

Alfred University
Annual Assessment Report: Mental Health Counseling
2020-2021

College/Division/Department: Alfred University/School of Graduate and Continuing Studies/Mental Health Counseling Program

Mission Statement: Alfred University’s graduate program in counseling prepares individuals for counseling positions in elementary, middle and high schools, colleges and universities, mental health centers and social service agencies. Students acquire core knowledge and clinical skills that enable them to enter the profession of counseling. We (the faculty) strive to create a rigorous scholarly and supportive atmosphere for students to develop intellectually with a deep sense of social consciousness and self-awareness. We value teaching, scholarship, and service, which contribute to the mission of Alfred University.

2020 CACREP Vital Statistics Survey (2009 Standards): Number of graduates: 7; Completion rate: 87.5%; Exam pass rate: Homegrown Exit Exam modeled on the CPCE: 100%; Job placement rate: 100%.

Broad Learning Goals	Specific Learning Objectives	Learning Assessment Activities	Assessment Methodology	Assessment Date(s)	Results of Assessments	Recommendations																											
<p>Goal A: To prepare counseling students in the acquisition of a comprehensive and scholarly knowledge base relevant to the profession of counseling.</p>	<p>Objective A Students will demonstrate knowledge in each of the eight common core curricular areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Orientation/Ethics • Social/Cultural Diversity • Human Development • Career Development • Helping Relationships • Group Work • Assessment • Research/Program Evaluation 	<p>Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE)</p>	<p>Standardized test measures</p>	<p>Spring semester of a student’s final year in the program</p>	<p>Program faculty created our own exit exam, based on the <i>NCE/CPCE Study Guide, 3rd edition</i> (Erford, Hays, & Crockett, 2019).</p> <p>100% of MH & SC students (n=15) scored above the minimum cutoff-score, which is set at one standard deviation below the typical national mean.</p> <p>The counseling program as a whole had a total mean score of 94.53. Comparison to the CPCE national exit exam mean was not appropriate since our exam was homegrown due to the restrictions of the pandemic.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Curricular Area</th> <th style="text-align: center;">AU Mean</th> <th style="text-align: center;">National Mean</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C1: Hum Dev</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11.87</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C2: Social/Cult Diversity</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10.67</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C3: Helping Relationships</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11.87</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C4: Group Work</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13.20</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C5: Career Development</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11.53</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C6: Assessment</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11.47</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C7: Research/Program Eval</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11.40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C8: Professional Orient/Ethics</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11.87</td> <td style="text-align: center;">n/a</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Curricular Area	AU Mean	National Mean	C1: Hum Dev	11.87	n/a	C2: Social/Cult Diversity	10.67	n/a	C3: Helping Relationships	11.87	n/a	C4: Group Work	13.20	n/a	C5: Career Development	11.53	n/a	C6: Assessment	11.47	n/a	C7: Research/Program Eval	11.40	n/a	C8: Professional Orient/Ethics	11.87	n/a	<p>Return to utilizing the CPCE as an exit exam now that pandemic restrictions have been lifted.</p> <p>Continue to review CPCE results with advisees so that students are better prepared for the NCE should they take it.</p> <p>Utilize remediation plans for any students falling below the minimum passing score.</p> <p>Continue to recommend that students purchase the <i>NCE/CPCE Study Guide, 3rd edition</i> (Erford, Hays, & Crockett, 2019), <i>The Encyclopedia of Counseling, 4th ed</i> (Rosenthal, 2017), or <i>Study Guide for the National Counselor Examination and CPCE, 2nd ed.</i>, (Helwig, 2018) as test prep.</p>
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<p>Goal B: To prepare counseling students in the acquisition of professional knowledge, clinical skills and abilities in the areas of individual, group, and family interventions.</p>	<p>Objective B-1: Students will demonstrate professional knowledge necessary to address a wide variety of circumstances within the clinical mental health counseling context.</p> <p>Objective B-2: Students will demonstrate professional skills and practices necessary to address a wide variety of circumstances within the clinical mental health counseling context.</p>	<p>Key CMHC Assessments measuring CACREP section III student learning <i>knowledge</i> outcomes</p> <p>CMHC Practicum and Internship performance evaluations measuring CACREP section III student learning <i>skills and practices</i></p>	<p>Skill rubrics used for all key assessments, qualifying exams, case studies, counseling skills demonstrations, and research papers.</p> <p>Rating scales completed by practicum and internship supervisors</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the program</p> <p>End of the semester during a student's practicum and internship experience</p>	<p>In terms of aggregate outcomes, graduates of the Mental Health Counseling track adequately met expectations or better (based on a 4-point scale) in the demonstration of professional knowledge, skills, and practices, for each CACREP section III CMHC domain, as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1696 342 2126 737"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Knowledge</th> <th>Skills & Practices</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Foundations</td> <td>3.32</td> <td>3.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Couns, Prev, & Interv</td> <td>3.33</td> <td>3.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diversity & Advocacy</td> <td>3.46</td> <td>3.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assessment</td> <td>3.25</td> <td>3.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research & Evaluation</td> <td>3.15</td> <td>3.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diagnosis</td> <td>3.40</td> <td>3.52</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Knowledge	Skills & Practices	Foundations	3.32	3.24	Couns, Prev, & Interv	3.33	3.32	Diversity & Advocacy	3.46	3.33	Assessment	3.25	3.42	Research & Evaluation	3.15	3.15	Diagnosis	3.40	3.52	<p>Given student feedback, program faculty decided to move assessment in counseling as well as family therapy back to fall semester and move career development and research/statistics to the summer session.</p> <p>Begin to prepare for the potential of a separate course in program evaluation.</p> <p>Awaiting the announcement from NYMHCA about the potential decision to increase internship hours to 700 and how this will impact the program.</p>
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<p>Goal C: To prepare counseling students to become competent, self-aware, and socially conscious in order to work in a variety of settings serving a diverse population.</p>	<p>Objective C: Students will engage in personal and professional growth experiences that will allow them to assess their academic progress, personal and professional development skills, self-understanding, interpersonal effectiveness, and commitment and readiness to enter the counseling field.</p>	<p>Student Progress Monitoring Evaluations</p>	<p>Faculty and self-rating scale</p>	<p>End of a student's first;</p> <p>End of a student's practicum semester;</p> <p>Mid-term of a student's final semester.</p>	<p>100% of 2nd year students adequately met expectations or better on terms of personal and professional counseling dispositions (n=8).</p> <p>100% of 1st year students adequately met expectations or better for overall progress in the program (n=9).</p>	<p>Continue to measure personal and professional development through the student progress monitoring process.</p> <p>Continue to generate remediation plans for students who do not meet expectations as determined by the Scholastic Standards Committee and core faculty.</p> <p>For students in their final year, continue to utilize specific items from the internship evaluation that pertain to professional dispositions.</p>																					