensure is handled by individual states, and portability of licensure across state lines differs according to each state. The Department of Professional Regulation in the State of Illinois has adopted the certification exam developed and administered by the National Board of Certified Counselors. Many states use this exam for licensure purposes, so scores from the exam can be transferred. Coursework, including the number of hours required, differ across states. Students interested in completing licensure or certification in another state are strongly advised to consult the professional regulation boards prior to enrolling at Loyola to determine the appropriate coursework required. Students should also stay apprised of licensure requirements throughout the program.

Practicum Sites

The Chicagoland area provides a wealth of clinical training opportunities for the students in community, school, and clinical mental health counseling programs. Students receive generalist training, but through site selection can begin to acquire population-specific competencies in working with children, adolescents, families, gay/lesbian/bisexual clients, and other groups of individuals. Many of the practicum sites also contain American Psychological Association-approved internship programs where trainees are provided with rigorous supervision and on-site seminars.

To discuss typical practicum settings and sites in Chicago and its suburbs, please contact Rufus Gonzales, Practicum Coordinator, at (312) 915-6378.

Continuous Enrollments

MEd students in Community Counseling are required to maintain the status of continuous enrollment during their program of studies. This means that during each semester of each academic year (excluding Summer Sessions), each student must enroll in at least one course. A formal leave of absence may be granted upon request and the approval of the School of Education's Assistant Dean of Student Academic Affairs.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and

Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supercede school policies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand the knowledge bases of the counseling professions.
2. Capable of applying the knowledge base of their disciplines in an ethical, reflective, and culturally-responsive manner.
3. Evaluate research, appreciate the contribution of empirical inquiry to the solution of applied problems, and apply research findings to their practices.
4. Knowledgeable of the social-cultural contexts of human development.
5. Evaluate the outcomes of their interventions with empirically sound methods
6. Participate in continuing professional education and supervision in their future professional lives and who involve themselves in activities of their professional associations.
7. Committed to social justice in scientific and practice settings.

Graduates of this program are eligible to apply for licensing as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Illinois upon graduation. Graduates are then subsequently eligible to apply for licensing as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) in Illinois after receiving two years of post-degree supervised experience.