



## Master of Arts in Counseling

### Personal Statement

For admission to the Lakeland Graduate Program in Counseling, an applicant must write a 2- 3-page reflection paper providing your personal thoughts, feelings, and experiences as they relate to the counseling field. The reflection paper is evaluated based on quality of thought embedded in the response and quality of writing as your thoughts are expressed. Quality responses reveal the applicant's disposition toward counseling and the applicant's ability to communicate effectively. Both are key indicators of the applicant's capacity for success in this graduate program. As you compose this reflection paper, please include responses to the following questions:

1. What professional goals have led you to your decision to pursue a master's degree in counseling? What do you plan to do once you receive the degree?
2. What strengths do you bring to the counseling profession? How have you developed these strengths and how are you using them?
3. What challenges have you faced and how do you believe these challenges will impact your success as a professional counselor? How have you met these challenges?
4. What has been your experience in working with diverse groups of people?
5. What do you believe are your dispositional strengths and shortcomings?
6. How have you prepared yourself for the substantial time investment a graduate program requires?

### Other Notes:

- Please complete the reflection paper using a computer, word processor or typewriter.
- Please remember to put your name on your response sheet.
- Your Personal Statement is a professional document and as such should reflect your best writing ability.

Please mail or deliver your completed response to the MAC center advisor. This document will be filed with your additional application materials.