

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY MASTER'S PROGRAM



Program Information
For Applicants



College of Education
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY®





HIGHLIGHTS & STRENGTHS OF PROGRAM

- **Full-Time** (usually takes two years to complete) or **Part-Time** (usually takes three years to complete)
- All **Full-Time Faculty** are also practicing **Licensed Psychologists**
 - Most Part-Time faculty are licensed as well
- **Multicultural Competence/Cultural Awareness** woven into every course
 - We are one of the oldest programs in the country to require a Multicultural Counseling course in order to graduate
- State-of-the-Art **Clinical Training**
 - Our Psychoeducational Clinic houses 11 counseling rooms equipped with hidden cameras to digitally record role-plays to review in class
- **24 Semester Hours** of Clinical Training (*The most hours in the tri-state area!*)
 - Unique "**Developmental Arc**" of Clinical Training
 - Students begin with Counseling Psychology experiential "Labs" in their first year, progress to Practica experiences in the summer of their first year, then move into their Internship during their second year (and third year for Part-Time students)
- **Experiential Components** incorporated into most courses
- **Individualized Attention** (clinical courses are limited to 12 students)
 - Our program strongly believes that in order to be an effective counselor it is necessary for students to know themselves; that is, it is important that you understand your own strengths and areas for growth
 - Because counseling is an interpersonal process with considerable influence and power, each student is evaluated continuously for development toward mature, ethical and professional behavior
- The **Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)** approves the State Certification Program and the Master's Program in Counseling Psychology
- The **Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)** has given approval for the master's program, which provides State Certification for school counselors

Our program offers graduate coursework leading to the Master of Education degree in Counseling Psychology, with specialization in either of two tracks:

▪ **AGENCY TRACK**

- **This track prepares students to:**
 - *Work with individuals, couples, families, and groups in various settings, including community mental health centers, hospitals, and consulting agencies*
 - *Be eligible to become a **Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)** in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

▪ **SCHOOL COUNSELING TRACK**

- **This track prepares students to:**
 - *Work with students, teachers, administrators, and parents in either an elementary or secondary school setting*
 - *To be qualified for **certification as an Elementary or Secondary School Counselor** in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The program of study covers **60** credits:

- **36** credits of theoretical and applied knowledge
- **24** credits of training in the interpersonal and counseling skills necessary for effective professional work
- Supervised field experience in school or community agencies provides training in which the role of the counselor in a multicultural society can be personally and professionally explored

The master's degree is awarded upon successful completion of the program

TRANSFER OF CREDITS

- According to university regulations, students may transfer no more than nine credits completed at another four year institution into our program
- These credits cannot have counted toward a prior terminal degree
 - Procedures for transferring credits are discussed in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document students receive at orientation when they begin the program

COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM REQUIRES:

- **Maintaining a satisfactory grade point average**
 - Students must meet the standards of academic proficiency required by the Temple University Graduate School
 - Academic dismissal will result if a student obtains three letter grades below a B- or two grades of F
- **Student disclosure of personal information**
 - The program strongly believes that in order to be an effective counselor it is necessary to know yourself
 - That is, it is important that you understand your own strengths and areas for growth
 - While in the program, students are strongly encouraged to seek out their own personal counseling to work through their own issues and to experience the therapeutic relationship from the client's perspective
 - Many courses in the program, particularly the clinical ones (i.e., Counseling Psychology Lab I & II, Practicum I & II, and Internship) often explore students' values, personal beliefs and "blind spots"
 - These areas can include, but are not limited to the following: 1) Relationships with parents, peers, and spouses/partners; 2) History of abuse; 3) Issues around sexuality; and 4) Past psychological treatment
- **Continuing to develop satisfactorily both in personal and professional competencies**
 - Because counseling is an interpersonal process with considerable influence and power, each student is evaluated continuously for development toward mature, ethical professional behavior
- **Demonstrating appropriate professional behavior through attitudes toward and beliefs about people that indicate respect, tolerance, and acceptance of a variety of human characteristics such as race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, and presenting concerns**
 - In addition, students must demonstrate appropriate emotional responses to clients and overcome any personal issues that prevent them from mastering the necessary counseling skills
 - Failure to behave in an appropriately ethical and professional manner may result in dismissal from this program.
 - Furthermore, information of this nature is necessary to evaluate or obtain assistance for students whose personal problems could reasonably be judged to be preventing them from performing in training areas or areas of professionally related activities in a competent manner or posing a threat to the students or others
 - Students who do not display appropriate professional behavior may be required to meet with the director of the master's in counseling psychology program to develop a plan of remediation
 - Continuation in the program will depend on successful completion of the remediation plan
- **Passing a comprehensive examination**
 - During the semester in which the student is finishing all required coursework (i.e., non-electives), the student must complete and pass a special examination designed to demonstrate an integration of their learning experiences
 - Basic computer mastery (i.e., word processing, Windows or Mac operating system), therefore, is required by the time the student takes his/her comprehensive examination





PREREQUISITES

- Successful students come from a variety of undergraduate preparations, but certain coursework provides the necessary background for beginning and completing this program
- Prospective applicants must have completed a bachelor's degree before beginning graduate work
 - In addition, applicants who were not Psychology majors in college should have included in their undergraduate coursework the following course(s):

Agency Counseling Track

- **Introduction to Psychology (or Introduction to Educational Psychology)**
 - The schedule of required courses includes a Diagnosis in Counseling Psychology class for the Agency Track students. Students in this track, therefore, will only need to take the Introductory course as a prerequisite.

School Counseling Track

- **Introduction to Psychology (or Introduction to Educational Psychology) AND Abnormal Psychology (Psychopathology/Diagnosis)**
 - Students may take a graduate-level Psychopathology course outside of the program in lieu of completing an Abnormal Psychology course at the undergraduate level. This graduate course may then count as the prerequisite and as a student's elective

If you have not completed these courses as part of your undergraduate program, upon admission to the program you should speak with your advisor about completing these courses. Again, students who have a bachelor's degree in Psychology are exempt from these prerequisites.

FULL TIME PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Students take 12 credits per semester (4 courses)
- Students take 6 credits (2 courses) per each of two summer sessions
- Students begin Internship in the fall semester of their second year
 - Students entering the full-time program are responsible for completing required coursework and the Internship
 - The combination of coursework and internship is particularly challenging during the second year of their program
 - Required coursework plus **two** days per week of internship activities during the Fall semester
 - Required coursework plus **three** days per week of internship activities during the Spring semester
- Students enrolled in the full-time program are often employed part-time to fund their education
 - Students should solicit the support of their employer to allow them flexibility to complete the required academic/training hours

THE FULL-TIME PROGRAM USUALLY TAKES TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE

PART TIME PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Students take 6 credits (2 courses) per semester and per summer session
- All classes begin at 5:30pm (although summer courses may begin at 4:00pm and/or 7:00pm)
- The part-time program is designed solely for those individuals who must work full-time
- Part-time students enroll in an Internship section which allows them to spread their supervised field experience over four semesters

THE PART-TIME PROGRAM USUALLY TAKES THREE YEARS TO COMPLETE

HOW TO APPLY

- All applicants must complete **BOTH** steps of the application process
- Temple University must receive all required admission materials **BEFORE** your application will be considered
- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that his or her file is completed **PRIOR** to the February 1 application deadline date

WHERE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION MATERIALS

STEP 1 Materials

Mail to:

Temple University
Graduate Programs Office,
Student Resource Center
College of Education
150 Ritter Annex, 1301 Cecil B. Moore Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19122

STEP 2

Email Program Application and two essays to: Counseling Psychology Program (Click this Email link: [Counseling Psychology Program](#)) OR

Mail to: Director of Master's Admissions,
Counseling Psychology Program
Temple University, 220 Ritter Annex
1301 W. Cecil B. Moore Ave. (003-09/10)
Philadelphia, PA 19122- 6091

STEP 1 – GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION

Temple University (Click this link: [Application for Graduate Study](#) (or cut and paste this link into your web browser (https://prd-wlssb.temple.edu/prod8/bwskalogs.P_DisplLoginNon)). Complete your application online and submit.

Other Application Materials:

Your application will not be considered complete until ALL materials have been submitted (BOTH STEPS 1 & 2)

- **Transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework**
 - Official copies of transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate coursework must be sent to the Graduate Programs Office
 - The Graduate Programs Office will not accept transcripts that are marked “issued to student;” only a signed, sealed official transcript will be accepted
 - The applicant must request a separate transcript from any college or university at which 6 or more credits were completed
 - The notation on a transcript that a certain number of credits were accepted as transfer is not sufficient; a separate transcript is required for transfer courses from the original institution
- **Application Fee (currently \$60 online; \$75 paper)**
- **Three letters of recommendation**
- **MAT or GRE scores**
 - All applicants are required to submit scores of the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) OR the scores from the Graduate School Examination (GRE)
 - The MAT is administered at Temple University several times a week at the Measurement and Research Center (3rd Floor, Sullivan Hall; 215-204-8611).
- **TOEFL scores (for international students only)**
 - International students must submit TOEFL scores as a part of their application process
 - To be admitted to Temple University, a student must score a minimum of 550 on the paper-based, 213 on the computer-based, or 79 on the internet-based version of the TOEFLR
 - Students admitted with a TOEFLR score below 600 on the paper-based, 250 on the computer-based, or 100 on the internet-based examination will be required to take an English-skills course during the first semester of matriculation at Temple
- **Résumé**
 - Applicants must also enclose a recent résumé that clearly outlines their educational and work history. Other relevant information may be included in the résumé.

STEP 2 – PROGRAM APPLICATION

- Completed Program Application (Click this link: [Program Application](#)) Or cut and paste this link into your web browser <http://education.temple.edu/sites/education/files/uploads/counseling/CNPSYMastersInformationApplication.pdf>
- Essay One (see the Program Application for description)
- Essay Two (see the Program Application for description)





FINANCIAL AID, FEES AND TUITION

- Current financial aid information is available on the Temple University web site (<http://sfs.temple.edu/>), the Dean's Office, College of Education, & the Financial Aid Office, Graduate School
- Most full-time students finance their education from a combination of savings and loans, either personal or through loan funds supported by the federal government and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- For information on these loans, contact the Financial Services Office, 2nd Floor Conwell Hall: Email: sfs@temple.edu; Phone: 215-204-2244
- For legal purposes, including loans, a full-time graduate student must be enrolled for at least 9 credits per semester
 - Please consult your local loan agency for any changes in this rule

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY & AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

- The master's degree program in counseling will be administered with careful consideration given to equal educational opportunity for all
- Efforts will be made to identify and recruit qualified applicants from the communities served by Temple University
- Non-traditional and culturally diverse students are encouraged to apply

HOW APPLICANTS ARE REVIEWED

- The Master's Admission Committee of the Counseling Psychology Program will subject the application materials submitted to an initial screening
- In reviewing each application, certain review criteria apply:
 - Evidence of work experience and/or volunteer public service relevant to professional development in counseling psychology
 - Evidence of intra- and inter-personal skills (or potential for the development of such skills) as indicated in the personal and career statements submitted in support of the application
 - Evidence of analytical skill and aptitude for graduate level academic work as measured by the Miller Analogies Test or GRE
 - Evidence of aptitude for graduate-level academic work as determined by graduate and undergraduate grades, especially work in the major and in prerequisite psychology courses

APPLICANT INTERVIEWS

- Applicants whose records pass the initial screening will be invited for a panel interview with members of the faculty between **February 15th and April 1st**
- The interviews will gather additional data related to the aforementioned criteria (i.e., clarify points raised by the candidate's application) and will make an assessment of communication skills which are associated with success in counselor training
- Final decisions on acceptances are based on **both** the application materials **and** the interview process
- All applicants are not guaranteed interviews due to the large number of applications

SUPPORT & SCHOLARSHIPS

There are several ways to finance your education at Temple University. Below are just a few resources that you can explore:

OFF CAMPUS (Student positions posted online)

<http://sfs.temple.edu/financial-aid-types/federal-work-study/job-bank>

FYI: After an applicant is admitted to the program, he or she may search for on-campus jobs through the TUportal by using the **Student Jobs@Temple** link.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (Funding Your Graduate Education)

<http://www.temple.edu/grad/finances/index.htm>

(Graduate Administrative, Research, and Teaching Assistantships)

<http://education.temple.edu/grad/research-teaching-assitantships>

SCHOLARSHIPS

<http://education.temple.edu/services/scholarships-graduation-awards-process>

For students enrolled in the program, this scholarship opportunity is available:

- **Malnati Scholarship Award**
 - The recipient of this award is a 2nd or 3rd year student in the Master's Program who best exemplifies the spirit of cohesion with the class, service to students, faculty, and department, and identification with the goals of the profession
 - The student receives a certificate and a check for \$500

CURRENT ON-CAMPUS POSITIONS HELD BY CN PSY STUDENTS

Position	Location
Graduate Assistant/Instructor Temple University, College of Education	CITE Department, 2nd floor, Ritter Hall
Graduate Extern , Athletics Department, Coordinator of Academic Support (2 students)	Pearson Hall, Room 103
Graduate Extern , Athletics Department, Football, Student Athlete Academic Advising & Support Center (SAAASC)	Edberg-Olson Hall
Graduate Intern/Research Assistant Temple University College of Education	CITE Department, 3rd Floor, Ritter Hall
Research Assistant , Temple University College of Education	PSE Department, 2 nd Floor, Ritter Annex
Research Assistant Temple University College of Education	PSE Department, 2 nd Floor, Ritter Annex
Resident Coordinator University Housing and Residential Life	The Edge Johnson and Hardwick Temple Towers 1940 Park Mall



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