The Doctorate in Counselor Education

The Doctor of Philosophy degree in Counselor Education is designed for those who have completed a Master’s degree in Counseling or an allied field and who are licensed or are eligible for professional licensure in Counseling or a closely related profession. The doctoral program is accredited by CACREP. A minimum of 97 credits are required to successfully complete the program including a 24-hour supporting area and a dissertation. The Counselor Education program will accept up to 36 hours of graduate transfer credit to be applied to the Ph.D. program. All students are required to have the following courses at the masters level: Group Counseling, Theories of Counseling, Multicultural Issues, Ethics, and Research Design. Those applicants without these courses are eligible for a ‘conditional’ admission pending completion of the courses in the first year of study at UNM. All substitutions of courses must be approved by the Counselor Education program faculty before a substitute course can be used to fulfill a requirement. A course may be used to fulfill requirements in more than one area, but the student’s program of studies must still include 97 credit hours.

The program requires that students develop competency in teaching, research, supervision and consultation. These competencies, added to the professional expertise in counseling demonstrated at the point of admission into the doctoral program, enable the doctoral graduate to successfully carry out a wide range of supervisory, consultative, teaching, research and counseling activities in a variety of professional settings. Graduates are well suited to: college or university faculty positions in counselor preparation programs; research, policy and program evaluation; supervisory roles in counseling services, mental health clinics, hospitals, schools and private practice settings; mental health consultation with individuals, groups and organizations, and direct preventive or remedial mental health services. The program is not a psychology program and does not prepare students for psychology licensure.

Admission
Admission to the program is based on scholarship, academic background, work experience, letters of reference, a writing sample, a statement of intent, culturally diverse experience and scores on the Graduate Record Examination. Final selection of candidates is made after an interview of finalists. For additional information on the program and application procedures, contact the Counselor Education Program. Admission to the program is for fall semester of each academic year only. Admission into the Counselor Education program in no way guarantees placements (e.g., practica, internship), licensure, and/or employment. Additionally, fingerprinting and background checks may be required.

Degree Requirements
Masters Program Credits (15 credits required)
- Group Counseling
- Theories of Counseling
- Multicultural Issues
- Counseling Ethics
- Research Design

Theories (3 credits required)
- COUN 621 Advanced Theories
Supervision (3 credits required)
   COUN 514 Supervision of Counseling Services

Instructional theory and methods in Counselor Education (3 credits required)
   COUN 625 Teaching in Counseling

Multicultural and Diversity Studies (3 credits required)
Students will select a course in consultation with their advisor that fits their expertise and/or area of interest. Options include:
   ANTH 537 Seminar: Southwestern Ethnology
   CJ 514 Seminar in Intercultural Communication
   LLSS 523 Education and Anthropology
   LLSS 587 Education and Gender Equity
   MGMT 560 Seminar in Cross-Cultural Organizational Behavior
   SOC 520 Racial and Ethnic Relations
   SPCD 501 The Psychology and Education of Exceptional Persons
   SPCD 520 Introduction to Mental Retardation
   SPCD 530 Introduction to Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders
   Or other courses with program approval

Assessment Methods and Use of Data (3 credits required)
   EDPY 572: Classroom Assessment
   EDPY 574: Introduction to Educational and Psychological Measurement
   EDPY 515: Survey and Questionnaire Design and Analysis
   Or other courses with program approval

Ethical and Legal Issues in Counselor Education and Supervision (3 credits required)
   COUN 615 Leadership, Advocacy, and Professional Issues

Consultation (3 credits required)
   COUN 620 Seminar in Counseling

Clinical experiences (15 credits required)
   COUN 650 Advanced Group Counseling and Psychotherapy
   COUN 630 Advanced Practicum (clinical)
   COUN 696 Internship (clinical)
   COUN 696 Internship (supervision)
   COUN 696 Internship (teaching)

Supporting Area (24 credits required)
The 24 credit supporting area consists of 12 credits of quantitative and qualitative research (as defined below), and 12 credits in another discipline. Supporting area disciplines are typically selected from the following examples: Educational Administration, Educational Psychology, Family Studies, Health Education, Management, Psychology, Public Administration, Public Health, Training & Learning Technologies, and Sociology. Students should note that some programs are very specific about the course work required for a supporting area in that discipline.
The following courses are required toward the 12 credits of quantitative and qualitative research:
   EDPY 603 Applied Statistical Design and Analysis
EDPY 604 Multiple Regression: Techniques as Applied to Education
LLSS 502 Introduction to Qualitative Research
Either an additional quantitative or qualitative research course
  Quantitative Options including:
    EDPY 504 Statistical Software Applications for Educational Research
    EDPY 606 Applied Multivariate Statistics
    EDPY 607 Structural Equation Modeling
    EDPY 651 Advanced Seminar in Quantitative Educational Research
    Or other courses with program approval
  Qualitative Options including:
    LEAD/LLSS 605 Advanced Qualitative Research Methods (3)
    LLSS 623 Ethnographic Research (3)
    Or other courses with program approval

Dissertation Seminar (1 credit required)
  Options including:
    EDPY 650 Dissertation Seminar
    LLSS 650 Dissertation Seminar
    Or other courses with program approval

Dissertation (18 credits required)
  COUN 699 Dissertation

Other program electives to reach 97 credits
  COUN 576 Diagnosis of Mental Disorders
  COUN 541 Counseling Children and Adolescents
  COUN 560 Family Counseling
  COUN 581 Sexuality in Counseling and Psychotherapy
  COUN 516 Disaster, Trauma and Crisis Counseling
  COUN 577 Substance Use and Abuse
  Or other courses with program approval

At times, other relevant courses become available or students will have unique educational needs or interests. ALL substitutions of courses must be approved by the Counseling Program faculty before a substitute course can be used to fulfill a requirement. A course potentially may be used to fulfill requirements in more than one area, but the student’s program of studies still must meet the Counseling Program doctoral degree requirement of 97 credit hours.