

Doctor of Education in Clinical Counseling

A number of students and graduates of the Graduate Psychology Program have been asking about the Ed.D. in Clinical Counseling that was initiated this fall (fall, 2007). This document is an attempt to answer some of these questions. If you have questions that are not answered below, please e-mail pwilson@trevecca.edu or jgoodwin@trevecca.edu with your question(s).

Has the Ed.D. degree in Clinical Counseling been approved?

Yes. In February, 2007, the Graduate Committee approved the proposal for an Ed.D. degree in Clinical Counseling. In mid-March the proposal was presented to the Board of Trustees. By the end of April the program received a green light from our accrediting body, SACS.

When will the program start?

The program was initiated in the fall of 2007 with seventeen students.

How many semester hours will be required for the degree?

The Ed.D. in Clinical Counseling will be a 66-hour program. Students entering the program will be expected to register for nine hours each semester for the first two years of the program. The third year of the program will consist of two semesters of six hours each (Practicum and Dissertation Research).

How many students will be approved each fall?

The plan is to start with a group of 20 -24 students. Once the program is in full swing (3rd year of the program), there will be approximately 60 students in the Ed.D. program.

Who will benefit from this degree?

The Ed.D. in Clinical Counseling is an advanced professional degree designed for several groups: a) those who wish to enhance their skills as a therapist, b) those who wish to further their career within the mental health delivery system, c) those who wish to take a more active role in supervision and the development of other therapists, and d) those who wish to expand their professional options to include teaching in under-graduate and graduate training programs. The strong theme of the program is to develop clinicians who will themselves positively enhance the professional mental health community.

What are the Learning Outcomes of this program?

Students who graduate with the Ed.D. in Clinical Counseling should be able to:

1. Understand and practice the art of therapy at a more proficient and advanced level;
2. Teach therapy and human relations coursework at a higher education level (community colleges, four-year colleges/universities, graduate training programs);
3. Supervise the development of less experienced therapists;
4. Offer administrative leadership within agencies and organizations;
5. Procure licensure in a desired area of clinical specialization (as a Licensed Professional Counselor or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist);
6. Conduct independent research at an advanced level.

When will the doctoral courses be offered?

Present plans are to offer the doctoral courses on Tuesday and Thursday. Students will be required to attend classes on Tuesday afternoon (1:00-4:00); Tuesday evening (6:00-9:00) & Thursday morning (8:00-11:00).

What courses will be required in the Ed.D. program?

The Ed.D. in Clinical Counseling program will encompass a 66- hour curriculum as listed below.

30 Hour Core Courses (10 courses/30 hours)—taken by all students

- Ethical Standards and Legal Issues in the Counseling Profession
- Psychodynamic Psychotherapies
- Cognitive Behavioral therapies
- Postmodern Psychotherapies
- Group Psychotherapy
- Diagnosis and Treatment of Personality Disorders
- Issues of Integration: Christian Ideology in a Professional World
- Advanced Child and Adolescent Therapy
- Treating Addictions: A Family Dynamics Approach
- Diagnosis and Treatment of Sexual Disorders

Cognates (6 courses/18 hours—2 groupings at 9 hours each)

Students must select one of the following two groupings of specialty courses (**3 courses/9 hours**):

MFT cognate

- Preventative approaches: Premarital Therapy and Enrichment Activities
- Theories of Affect Regulation and Attachment
- Transgenerational and Specialized Family Therapy

OR

Counseling cognate

- Psychological Testing for Counselors
- Professional Challenges for Counselors
- Psychopharmacological Issues in Counseling Settings

Students must select one of the following two groupings of specialty courses (**3 courses/9 hours**):

Supervision cognate

- Supervision Models
- Supervision Group I (must be taken as 2 semester clinical experience with Supervision Group II)
- Supervision Group II (a 2 semester supervised clinical experience)

OR

Teaching cognate

- The New Millennium Classroom: Technology and Teaching Strategies in Higher Education Settings
- Supervised Hours of Higher Education Classroom Teaching I
- Supervised Hours of Higher Education Classroom Teaching II

Practicum in Therapy (6 hours)

- Doctoral Practicum 1 (may substitute coursework for practicum experience if suitable post-degree clinical experience has been achieved)
- Doctoral Practicum 2 (may substitute coursework for practicum experience if suitable post-degree clinical experience has been achieved)

Research/Dissertation (12 hours)

- Doctoral Research Methodology
- Statistical Analysis in Clinical Practice
- Dissertation hours (6 hours)

Are there any academic pre-requisites for the Ed,D. program?

Yes. A course comparable to Advanced Abnormal (one that deals with psychopathology from a diagnostic perspective and includes DSM nomenclature) and Diversity are a prerequisite to doctoral training. Students who have not taken such courses will be

required to do so in addition to doctoral requirements. The students pursuing the marriage and family therapy cognate must have completed an introductory course in family systems theory.

Are any transfer credits allowed?

Yes. Students may transfer a maximum of nine (9) hours of post-degreed academic work at the doctoral level through a regionally accredited university or training facility/institute. Acceptance of transfer credit will be based on the following criteria:

- a. The course was completed within the last five years.
- b. The course is relevant to the degree program.
- c. A minimum grade of B was earned.

What are the admission requirements for applying to the Ed.D. program?

When applying for admission to the Ed.D. program, each applicant must submit the following along with a completed application:

- a. **Undergraduate and Graduate transcripts:** Applicants must have completed an undergraduate bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution evidenced by an official transcript. Applicants must have an earned Master's degree or its equivalent from a regionally accredited institution evidenced by an official transcript. The Master's degree must be in psychology, counseling, marriage & family therapy or similar field with a GPA of at least 3.25 on a 4.0 scale.
- b. **GRE scores:** All applicants entering the program are required to complete the Graduate Records Examination (GRE). A score of 1000 for the GRE (verbal and quantitative combined) is desired but not required for admission. Scores will be accepted from tests taken within the previous five years.
- c. **Three letters of recommendation:** One letter must be from a pastor or religious leader. The other two should be from former professors or employer/supervisors who have been in a position to evaluate the student's clinical skills as well as the student's capacity to complete a doctorate.
- d. **A 400 word Letter of Intent** specifying the applicant's purpose and goals for entering the Ed.D. program.
- e. **Professional Vita**, including degrees earned, ministry and/or counseling experience, and career goals.
- f. **TOEFL Score:** International Students/Students who speak English as Second Language must submit scores from the TOEFL with a minimum score of 600 on paper version of test and 250 on computer version of test.

g. \$50.00 Non-refundable **Application Fee.**

What is the deadline for completed admission folders for the fall?

Completed files for fall admission are due by March 15.

What is the semester hour cost of the program?

The program cost for the 2007-2008 academic year is \$578.00 per semester hour.