

Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling

The Mental Health Counseling Program (MHC) is fully accredited by the [Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs \(CACREP\)](#). The MHC Program is a 60 credit hour program which meets the educational requirements for licensure in the state of Florida as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC). The program is practitioner-oriented in the sense that students are required to complete a demanding field experience requirement of 1,000 supervised hours before graduation. The counseling curriculum offers a unique blend of courses to provide the skills and knowledge necessary for becoming a competent counseling professional. Solid academic performance and experiential mastery are required.

The MHC curriculum is focused on preparing counseling professionals for employment in various settings including:

- community mental health centers
- psychiatric hospitals
- residential treatment facilities
- outpatient mental health clinics
- rehabilitation agencies
- social service agencies
- employee assistance programs
- alcohol and drug abuse treatment centers
- correctional institutions
- crisis centers
- college counseling centers
- private practice

Applicants are encouraged to visit the program website at <http://www.unf.edu/brooks/public-health/mhcp/index.html> and the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Counseling, and Mental Health Counseling website at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/MQA/491/index.html>.

Applications for admission are to be submitted to The Graduate School at the University of North Florida. Questions about the admission process can be directed to The Graduate School Office at the University of North Florida (904) 620-1360.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Major Requirements:

			(51Semester Hours)
MHS	6407	Theories of Counseling	3
MHS	6482	Personality and Lifespan Development	3
MHS	6201	Assessment in Counseling	3
SDS	6310	Career and Lifestyle Development	3
MHS	6941	Pre-Practicum in Counseling	3
MHS	6428	Counseling Diverse Populations	3
MHS	6510	Group Counseling	3
MHS	6401	Advanced Counseling	3
MHS	6700	Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues in Counseling	3
MHS	6070	Psychopathology	3
MHS	6480	Sexual Issues in Counseling	3
MHS	6450	Substance Abuse Counseling	3
EDF	6495	Research in Counseling	3
MHS	6800	Practicum in Mental Health Counseling	3
MHS	6830	Internship in Mental Health Counseling (taken in 3 semesters)	9

Major Electives:			(9 Semester Hours)
<i>Select three courses</i>			
MHS	6430	Introduction to Family Counseling	3
MHS	6431	Advanced Seminar in Family Counseling	3
MHS	6440	Counseling Couples	3
SDS	6411	Counseling Children and Adolescents	3
MHS	6930	Special Topics in Counseling (offered in Summer only)	1-3

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Students are admitted to the Mental Health Counseling (MHC) program in Fall and Spring semesters. The general requirements for admission to the MHC program are described in the graduate catalog. The application for admission to the Mental Health Counseling track must include the following:

- **Personal Statement:** Guidelines are available at the program website at www.unf.edu/brooks/public-health/mhcp/index.html.
- **Resume:** Applicants are asked to provide a resume that indicates education and work background; honors; memberships in professional, school, and service organizations; etc.,
- **GRE Score and GPA:** Students must submit a GRE score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections and a GPA of 3.0 or higher on the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate work.
- **Letters of recommendation:** Three letters of recommendation are required, at least two of which must be from professors who are familiar with your academic work. The Program has a form (MHC Recommendation for Graduate Study) which can be accessed via the Brooks College of Health website at <http://www.unf.edu/brooks/public-health/mhcp/index.html>.
- **Undergraduate Transcripts:** An official transcript, indicating graduation from a regionally accredited college or university in this country or a recognized university abroad, is required.
- **Onsite Interview**

Contact information:

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This fact sheet is intended to be a description of the degree requirements in effect for the 2008-2009 academic year. It should not be construed as an irrevocable contract between the student and the program, the Brooks College of Health, and/or the University of North Florida. The University of North Florida reserves the right to change any policies, academic programs, procedures or fees described in this fact sheet and to apply these changes to any or all of its students as required by the University, Board of Trustees, or Florida Legislative mandate. Questions about fact sheet information should be directed to the Advising Office, University of North Florida, Brooks College of Health at (904) 620-2812.. The University of North Florida is Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Baccalaureate, Master's, and Doctor's Degrees.