CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

MASTER OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

DELIVERY METHOD
Blended (online and on-site)

START DATES
Fall (recommended for full-time)
Spring and Summer (completion time will be 3+ years)

COMPLETION TIME
MA Program: 3 years (full-time)
3 years+ (part-time)
3+3 Program: 3 Undergrad + 3 Grad Years
Endorsement Only: Varies

NUMBER OF CREDITS
60 credits (M.A. Program)

CACREP ACCREDITED

- **SRU students achieved a 100% Pass Rate on National Counseling Exam (Spring 2025)**
- **90% of SRU students in program were employed prior to graduation**
- **According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Mental Health Counselors is projected to be one of the nation's fastest growing carers through 2034 with the greatest employment opportunities**

Slippery Rock University

www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) M.A. Program prepares graduates to thrive in rewarding and in-demand careers in the counseling field. Our 60-credit program is CACREP-accredited and fulfills the education requirements to sit for the National Counseling Exam (NCE). Our curriculum aligns with the educational requirements for professional licensing in Pennsylvania and includes closely supervised clinical fieldwork. Students train with faculty who are experienced counseling professionals and benefit from small class sizes, attentive advising, and opportunities for professional development. Our graduates are empowered and equipped to be advocates and agents of change in meeting the mental health and wellness needs of a diverse, global community.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Licensure Ready:** The curriculum aligns with the educational requirements for Pennsylvania Professional Licensing (LPC) and the National Counselor credential
- **Highest Quality:** Our 60-credit program is fully CACREP-accredited. This maximizes the likelihood that you meet the educational requirements for counseling licensure in all states
- **Learn from Practitioners:** Train in small classes under faculty who are not just experienced counselor educators, but expert clinical practitioners
- **Flawless Preparation:** SRU students achieved a 100% Pass Rate on the National Counseling Exam[1]
- **Immediate Placement:** 90% of our students' secure employment in the field before or at the time of graduation[2]
- **Rewarding Careers:** Our graduates enjoy rewarding careers in community mental health, private practice, school-based mental health, hospitals/VA hospitals, outpatient psychiatric clinics, residential facilities.
- **Balance & Blended Flexibility:** Our blended delivery (online and on-site) provides a rigorous, high-quality educational experience while significantly reducing time on campus. This approach provides the flexibility you need to maintain your career and personal life while earning your degree.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

The CACREP-Accredited CMHC M.A. (60 cr.) programs curriculum is delivered through on and off-campus experiences with full and part-time options. The full-time plan requires 3 years of study, including supervised, clinical fieldwork.

- Current SRU students enrolled in SRU's Psychology undergraduate programs may apply to the accelerated 3+3 Program which requires 3 undergraduate and 3 graduate years of study
- The Department of Counseling & Development also offers a Counseling Endorsement option designed for individuals holding a master's degree in counseling or a counseling-related field seeking additional coursework to meet licensure or certification requirements

ACCREDITATION, CERTIFICATION, & LICENSURE

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling M.A. program at SRU is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP). CACREP accreditation assures the content and quality of the program, as well as the program's professional and financial health has been evaluated and meets standards set by the profession. Some states require graduation from a CACREP-accredited program to be eligible for licensure as a professional counselor. Graduates of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling M.A. Program meet the academic requirements for Pennsylvania licensure in professional counseling (LPC) and for the NCC, the National Certified Counselor credential through NBCC. Only state and national boards can award professional licenses and certification, and applicants are encouraged to contact such boards for the most recent requirements and information.

1 Spring 2025 NCE Administration
2 Based on employment data at or prior to graduation

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COURSE SEQUENCE (60 CREDITS)

First Fall Semester		
CDEV 614	Helping Relationships	3
CDEV 615	Introduction to Counseling	3
CDEV 670	Counseling Theory	3
CDEV 699	Introduction to Research	3
First Spring Semester		
CDEV 610	Lifespan Development	3
CDEV 621	Social and Cultural Diversity	3
CDEV 628	Ethics in Counseling	3
CDEV 680	Assessment in Counseling	3
Second Fall Semester		
CDEV 603	Career Development and Counseling	3
CDEV 612	Group Counseling	3
CDEV 644	Advanced Counseling Theory and Practice	3
	Elective Option	3
Second Spring Semester		
CDEV 607	Contextual Dimensions of Diagnosis	3
CDEV 611	Family Counseling	3
Select one of the following:		3
CDEV 617	Advanced Adult Counseling	
CDEV 636	Advanced Addictions Counseling	
CDEV 685	Advanced Youth Counseling	
Summer Fieldwork		
CDEV 701	Clinical Mental Health Counseling Practicum	3
Third Fall Semester		
CDEV 703	Practicum in Counselor Supervision	3
CDEV 751	Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
Third Spring Semester		
CDEV 751	Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
Elective Coursework		6
Total Hours		**60**

SCAN QR code
for more information

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

- Official undergraduate degree transcript(s) and any graduate transcripts.
- A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 to be considered for unconditional admission.
- A personal statement indicating interest in the program, experience, and career goals.
- Two electronic recommendation forms from former or current college or university faculty or recent employer/ supervisor with knowledge of the applicant's academic aptitude, suitability for intended program area, and ability to form interpersonal relationships.

Applications are reviewed year-round, and interviews are required.

TUITION AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at **www.sru.edu/graduate**. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office **www.sru.edu/FinAid** or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Jodi Sindlinger
015 Carruth Rizza
724-738 4714
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FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
104 North Hall, Welcome Center
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.

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