

# MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

## Master of Arts (MA)

This is a guide based on the 2025-2026 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their progress.

### CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

#### 60 Hours Required

- \_\_\_ CP610 Counseling Orientation and Ethics (3)
- \_\_\_ CP611 Developmental Theories (3)
- \_\_\_ CP612 Counseling Theories (3)
- \_\_\_ CP613 Social & Cultural Aspects of Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ CP614 Counseling Skills (3)
- \_\_\_ CP615 Career Development (3)
- \_\_\_ CP616 Group Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ CP617 Assessment in Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ CP631 Crisis Intervention and Consultation (3)
- \_\_\_ CP640 Foundations of Mental Health Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ CP641 Mental Health Systems and Prevention (3)
- \_\_\_ CP643 Psychodiagnostics and Treatment (3)
- \_\_\_ CP645 Marriage and Family Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ CP661 Addictions Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ CP680 Counseling Practicum (3)
- \_\_\_ CP686 Internship -- Mental Health (3)
- \_\_\_ CP687 Internship -- Mental Health (3)
- \_\_\_ CP688 Advanced Internship -- Mental Health (3)
- \_\_\_ CP691 Research Methods and Program Evaluation in Counseling (3)
- \_\_\_ GR698 Master's Final Comprehensive Exam (0)
- \_\_\_ Electives (3)

#### Suggested electives:

- \_\_\_ CP652 Introduction to Play Therapy (3)
- \_\_\_ ED535 The Trauma Informed Professional (3)

#### Prerequisites:

9 credit hours in the social sciences, including: counseling, psychology, sociology, or appropriately focused general education courses.

### Admission Requirements

Applications are considered for summer and fall semesters only.

In addition to the criteria established for general admission to graduate studies, applicants must have the following:

1. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale
2. One letter of recommendation submitted directly to the Office of Admissions prior to admission. The letter should be addressed to the Director of Admissions.
3. Nine total credits in the social sciences, including, psychology, counseling, sociology or appropriately focused university studies courses

International applicants must also have a minimum IELTS Academic score of 7.0, TOEFL iBT score of 95, PTE Academic score of 64 or Duolingo English score of 125. *This requirement is for non-United States citizens who are not native English speakers. Students from countries where English is known to be the official language of education are exempt from English proficiency verification. For a complete list of countries, visit <https://semo.edu/international/admissions/policies.html>.*

Students will have an interview with member(s) of the counseling faculty prior to admission. Students must complete a personal statement essay describing their decision to pursue counseling as a career prior to the scheduled interview (submit directly to the Department of Psychology and Counseling). Following the interview, faculty will offer provisional admission, probationary admission, or deny admission.

To become fully admitted, applicants must complete the following: Satisfactorily complete CP610 Counseling Orientation and Ethics during their first semester and submit two additional letters of recommendation directly to their advisor.

#### Probationary Admission

Probationary admission will be considered by the program admissions committee if the applicant has a 2.75 to 2.99 undergraduate GPA or if the applicant has achieved a GPA of 3.25 during the last 60 hours of undergraduate work. Students admitted to the counseling program on probation must attain a 3.5 GPA for the first 9 hours of graduate work. Unless authorized by the advisor, probationary students must include the following courses in the first 9 hours of coursework: CP610 Counseling Orientation and Ethics, CP 612 Counseling Theories, and CP691 Research Methods and Program Evaluation in Counseling. A student earning any grade less than a "B" in any of the first nine hours, but still maintaining a 3.0 GPA, will be allowed to repeat the course one time and must earn a grade of "B" or better.

#### Appeals Process

Applicants who are denied admission can appeal to the Counseling Program Admission Committee.

#### Program Retention

Review the Graduate Bulletin at [semo.edu/grad/bulletin](https://semo.edu/grad/bulletin).

For graduate studies admissions deadlines, visit

<https://semo.edu/admissions/requirements/graduate.html>.

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# 2025-2026 degree map



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