

# MS IN COUNSELING (MARRIAGE, COUPLE, AND FAMILY COUNSELING)

---



**SACRAMENTO STATE**  
*Redefine the Possible*

## In Workflow

1. GPSE Committee Chair (GPSE Committee Chair@csus.edu)
2. GPSE Chair (sarah.jouganatos@csus.edu)
3. ED College Committee Chair (feliz@csus.edu; b.rivas@csus.edu)
4. ED Dean (dsessoms@skymail.csus.edu)
5. Academic Services (catalog@csus.edu)
6. Senate Curriculum Subcommittee Chair (curriculum@csus.edu)
7. Dean of Undergraduate (james.german@csus.edu; renee.leonard@csus.edu)
8. Dean of Graduate (cnewsome@skymail.csus.edu)
9. Catalog Editor (catalog@csus.edu)
10. Graduate Studies (jdsmall@csus.edu; mxiong@csus.edu)
11. Registrar's Office (w lindsey@csus.edu)

## Approval Path

1. Tue, 16 Nov 2021 18:35:33 GMT  
Carlos Nevarez (nevarezc): Approved for GPSE Committee Chair
2. Tue, 16 Nov 2021 18:44:36 GMT  
Carlos Nevarez (nevarezc): Approved for GPSE Chair
3. Thu, 14 Apr 2022 20:53:49 GMT  
Bitá Rivas (b.rivas): Approved for ED College Committee Chair
4. Fri, 29 Apr 2022 15:41:48 GMT  
Sasha Sidorkin (sidorkin): Approved for ED Dean
5. Tue, 13 Sep 2022 22:03:45 GMT  
Katie Hawke (katedickson): Approved for Academic Services
6. Wed, 14 Sep 2022 02:11:53 GMT  
Rachel Miller (rachel.miller): Approved for Senate Curriculum Subcommittee Chair
7. Thu, 29 Sep 2022 21:51:56 GMT  
Janett Torset (torsetj): Rollback to Initiator
8. Fri, 30 Sep 2022 21:03:29 GMT  
Sarah Jouganatos (sarah.jouganatos): Approved for GPSE Committee Chair
9. Fri, 30 Sep 2022 22:14:53 GMT  
Sarah Jouganatos (sarah.jouganatos): Approved for GPSE Chair
10. Thu, 13 Oct 2022 22:45:21 GMT  
Bitá Rivas (b.rivas): Approved for ED College Committee Chair
11. Fri, 14 Oct 2022 20:28:57 GMT  
Deidre Sessoms (dsessoms): Approved for ED Dean

## History

1. Mar 24, 2021 by Bitá Rivas (b.rivas)
2. Apr 29, 2021 by Janett Torset (torsetj)

Date Submitted: Fri, 30 Sep 2022 19:53:34 GMT

**Viewing: MS in Counseling (Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling)**

**Last approved: Thu, 29 Apr 2021 23:23:05 GMT**

**Last edit: Thu, 13 Oct 2022 22:41:05 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Bitá Rivas (223000752)

**Academic Group: (College)**

Education

**Academic Organization: (Department)**

Graduate Professional Studies in Education

**Catalog Year Effective:**

2022-2023 Catalog

**Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:**

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Bitá Rivas	b.rivas@csus.edu	9162785950

**Type of Program Proposal:**

Concentration

**Program Change Type:**

Non-Substantive

**Is this a pilot program?**

No

**Is this a Fast Track program?**

No

**Title of the Program:**

MS in Counseling (Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling)

**Designation: (degree terminology)**

Master of Science

**Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification:**

1. Updating the accreditation status from seeking to acquired in regards to CACREP.
2. Updating the admissions to match our processes and practice, including all materials requested in quad iv with the application.
3. updating to include form A updates to EDC 212, 236, 475, 480 so names match in form B with requested changes to form A's.
4. program outcomes are missing though they were previously submitted and approved, and in our handbook, not sure if this is a courseleaf update issue but updating now to reflect what we previously submitted.
5. updating to reflect changes in elective options between EDC 238/236 and EDC 272/242 as all options meet accreditation needs while allowing for some variation in skill development by special population (e.g. couples, adolescents, children).

## University Learning Goals

**Graduate (Masters) Learning Goals:**

Critical thinking/analysis  
Communication  
Information literacy  
Disciplinary knowledge  
Intercultural/Global perspectives  
Professionalism  
Research (optional)

## Program Learning Outcomes

**Program Learning Outcomes**

**Learning Outcome**

1. Students will evaluate and apply knowledge of ethical standards of professional counseling organizations and credentialing bodies, and applications of ethical and legal considerations in professional counseling.
2. Students will analyze the impact of heritage, attitudes, beliefs, understandings, and acculturative experiences on an individual's views of others.
3. Students will analyze and evaluate the theories of individual and family development across the lifespan, theories of normal and abnormal personality development, and will understand strategies and interventions using developmental theories.

4. Students will analyze and evaluate approaches for conceptualizing the interrelationships among and between work, mental well-being, relationships, and other life roles and factors.
5. Students will analyze and evaluate counseling theories and models for case conceptualization.
6. Students will apply skills in essential interviewing, counseling, and case conceptualization skills. Students will demonstrate use of counseling skills.
7. Students will apply skills in counseling skills and theories via live supervision and audio/video recordings of skills. Students will integrate knowledge and skills, building on conceptualization skills appropriate per specialty.
8. Students will analyze and evaluate theories of dynamics associated with group process and development and theoretical foundations of group counseling and group work.
9. Analyze and apply ethical and culturally relevant strategies for selecting, administering, and interpreting assessment and test results and will demonstrate use of assessment results to diagnose developmental, behavioral, and mental disorders.
10. Students will apply qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research methods.
11. Students will apply advanced knowledge of theories and models of family systems and dynamics, family assessments, including diagnostic interviews, genograms, family mapping, mental diagnostic status examinations, and symptom inventories.
12. Students will apply advanced skills and techniques and interventions of marriage, couple, and family counseling; students will conceptualize and implement treatment, planning, and intervention strategies.

**Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?**

No

#### Catalog Description:

**Total units required for MS: 60**

## Program Description

The 60-unit Master of Science in Counseling prepares professional counselors for employment in a variety of settings such as public and private agencies, universities and colleges, schools and private practice. This degree meets the educational requirements for becoming a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and/or a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) in the State of California. The 59-unit Pupil Personnel Services, School Counseling Credential prepares professional counselors to work within the K-12 educational system.

The programs are clinically oriented, with didactic and experiential courses, a 100-hour clinical practicum, and 600 hours of field experience. The program is a full time three-year program and students will take between 9-12 units each fall and spring to complete within the three years. Students are admitted into a cohort and will follow the course sequence designated by their program concentration. The cohort model allows students to advance together throughout their education while building support and connections within their peer group. Students are encouraged to advance their advocacy and professional experiences through such activities as participation in professional organizations, research, and presentations at the state, regional, and national level; involvement in the CSUS Multicultural Conference; (<https://www.csus.edu/college/education/engagement/multicultural-education-conference.html>) and/or involvement in the Counselor Education Student Counseling Society. Both leadership and research opportunities are supported through faculty mentorship. The curricular experience is organized around core foundation courses, an intensive on-campus practicum training clinic experience, interpersonal growth experiences, advanced theory and practice courses, and a culminating field study placement.

### Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling Concentration

- The Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling Concentration is designed to provide students with all the educational competencies required by the California State Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) for licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT). The program trains professionals to work in a variety of settings, including community agencies, county and state agencies, hospitals and private practice, and prepares students to provide consulting to businesses and agencies. Emphasis is placed on developmental and preventative concerns from a holistic perspective.

Note: Only students who are already enrolled in the School Counseling concentration at California State University, Sacramento may apply to the Pupil Personnel Services School Counseling Internship Credential Program (<http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/education/graduate-professional-studies-education/pupil-personnel-services-school-counseling-internship-credential/>).

The Career Counseling; Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling; Rehabilitation Counseling; and School Counseling concentrations at Sacramento State are nationally accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). The Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling concentration is both CACREP accredited, and COAMFTE aligned, in order to help students with licensure in California and other states.

**Note:** For additional information on credentials, see the "College of Education" section of this catalog. For program specific information, see the Counselor Education webpage. Program requirements are subject to change in order to maintain compliance with relevant state and national certification, licensure, and/or accreditation requirements. Interested parties should refer to the current student handbook for up to date program information.

### Special Features

- An on-campus Center for Counseling and Diagnostic Services brings clients from off campus to be counseled by students in the program and provides opportunity for video and audio feedback.
- Trainees provide off-campus counseling in local agencies, school districts, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.
- Faculty actively support diversity and focus on multicultural counseling skills throughout the curriculum.
- Classes are offered during the day, late afternoon, and evening.
- Opportunities to collaborate with school districts.

**Admission Requirements: Course prerequisites and other criteria for admission of students to the degree major program, and for their continuation in it.**

## Admission Requirements

Admission as a classified graduate student in the Master of Science in Counseling program requires:

- A baccalaureate degree;
- Good academic standing at the last college attended;
- A grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 60 semester (or 90 quarter units);
- Completion of the University application materials;
- Completion and submission of all Departmental application materials which include:
  - Application form;
  - Written statements delineated in application, including Personal Statement and Writing Prompt;
  - Copies of transcripts (from all universities and colleges attended);
  - Professional letters of recommendation (2 required);
  - Relevant work experience via a Resume/CV.
- Participation in an In-Person Admission Evaluation, which may include (but is not limited to) interviews, experiential activities, and writing samples.

Selected applicants, based on paper screening of completed applications, will be invited for an In-Person Admission Evaluation via an Interview Day. Decisions for admission into the Master of Science in Counseling program are made based on a comprehensive assessment of **all application materials** and performance in the In-Person Admission Evaluation.

### Admission Procedure

The M.S. in Counseling accepts applications each fall for admission the following year. The program does not offer spring admissions. Applicants must complete a university application and program supplemental application by the posted application deadline date for the term applying.

For more admissions information and application deadlines, please visit the Office of Graduate Studies website (<https://www.csus.edu/graduate-studies/>).

Prospective applicants, including Sacramento State graduates, must submit one set of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, other than Sacramento State, to the Office of Graduate Studies either electronically to [gradtranscripts@csus.edu](mailto:gradtranscripts@csus.edu) or physical transcripts for those institutions that do not send official transcripts electronically can be addressed to:

Office of Graduate Studies  
California State University, Sacramento  
Riverfront Center, Room 215, MS 6112  
6000 J St.  
Sacramento, CA 95819

Admission is competitive with a limited number of students admitted each year. At the end of the application and screening period, a program recommendation will be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for further review. Decisions regarding admission are then emailed to each applicant. Following admission, students are assigned to a faculty advisor who assists with academic advising.

The Master of Science in Counseling and the Pupil Personnel Services credentials are subject to general University and requirements. These requirements are explained in the "Graduate Degree Requirements" and the "Counselor Education" sections of this catalog. Students may be disqualified when not meeting program standards (see Counselor Education Student Handbook).

### Minimum Units and Grade Requirement for the Degree

Units required for the MS: 60

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0

### Advancement to Candidacy

Each student working toward a Master's degree must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy for the Master's degree. The purpose of this application is to provide certification to the Office of Graduate Studies that the student will complete or has completed the necessary requirements and acceptable electives for the Master's degree with a minimum 3.0 GPA. The Advancement to Candidacy application should be filed upon completion of 30 units in the program but typically our students complete this in their final year of our program.

**Note:** Students must meet the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) before advancing to candidacy. Our EDC 250 serves as our Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course to advance to candidacy.

The Advancement to Candidacy form will be made available to admitted students through Canvas. Students should complete the relevant form electronically in consultation with their assigned academic advisor. Once the form is endorsed by the student and the advisor, it will be verified by the Department's Graduate Coordinator and then forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies for final approval. (The form is also available from the Office of Graduate Studies; however, it does not include the Departmental instructions). The completed form is submitted to the Department's Graduate Coordinator for signature, then forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies for final approval. An Advancement to Candidacy must be on file prior to registration for culminating experience (EDC 500) and prior to submitting a Petition to Graduate to the Office of Graduate Studies.

For Counselor Education information please visit the College of Education: Master's Programs Website (<https://www.csus.edu/college/education/masters-programs/>) where you will find the Counselor Education webpage (<https://www.csus.edu/college/education/masters-programs/counselor-education.html>) and under the "Current Students" link, the Forms and Handbooks (<https://www.csus.edu/college/education/masters-programs/current-students.html>) page where you can obtain the Student Handbook. It is highly recommended that students read the Student Handbook.

As defined by policy <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/acadaff/fsm00010.htm>, a change in units constitutes a substantive change to the program. If your changes constitute a substantive change, please refer back to the "Program Change Type" field above to ensure that "Substantive" is selected.

**Program Requirements: (If new courses are being created as part of a new program, it will be useful to propose courses first.)**

## Program Requirements<sup>1,2</sup>

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses for All Specializations (44 Units)</b>		
EDC 210	Social Justice and Culturally Competent Counseling	3
EDC 214	Dynamics of Human Development	3
EDC 216	Counseling Theory	3
EDC 218	Assessment In Counseling	3
EDC 219	Group Processes in Counseling	3
EDC 231	Diagnosis and Treatment Planning	3
EDC 233	Substance Use and Addiction Counseling	3
EDC 244	Trauma and Crisis Counseling	3
EDC 250	Education Research 	3
EDC 252	Legal and Ethical Issues in Professional Counseling	3
EDC 260	Career Development	3
EDC 280	Counseling Skills Lab	2
EDC 475	Practicum In Counseling	3
EDC 480	Field Study In Counseling accreditation requirements.	6
		Taken twice, 3 units each, over two separate semesters, in order to meet
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>44</b>

<sup>1</sup> Minimum GPA: 3.0

<sup>2</sup> *Academic Residence:* A minimum of 42 approved semester units in 100-, 200-, and 500-series offerings must be earned in residence at California State University, Sacramento.

## Concentration Requirements

### Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling (15 units)

Code	Title	Units
EDC 212	Couple Counseling: Gender, Power, & Sexuality	3
EDC 234	Seminar: Marriage and Family Counseling	3
EDC 254	Counseling and Psychotropic Medicine	3
EDC 476	Advanced Skills in Marriage and Family Counseling	1
Elective: Select ONE of the following 2-unit courses: EDC 236 or EDC 238		
EDC 238	Professional Issues in Marriage Couple and Family Counseling	2
EDC 236	Course EDC 236 Not Found	2
Elective: Select ONE of the following 3-unit courses: EDC 272 or EDC 242		
EDC 272	Counseling Children and Youth	3
EDC 242	Play and Art in Therapy with Children	3

### **Culminating Requirement (1 Unit)**

All students in the M.S. in Counseling program must enroll in EDC 500<sup>1</sup> during their final semester in the program and complete the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE). Students must have an Advancement to Candidacy on file prior to enrollment in this culminating experience.

In order to pass this multiple choice examination, a student must meet the minimum criterion score set by the Counselor Education Program. Categories covered include:

- Human Growth and Development
- Social and Cultural Foundations
- Helping Relationships
- Group Work
- Career and Lifestyle Development
- Appraisal
- Research and Program Evaluation
- Professional Orientation and Ethics

<sup>1</sup> Department petition required the semester prior to enrollment.

**For graduate programs, the number of declared undergraduate major and the degree production over the preceding years of the corresponding baccalaureate program:**

There is no corresponding baccalaureate program.

### **Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program**

**Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:**

none

**Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:**

none

**How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?**

none

**Will the proposed changes require additional resources?**

No

**What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?**

none

**Please attach any additional files not requested above:**

2021-02-15 MRL to SAC MS Couns 4Conc.pdf

**Reviewer Comments:**

**Janett Torset (torsetj) (Thu, 29 Sep 2022 21:51:56 GMT):** Rollback: Rolled back at the request of the college for additional edits.

Key: 490