COUNSELOR EDUCATION

PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE

GRADUATE STUDIES
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COUNSELOR EDUCATION

PFW.EDU/GRADUATE
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The counselor education program at Purdue University Fort Wayne is a master’s degree program in counseling, with specializations in either Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) or School Counseling (SC). The CMHC track prepares counselors to work with individual adults, children, adolescents, couples, and families. The SC track prepares school counselors to serve the needs of K-12 students. Clinical training is our primary focus here at Purdue Fort Wayne, and we are exceptionally proud of the strength of our program. A master’s degree in counseling is an advanced degree that provides an excellent foundation for students pursuing further education at the doctoral level.

The counselor education program at Purdue Fort Wayne strives to be a premiere training institution that prepares clinically skilled, research-informed, compassionate, and reflective professional counselors. We are committed to a multidimensional training philosophy that involves an emphasis on mental health (vs. pathology), the value of understanding developmental themes across the lifespan, and an ability to conceptualize individuals as embedded within complex and dynamic sociocultural systems. We believe that an understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism, diversity, and social justice are integral to the preparation of professional counselors. As such, we are committed to developing professionals who are advocates for both individual and systemic change at local through global levels.

Brett D. Wilkinson
Ph.D., LMHC
Assistant Professor
Counselor Education Graduate Program Director
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ACHIEVE YOUR CREATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS

The Master of Science in Counselor Education is designed to prepare students for a successful career in the helping professions. The convenient course schedule, along with the cohort model, and clinical experience, are unique features of this program that provide students the opportunity to expand their knowledge beyond the classroom and put skills into practice. The goal of the program is to graduate leaders in the counseling field who are prepared to work with diverse populations from a social justice perspective. To that end, prospective students who are diverse in their personal identities, including race, class, sexual orientation, identity, age, gender, and culture are encouraged to apply.

Stand out with a graduate degree that enhances your professional qualifications through:
- Clinical training in our faculty supervised, on-campus Community Counseling Center
- Facilitation of enhanced self-awareness, empathy, and personal growth
- Attention to advanced counseling skills, theory development, and multicultural awareness
- Participation in our program’s award-winning Honor Society, Chi Eta Sigma
- Unique research opportunities via the faculty-led Institute of Counseling Research (ICR)

LEARN FROM DEDICATED, EXPERT FACULTY

Our faculty provide a welcoming, supportive, yet rigorous curriculum. They are experienced and dedicated classroom instructors who also possess strong research interests.

Faculty research areas include:
- Suicide Assessment, Prevention, and Postvention
- Substance and Behavioral Addictions
- Humanistic Counseling Practice
- Models for Clinical Training and Practice
- Exploration of Phenomenological Pedagogies
- Advancement of Metacognitive Supervision
- Strategies for Practicum and Internship
- Empowering Students to Improve School Climate
- Crisis and Trauma Counseling
- Group Counseling Modalities
- Advanced Marriage and Family Therapies
- Peer Mentoring Programs

THE PURDUE FORT WAYNE DIFFERENCE

Stand out with a graduate degree that enhances your qualifications through:
- Small class sizes
- Personal attention from dedicated faculty
- Course offerings designed for working adults

"I was accepted by more than one university for my master's degree, but chose Purdue University Fort Wayne because of the affordability, on-site practicum, and experienced faculty. In my time here, I have been afforded many opportunities not found at other places. The faculty serve not only as professors, but as mentors to all students. They try to cater the lessons to our interests and encourage us to become involved in activities and professional organizations. I could not ask for more."

Lilyan Moore

"If not for the phenomenal training that I experienced over the past three years through Purdue University Fort Wayne, I cannot imagine trying to take on the huge responsibility that is required as a practicing school counselor. The counseling education program taught me to be a team player, active listener, and empathetic counselor. In addition to learning these vital components, this program goes one-step further and supervises each budding counselor practicing skills for a full year before releasing them into an internship setting. I have been diligently encouraged and supervised practicing counseling skills to the point that I now understand and can describe my personal style of counseling."

Julia Miller
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COUNSELOR EDUCATION

This degree involves a cohort program in which students can choose between clinical mental health or school counseling. The course of study requires completion of both the core requirements (36 credit hours) and the concentration requirements (24 credit hours). Students should focus on an area of concentration that best reflects their own interests and career aspirations.

CORE REQUIREMENTS
(36 CREDIT HOURS)

EDU 50200 Professional Orientation and Ethics
EDU 58000 Essential Counseling Skills
EDU 57500 Multicultural Counseling
EDU 50300 Counseling Theories and Techniques I
EDU 50100 Lab/Field Experience
EDU 50400 Counseling Theories and Techniques II
EDU 51400 Lifespan Development
EDU 58000 Child & Adolescent Counseling
EDU 52400 Practicum in Counseling
EDU 52501 Advanced Counseling Practicum
EDU 50500 Individual Appraisal: Principles & Procedures
EDU 53200 Introduction to Group Counseling
EDU 59001 Research in Counseling and Guidance

AREAS OF STUDY

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling track prepares students to work as a clinical mental health counselor with a specialization in working with couples and families. Students gain the knowledge, skills, and practices to address a wide variety of relationship and family issues. Through this track, graduates are prepared to work with children, adolescents, and adults.

The School Counseling track prepares students to work as a school counselor with the professional knowledge, skills, and practices to promote academic, career, and personal/social development of K–12 students. In this track, students work as a change agent in communities and schools through direct counseling with students, development of comprehensive school counseling programs, and advocacy for children and families.

COURSES
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING (24 CREDIT HOURS)

Required courses:
EDU 58000 Diagnosis and Treatment Planning
EDU 55200 Career Counseling, Theory and Practice
EDU 56700 Introduction to Marriage & Family Counseling
EDU 56300 Foundations of Mental Health Counseling
EDU 48000 Trauma and Addictions Counseling
EDU 55000 Internship in Counseling
EDU 55100 Advanced Internship in Counseling

SCHOOL COUNSELING (24 CREDIT HOURS)

Required courses:
EDU 54200 Organization & Development of School Counseling Programs
EDU 58000 Academic and Career Counseling
EDU 56200 School Counseling: Intervention, Consultation, & Program Development
EDU 50501 Introduction to Special Education
EDU 55000 Internship in Counseling and Guidance
EDU 55100 Advanced Internship in Counseling and Guidance
Elective Course
APPLICATION DEADLINES

FEB 15
U.S. Citizen: final admission

NOV 1
U.S. Citizen: early admission

STEPS TO APPLY

1. Application: To begin your application create an account through the portal at pfw.edu/grad-apply. Applicants can make and save changes before submitting by logging in with the username and password used to create the account.

2. Application Fee: The Graduate School application fee is $60 (U.S. dollars) for domestic applicants and $75 (U.S. dollars) for international applicants. Your application will not be processed until your nonrefundable application fee has been paid.

3. Transcripts: Through the application portal, you must upload transcript(s) and/or academic document(s) for every institution of higher education you attended regardless of whether or not a degree was received. If a degree was received then it must be printed on the transcripts. If no degree conferral is printed on the transcripts then a copy of the original diploma (degree certificate) is needed. If the documents are not in English, you must upload an English translation certified by the college or university that issued it. All candidates must hold a four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent in any discipline from a recognized institution.

4. Professional Goals Statement (Essay): A goal statement summarizing professional and personal goals. It should be 300-500 words and include explicit statements regarding:
   - Professional goals including preferred professional setting(s), examples of typical activities, and any specialized interests.
   - Pertinent past experiences that contribute to the development of the professional goals cited.
   - Any unique skills and/or characteristics that will aid in the applicant’s pursuit of the goals cited.

5. Recommendations: Submit names of two individuals who are qualified to evaluate your academic or on-the-job performance who can attest to your ability to pursue a graduate degree. In the online application to the Purdue Graduate School, once you click “Send to Recommender,” each individual will receive an email with instructions on submitting their recommendation online. Once submitted, the graduate program to which you applied will have access to view your recommendation.

6. Resume: A current resume must be submitted.

*Submission of GRE scores is optional and not necessary to apply

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

You must provide official transcripts and/or academic records at the request of the graduate program or if you are admitted and choose to enroll. An official transcript bears the original signature of the registrar and/or the original seal of the issuing institution. An unofficial transcript printed from your current/previous institution(s) student system is not an acceptable document. Official documents should be submitted to:

Purdue University Fort Wayne
Office of Graduate Studies
2101 E Coliseum Blvd., KT 140
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Domestic transcripts must be mailed directly from a Registrar’s office to the Office of Graduate Admissions. (You can choose to send the transcripts yourself, but the transcripts must be in an envelope sealed by the Registrar).