The mission of the Oregon State University graduate program in counseling is to prepare counseling professionals who promote the social, psychological and physical well-being of individuals, families, communities and organizations. We believe that such professional leaders stand for social, economic and political justice and therefore must be prepared to be proactive educators, change agents and advocates in the face of injustice. Counseling professionals are sensitive to life span developmental issues, demonstrate multicultural awareness and recognize a global perspective as integral to the preparation of counselors and counselor educators.

Two graduate degrees are offered in counseling: the Master of Counseling (MCoun) and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). The Master of Counseling has two transcript-visible graduate options, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and School Counseling.

OSU’s counselor education degree programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

The School Counseling graduate option is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and by Oregon’s Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC).

**Master of Counseling Degree (MCoun), School Counseling Option**: Offered via Ecampus and OSU-Cascades.
The Master of Counseling degree with a School Counseling option is a 75-credit program offered through two campuses: on-campus through OSU-Cascades in Bend, or as a hybrid program 50 percent online through Ecampus and 50 percent at the Chemeketa Community College Center for Business and Industry in Salem. The OSU-Cascades program offers a two-year full-time or three-year part-time format while the Ecampus program is presented in a three-year part-time format for working individuals.

The Master of Counseling degree uses a competency-based approach to preparing school counselors. The program prepares the counselor to provide comprehensive school counseling programs that serve all students. Counselors will learn to utilize strategies to work with their students’ academic, personal/social, and career development needs. Preparation consists of a sequential program that integrates academic knowledge and theory with closely supervised counseling practice. Self-exploration and personal development are integral components of the program.

Graduates are eligible for the Initial I School Counselor License upon completion of additional steps required by the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.

**Master of Counseling Degree (MCoun), Clinical Mental Health Option:**
Offered via OSU-Cascades

The Master of Counseling degree with a Clinical Mental Health Counseling option is a 90-credit program offered at OSU-Cascades in a two year full-time or three-year part-time format.

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling option is designed for individuals who want to work in community agencies, treatment programs, community colleges, and other counseling centers.

**Admission to the Master of Counseling (MCoun) Programs—**

The application must be made online via the Graduate School website, http://gradschool.oregonstate.edu/admissions/process. The minimal prerequisite is a bachelor’s degree. Admission is not based exclusively on academic success in courses. Screening includes a minimum GPA of 3.00 and a personal interview in which the applicant’s educational goals, experience, and employment background are reviewed. Academic background, personal and emotional stability, commitment to diversity, and educational and professional goals of each candidate are evaluated before admission is granted. Prior counseling-related academic work from an accredited institution may meet, in part, the requirements of the program. Admission is competitive, by cohort, and begins with the summer session.

Academic performance is not the sole criterion for admission to and continuation in certain courses, such as practicum courses and internships. The university may evaluate an individual’s background to determine the likelihood that he or she will maintain standards of professional conduct necessary in the discipline. An evaluation may consider current performance along with past experiences and actions that could affect a student’s ability to perform in the particular course or program.

It should also be noted that individuals who want to become school counselors but who do not have a teaching license are eligible to apply for the school counselor track.
**Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling: Offered via Ecampus**

The PhD degree in Counseling is designed to prepare experienced counseling professionals to extend their roles in the counseling profession. The doctoral program is appropriate for those whose career path is that of research and teaching in counselor preparation programs, in student development at a college or university level, or in supervisory or leadership positions in schools or agencies.

**Requirements for the PhD**

A minimum of 150 credits is required beyond the baccalaureate degree. The program includes thesis, internship, and the balance of credits in specialty areas, including participation in doctoral seminars. Doctoral students can meet the majority of their residency and course requirements in two years of full-time study or three years of part-time study.

**Admission to the PhD Program**

It is expected that individuals entering the PhD program will have completed a master’s degree in counseling that covers the nine areas of concentration required by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational programs (CACREP). The nine areas are human growth and development, social and cultural foundations, helping relationships, groups, career and lifestyle development, appraisal, research and program evaluation, professional orientation, and clinical instruction. Areas not covered in the student’s master’s program or through continuing higher education must be taken in doctoral study.

Applicants are preferred who have a minimum of two years of post-master’s experience as a counselor. Preference will be given to National Certified Counselors (NCCs), state Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs), and those who are licensed through a school counseling licensing body, such as Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices. It is also expected that applicants will have participated in counseling as a client prior to admission to the program. Desirable, but not essential, is work in the field of education such as teaching, school administration, curriculum or instruction, and/or educationally related work in child, youth, or adult development programs.

The application must be made online via the Graduate School website, [http://gradschool.oregonstate.edu/admissions/process](http://gradschool.oregonstate.edu/admissions/process). A personal interview is a final step in the application process.

Admission is by cohort to begin each summer term.

**Counseling Major Core (54 credits):**

COUN 513. Counseling Pre-Practicum (3)
COUN 514. Practicum in Counseling (1–3) (*n.b., taken 2 quarters for 6 credits total*)
COUN 531. Developmental Perspectives in Counseling (3)
COUN 532. Social and Cultural Perspectives in Counseling (3)
COUN 541. The Counseling Profession (3)
COUN 551. Theory and Techniques of Counseling I (3)
COUN 552. Theory and Techniques of Counseling II (3)
COUN 567. Appraisal of the Individual (3)
COUN 568. Lifestyle and Career Development (3)
COUN 571. Group Counseling Procedures (3)
COUN 575. Family Counseling (3)
COUN 577. Applied Psychopathology and Psychodiagnosics (3)
COUN 578. Crisis, Trauma, and Grief Counseling (3)
COUN 581. Cross-Cultural Counseling (3)
COUN 598. Counselor Consultation (3)
ED 562. Introduction to Educational Research (3)

*ecampus* - Signifies that the Major/Option can be completed thru Ecampus - Distance Ed

**Major Code:** 2970