

# CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

MASTER OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

**DELIVERY METHOD**  
Blended (online/on-site)

**START DATES**  
Fall, Spring, or Summer

**COMPLETION TIME**  
MA Program: 3 years  
(Full and Part-time options)  
3+3 Program: 3 Undergrad +  
3 Grad Years  
Endorsement Only: Varies

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



SRU students achieved a  
100% Pass Rate on National  
Counseling Exam (Spring 2024).

Occupational Outlook indicates  
opportunities in the counseling  
field are growing faster than  
average.

- 43,600 new jobs projected through 2031
- 22% job growth rate-much faster than average

SlipperyRock  
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://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 academic 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

- Mental Health Counselor employment opportunities are projected to grow 22% from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all occupations
- CACREP-accreditation helps maximize the chances that you have met the majority of the educational requirements required for licensure or certification as a counselor in all states
- Our graduates enjoy rewarding careers in community mental health, private practice, school-based mental health, hospitals/VA hospitals, outpatient psychiatric clinics, residential facilities, detoxification clinics, and college/university settings

## ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Counseling & Development is housed in the College of Education and provides outreach and other valuable services to the University at large. Faculty teach in their respective areas of expertise and/or provide counseling services through the University's Student Counseling Center. The department offers both degree and non-degree programs in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling, and degrees in Student Affairs in Higher Education and College Counseling. The Department's on-site facilities include a state-of-the-art counseling & observation lab and the University's Student Counseling Center.

## PROGRAM OPTIONS

The CACREP-Accredited CMHC M.A. (60 cr.) program curriculum is delivered through on and off-campus experiences with full and part-time options. The full-time plan of study generally requires 2 years of coursework and a 3rd year of 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.

## 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 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 Hlth Counseling Practicum	3
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### 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
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Elective Coursework 6

**Total Hours 60**

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

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

1. Official undergraduate degree transcript(s) and any graduate transcripts.
2. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 to be considered for unconditional admission.
3. A personal statement indicating interest in the program, experience, and career goals.
4. 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](http://www.sru.edu/graduate). Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office [www.sru.edu/FinAid](http://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  
[jodi.sindlinger@sru.edu](mailto:jodi.sindlinger@sru.edu)

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions  
104 North Hall, Welcome Center  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057  
[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate)  
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD  
[graduate.admissions@sru.edu](mailto: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.