2026-27 Academic Year

WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

Master of Science in Education (MSE)

Wayne State College's Clinical Mental Health Counseling master's degree prepares you to pursue licensure and provide professional counseling services in community agencies, hospitals, and private practice settings. You'll build advanced clinical skills in counseling theory and techniques, assessment and appraisal, diagnosis and treatment planning, and ethical decision-making in both in-person and telehealth environments.

Coursework also emphasizes multicultural counseling and advocacy, crisis and trauma intervention, and working with clients across the lifespan. Students gain specialized preparation in areas such as psychopharmacology and dual diagnosis, helping them support individuals facing co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Through supervised practicum and internship experiences, graduates develop real-world confidence and professional competence to deliver culturally responsive, evidence-based care and promote client wellness and recovery.

fast facts

Credit hours: 60

Cost per credit hour: $340.25 - $427.45 total *(includes fees)*

Degree offered: Master of Science in Education/ Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Delivery method: Hybrid. Some courses are in person, while others are online (synchronous and/ or asynchronous). Your in-person courses will be taken through our low-residency model, a cohort that meets two weekends per semester. These weekends typically have a schedule of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sundays. Location is on campus in Wayne.

School: Education and Behavioral Sciences

Department: Counseling

focus on results

Skills Learned

- Counseling theories and techniques
- Clinical assessment and appraisal
- Diagnosis and treatment planning
- Crisis and trauma intervention
- Multicultural counseling and advocacy
- Ethical and legal counseling practice
- Dual diagnosis and addiction counseling
- Psychopharmacology fundamentals
- Individual and group counseling

Possible Careers

- Clinical mental health counselor
- Licensed mental health counselor
- Professional counselor
- Outpatient therapist
- Behavioral health counselor
- Substance use counselor
- Crisis intervention counselor
- Intake/assessment counselor
- Case manager

Types of Employers

- Counseling clinics
- Hospitals and health care systems
- Behavioral health clinics
- Private practices
- Substance use treatment programs
- Residential treatment facilities
- Correctional and reentry programs
- College counseling centers
- Employee assistance programs

recognized for excellence

Our graduate programs are nationally recognized for their excellence, exceptional value, and flexible learning options — consistently earning top distinctions for affordability and quality.

Best Value Clinical Counseling School

Wayne State College's Clinical Mental Health Counseling graduate program was recognized as the No. 2 "Best Value School" in the Plains States Region for offering a high quality program at an affordable price.

Accredited by CACREP

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling MSE program has received specialized accreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), providing assurance that our program meets rigorous standards of excellence.

Program courses

2026-27 Academic Year

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Counseling core requirements (36 credit hours)

EDU 603 Introduction to Educational Research and Design	3
CSL 541 Dual Diagnosis and Addiction Disorders	3
CSL 547 Multicultural Counseling and Advocacy	3
CSL 575 Psychopathology and Client Adaptations	3
CSL 580 Professional Ethical and Legal Standards of Practice	3
CSL 600 Theories of Counseling	3
CSL 602 Counseling Program Orientation	0
CSL 615 Career Development and Life Planning	3
CSL 625 Theory and Practice of Appraisal	3
CSL 630 Human Development Across the Lifespan	3
CSL 660 Professional Foundations and Counseling Skills	3
CSL 665 Group Counseling	3
CSL 688 Crisis and Trauma Intervention	3
CSL 692 Counseling Program Exit Benchmark	0

Clinical mental health counseling content requirements (24 credit hours)

CSL 605 Clinical Psychopharmacology	3
CSL 645 Diverse Families and Relationships	3
CSL 661 Counseling Techniques and Strategies	3
CSL 662 Supervised Practicum	3
CSL 672 Clinical Organization/Administration of Counseling Services	3
CSL 675 Diagnosis and Treatment Planning	3
CSL 697 Internship in Counseling (CMHC I)	3
CSL 697 Internship in Counseling (CMHC II)	3

Licensure or certification information

A student may complete the graduate degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling as a first step in applying for licensure to provide counseling. An additional step to earning a license is to pass a competency test that is approved by the state; typically the National Counselor Exam (NCE) and/or the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE). Students will be required to pass ("satisfactory" or above) the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) to help prepare for the national licensure exam(s) and to demonstrate mastery of core competencies.

Mental Health Practitioner Licensure Information

In compliance with the State Authorization Reciprocity Act (SARA), the Clinical Mental Health program at WSC is CACREP-accredited and leads to the ability to apply for licensure through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. However, WSC does not assume responsibility for counseling licensure eligibility by other states other than Nebraska. Students should check with their licensing agency regarding specific state requirements. For a directory of counseling licensing boards, please visit the American Counseling Association's "Knowledge Center" website. For licensure in Nebraska, contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, P.O. Box 95007, Lincoln, NE 68509-5007, or 402-471-211.

questions? contact:

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