

SCHOOL COUNSELING / MASTER OF ARTS

Graduate programs in school counseling have been designed for both licensed teachers and non-licensed professionals. Both program options have been developed according to State of Illinois guidelines to meet the need for qualified counselors in school settings.

Program Objectives

The objectives are the same for both programs. The goals are to:

- Provide a knowledge base in relevant areas of School Counseling theory and demonstrate the pragmatic application of those theories.
- Develop candidates' skills in techniques of counseling, interviewing, and assessment.
- Develop an understanding of the school counselor's role in the organization and implementation of a comprehensive developmental counseling program.
- Develop candidates' understanding of the uniqueness of each individual and demonstrate how the counselor must be flexible in dealing with the individual.
- Develop a professional identity and an understanding of ethics and ethical behavior.

Transfer of Credit after Matriculation

Candidates who are already matriculated at Lewis University and wish to transfer in a course must seek written approval from the Graduate Program Director before the course is attempted. Only courses with a grade of B or better will be accepted. Candidates may transfer in up to 2 courses.

Good Academic Standing

See Good Academic Standing (<https://catalog.lewisu.edu/graduate/general-information/academic-policies/#standing>).

Academic Probation and Dismissal

See Academic Probation and Dismissal (<https://catalog.lewisu.edu/graduate/general-information/academic-policies/#Probation>).

Course Formats and Credit

Courses are offered in the evening, and workshops are offered on weekends each semester and summer. The normal load for a full-time graduate candidate is 3 courses, or 9 semester hours. For those who are employed full-time, the normal semester load is 2 courses, or 6 semester hours.

Incomplete Grades

See Incomplete Grade. (<https://catalog.lewisu.edu/graduate/general-information/academic-policies/#Incomplete>)

Time Limitations

Candidates must complete all requirements within 7 years from the time of completion of their first graduate course at Lewis University. Students remain under the requirements of the catalog in effect at the time of matriculation unless they discontinue attendance for two consecutive

years or more, in which case they will follow the catalog in effect upon their return.

Enrollment of Undergraduates in Graduate Courses

See Undergraduate Students Enrolling in Graduate Courses (<https://catalog.lewisu.edu/graduate/general-information/academic-policies/#Undergraduate>).

Graduation Requirements

The candidate will be awarded the Master of Arts degree when he or she has:

1. Completed at least 40/47 credit hours of graduate study as stipulated on the requirements tab.
2. Successfully passed the comprehensive examination, which is normally attempted after 30 credit hours are completed.
3. Attained a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Curriculum A: Licensed Teachers

The School Counseling program is designed for teachers who want to become licensed as elementary and secondary school counselors. The program integrates sound counseling theory and research-based practices and procedures to prepare candidates to work effectively in schools. This program is offered through the Psychology Department. Candidates receive a Master of Arts in School Counseling which makes them eligible for the Professional Educator License (PEL) with School Counselor Endorsement.

To be eligible for the School Counselor License, the candidate must hold a valid 03, 09, or 10 Illinois Professional Educator License, complete 40 semester hours of approved class work, and pass the 181 Content Area Test. Candidates may be asked to submit to or secure a criminal background check as part of the admission process. Goals for the program follow the American School Counselor's Association recommendations.

Option 1: Licensed Teachers Earning the M.A. in School Counseling, Non-LPC Option (40)

Concentration: LTNC

Code	Title	Hours
Required Elective		
COUN 55006	College Planning: Admissions and Financial Aid	1
Core Courses		
COUN 50500	Research in Counseling	3
COUN 51100	Individual Appraisal	3
	or COUN 51300 Individual Appraisal: Child Emphasis	
COUN 51200	Interviewing Skills	3
COUN 52000	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3
COUN 52200	Career Development Theory	3
COUN 54100	Psychopathology	3
	or COUN 54300 Psychopathology: Child Emphasis	
COUN 56500	Group Dynamics and Counseling	3
COUN 57000	Principles and Methods of School Counseling	3

COUN 57600	Organization of School Counseling	3
COUN 58100	Practicum in School Counseling	3
COUN 59100	Internship in School Counseling	3
EDLD 57600	Multicultural Foundations for Educators and Counselors	3
SPED 55700	Exceptional Learners in Inclusive Communities	3
Total Hours		40

Option 2: Licensed Teachers Earning the M.A. in School Counseling with LPC Option (60)

Concentration: LTWC

This program is intended for those who have earned a bachelor's degree and are teacher-licensed. These candidates will earn a Master of Arts in School Counseling. Candidates will take the coursework needed to meet the requirements for the Professional Educator License (PEL) and additional coursework allowing them to sit for the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) examination. (The LPC enables the school counselor to provide services in mental health outside the school in community settings.)

Candidates must complete a minimum of **60 credit hours** as part of their degree in order to meet the program requirements for the LPC option. In addition, all candidates who choose the LPC track must complete a **600-hour Internship**.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Elective		
COUN 55006	College Planning: Admissions and Financial Aid	1
Additional Approved Electives		
Students, in consultation with the Graduate Program Director, must complete 7 credit hours in approved courses appropriate to the degree.		7
Core Courses		
COUN 50500	Research in Counseling	3
COUN 51100	Individual Appraisal	3
or COUN 51300 Individual Appraisal: Child Emphasis		
COUN 51200	Interviewing Skills	3
COUN 52000	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3
COUN 52200	Career Development Theory	3
COUN 54100	Psychopathology	3
or COUN 54300 Psychopathology: Child Emphasis		
COUN 56500	Group Dynamics and Counseling	3
COUN 57000	Principles and Methods of School Counseling	3
COUN 58100	Practicum in School Counseling	3
COUN 59100	Internship in School Counseling	3
COUN 57600	Organization of School Counseling	3
EDLD 57600	Multicultural Foundations for Educators and Counselors	3
SPED 55700	Exceptional Learners in Inclusive Communities	3
LPC Courses		
COUN 55005	Introduction to Mental Health	1
COUN 56700	Treatment of Substance Abuse	3
COUN 57300	Counseling Theories 1	3
or COUN 57700 Counseling Theories 2		

or COUN 57400 Counseling Theories: Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy		
COUN 57500	Family Dynamics and Counseling	3
COUN 57800	Professional and Ethical Issues in Counseling	3
Total Hours		60

Curriculum B: Non-Licensed Candidates

Option 1: Non-Licensed Candidates Earning the M.A. in School Counseling, Non-LPC Option (47)

Concentration: NLNC

This program is intended for candidates who have earned a bachelor's degree and are not teacher-licensed. These candidates will earn a Master of Arts in School Counseling. The coursework meets the requirements for the School Counselor License.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Elective		
COUN 55006	College Planning: Admissions and Financial Aid	1
Additional Required Courses		
EDLD 54800	Organizational Systems in Educational Leadership	3
EDLD 53100	Classroom Management for School Counselors	3
Core Courses		
COUN 50500	Research in Counseling	3
COUN 51100	Individual Appraisal	3
or COUN 51300 Individual Appraisal: Child Emphasis		
COUN 51200	Interviewing Skills	3
COUN 52000	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3
COUN 52200	Career Development Theory	3
COUN 54100	Psychopathology	3
or COUN 54300 Psychopathology: Child Emphasis		
COUN 56500	Group Dynamics and Counseling	3
COUN 57000	Principles and Methods of School Counseling	3
COUN 57600	Organization of School Counseling	3
COUN 58100	Practicum in School Counseling	3
COUN 59100	Internship in School Counseling	3
EDLD 57600	Multicultural Foundations for Educators and Counselors	3
RDLT 50700	Literacy for Other School Personnel	1
SPED 55700	Exceptional Learners in Inclusive Communities	3
Total Hours		47

Option 2: Non-Licensed Candidates Earning the M.A. in School Counseling with LPC Option (60)

Concentration: NLWC

This program is intended for candidates who have earned a bachelor's degree and are not teacher-licensed. These candidates will earn a Master of Arts in School Counseling. Candidates will take the coursework required for the Professional Educator License (PEL) and additional coursework allowing them to sit for the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) examination. (The LPC enables the school counselor to provide services in mental health outside the school in community settings.)

Candidates must complete a minimum of **60 credit hours** as part of their degree in order to meet the program requirements for the LPC option. In

addition, all candidates who choose the LPC track must complete a **600-hour Internship**.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
COUN 50500	Research in Counseling	3
COUN 51100	Individual Appraisal	3
	or COUN 51300 Individual Appraisal: Child Emphasis	
COUN 51200	Interviewing Skills	3
COUN 52000	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3
COUN 52200	Career Development Theory	3
COUN 54100	Psychopathology	3
	or COUN 54300 Psychopathology: Child Emphasis	
COUN 56500	Group Dynamics and Counseling	3
COUN 57000	Principles and Methods of School Counseling	3
COUN 57600	Organization of School Counseling	3
COUN 58100	Practicum in School Counseling	3
COUN 59100	Internship in School Counseling	3
EDLD 57600	Multicultural Foundations for Educators and Counselors	3
RDLT 50700	Literacy for Other School Personnel	1
SPED 55700	Exceptional Learners in Inclusive Communities	3
Required Elective		
COUN 55006	College Planning: Admissions and Financial Aid	1
Additional Required Courses		
EDLD 54800	Organizational Systems in Educational Leadership	3
EDLD 53100	Classroom Management for School Counselors	3
LPC Courses		
COUN 55005	Introduction to Mental Health	1
COUN 56700	Treatment of Substance Abuse	3
COUN 57300	Counseling Theories 1	3
	or COUN 57700 Counseling Theories 2	
	or COUN 57400 Counseling Theories: Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy	
COUN 57500	Family Dynamics and Counseling	3
COUN 57800	Professional and Ethical Issues in Counseling	3
Total Hours		60

Curriculum C: Non-Degree Seeking Candidates, Licensure Only

Concentration: SCCO

This program is intended for those candidates who already hold a master's degree in an area related to school counseling. Upon completion of this program, individuals can earn the Professional Educator License (PEL) with the School Counselor Endorsement. This program does not provide candidates with an additional master's degree. Due to the variety of educational backgrounds of students who enter the program, each person's educational background will be considered on an individual basis by the Graduate Program Director. Not all master's degrees are eligible for this program. Generally, alternative requirements will be met by additional coursework. Candidates will consult with the Graduate Program Director to determine the curriculum that best meets their needs. All courses must be approved by the Graduate Program Director.

Additional Admission Requirements Admission Standards

Admission to the graduate program in School Counseling is based on academic and personal qualifications of the applicant. Students are admitted without regard to race, color, religion, age, gender, irrelevant handicap, national or ethnic origin, or disability.

There are three enrollment categories for applicants in the program: full admission, provisional admission, and student-at-large. All applicants must present evidence of a baccalaureate degree awarded by a regionally-accredited institution of higher education and a completed application that includes a personal statement of professional goals. Because this program is directed toward adults, it is expected that personal maturity and experience are prime indicators of success in the program. Applicants may be asked to submit to or secure a criminal background check as part of the admission process.

Full Admission

Applicants for full admission must:

1. Complete an application form, accompanied by a non-refundable application fee.
2. Submit a personal statement in which the applicant provides a brief work/school history and reasons for seeking enrollment in the School Counseling program. This personal statement will serve as a writing skills sample.
3. Submit two letters of recommendation from professors, employers, or supervisors.
4. Submit an official transcript of all academic work previously attempted or completed. An applicant's GPA should equal a 3.0 on a scale of 4.0.
5. Certify proficiency in reading and writing English, if the student is from a non-English speaking country, by achieving a 550 on the TOEFL written exam; 213 on the computerized exam; 79 on the Internet-based exam; or IELTS score of 6.0. ELS level 112 completed. Step Eiken (Japan) Pre-1 is also accepted.
6. Receive acceptance by the Graduate Council of the College of Education and Social Sciences.

Provisional Admission

In select cases, an applicant who does not meet the requirements for full admission may be granted provisional admission. Candidates may apply for full admission after resolving the admission deficiencies.

Student-At-Large

A student-at-large is not a degree candidate. However, should a student decide to apply for full admission status at a later time, but within 5 years of course completion, only 4 courses (12 semester hours) will be accepted for credit. At-large students are allowed to take a maximum of 3 courses with permission of the Graduate Program Director.

Transfer Admission Procedures

Candidates may apply up to 12 semester hours of graduate-level work from other regionally-accredited institutions to their program of school counseling. Candidates will follow the appropriate admission criteria for full or provisional admission. The following conditions apply to the acceptance of transfer credit:

1. Only courses with a grade of B or better will be accepted.
2. Coursework must have been completed at a regionally-accredited graduate school.
3. Appropriateness of coursework will be decided by the Graduate Program Director at the time of the student's application to the program.
4. Courses from outside the United States will be considered if they are evaluated as graduate level by the Office of Admission or the Commission on Accreditation of the American Council on Education.
5. Credit for prior learning is not awarded for graduate courses.