The Lakeland Master of Arts (M.A.) in Counseling degree is dedicated to preparing students for one of three areas of professional counseling:

- Early Childhood through Adolescence School Counseling
- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs.

The M.A. in Counseling program with a clinical mental health counseling emphasis is a 60 semester hour program designed to meet the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) requirements leading to Wisconsin licensure as a Professional Counselor (LPC). The M.A. in Counseling program with a school counseling emphasis is a 51 semester hour program that is approved by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and is approved for licensure and certification as a Wisconsin School Counselor. The M.A. in Counseling program with a higher education and student affairs emphasis is a 48 semester hour program that meets all the standards currently endorsed by the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS), and professional competencies endorsed by the American College Personnel Association (ACPA). Instructors in Lakeland’s M.A. in Counseling program assess not only the academic and performance skills of graduate students, but also the temperament and the professionalism of candidates as they work toward earning a M.A. in Counseling. An undergraduate degree in the behavioral sciences is not required.
Students who have successfully completed this degree from Lakeland should be able to:

▪ Apply counseling roles, theories, and models of interaction, prevention, and intervention including indications and contraindications for professional practice.

▪ Apply relevant state and federal laws, institutional rules, regulations and standards along with the national and ethical standards of the appropriate licensing bodies and boards as they relate to the therapeutic relationship and practice of counseling.

▪ Illustrate the psychological and sociological foundations of human development, learning, and behavior and the impact on the counseling setting.

▪ Describe the role that diversity, inclusion, gender and equity have on academic, personal, social, emotional, and professional development.

▪ Apply ethical and culturally relevant strategies for addressing career development theories to develop age-appropriate practices and programs.

▪ Demonstrate individual counseling skills, including assessment of and response to social, emotional, behavioral, and physical concerns.

▪ Demonstrate ethical and culturally relevant group counseling skills, including group management, interaction, and programming.

▪ Demonstrate skills used to utilize research, data, and institutional assessments to improve programs and recommend systematic changes.

▪ Summarize strategies for ongoing professional development and self-evaluation.

▪ Demonstrate effective ethical and professional behaviors in working responsively with individuals, groups, institutional support networks, community agencies, and governing agencies.

▪ Apply skills to locate, collect and evaluate research and program data from a variety of sources, which include the use of electronic sources.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

▪ An applicant with a non-behavioral science undergraduate degree is required to show evidence of nine (9) semester hours with grades of “B-” or better in coursework related to human services or behavioral sciences.

▪ A completed personal essay responding to a designated set of questions.

▪ A current resume.

▪ Two letters of recommendation from supervisors or instructors.

▪ A formal on-site interview.

▪ Submission of a Criminal Background Check received from Wisconsin Department of Justice or student’s state of residence.

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION POLICY

An applicant may apply for conditional admission to the Master of Arts in Counseling program. For consideration of conditional admission by the program director, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

▪ Submit official transcripts reflecting a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least a 2.5, but less than a 2.75

▪ Evidence of one of the following:
  ✓ The student's GPA is at least 3.0 during the last two years of the baccalaureate program (calculated on a minimum of 48 semester hours)
  ✓ Completion of six or more semester hours of program-approved post-baccalaureate courses. These courses must be at the advanced undergraduate or graduate level, taken with the last five years with a grade of B or better (B- not acceptable)
  ✓ A score of 420 or higher on the Miller Analogy Test (MAT)

▪ Submit a Personal Essay which reflects assets and awareness of liabilities as a potential professional counselor

▪ Submit three (3) letters of recommendation from supervisors or instructors that provide support and evidence of the applicant's ability to achieve success at the graduate level

▪ Submission of a Criminal Background Check received from Wisconsin Department of Justice or student’s state of residence

▪ Upon completion of six (6) semester hours of graduate coursework, earning a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher, a student achieves full admission status.
REQUIRED COURSEWORK

36 SEMESTER HOURS

CN 710  Introduction to Counseling & Ethics
CN 714  Multiculturalism & the Practice of Counseling
CN 716  Lifespan Development & Counseling: An Integration
CN 718  Introduction to Psychopathology
CN 724  Counseling Methods & Ethics
CN 726  Counseling Theories
CN 728  Psychometrics & Assessment
CN 734  Research Methods & Program Evaluation
CN 736  Counseling Children & Adolescents
CN 738  Group Therapy
CN 739  Career Counseling & Development
CN 744  Crisis & Trauma: Theory & Practice

Students must select and successfully complete one emphasis.

EMPHASIS

Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs Emphasis (12 semester hours)
CN 785  Seminar: Structure and Organization of Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs
CN 786  Practicum in Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs (125 clock hours)
CN 787  Internship I in Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs (300 clock hours)
CN 788  Internship II in Higher Education Counseling and Student Affairs (300 clock hours)

School Counseling Emphasis (15 semester hours)
(Prepares students for DPI certification as a PK-12 school counselor)
CN 733  Foundations of School Counseling
CN 765  Seminar: Structure and Organization of School Counseling
CN 766  Practicum in School Counseling (125 clock hours)
CN 767  Internship I in School Counseling (300 clock hours)
CN 768  Internship II in School Counseling (300 clock hours)
Successful completion of a School Counseling Portfolio

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Emphasis (24 semester hours)
(Meets Wisconsin state credential requirements for a professional counselor license)
CN 735  Couples & Family Therapy
CN 737  Counseling & Treatment of Addictive Disorders
CN 743  Advanced Clinical Skills
CN 752  Psychopharmacology for Counselors
CN 775  Seminar: Structure and Organization of Clinical Mental Health Counseling
CN 776  Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (125 clock hours)
CN 777  Internship I in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (300 clock hours)
CN 778  Internship II in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (300 clock hours)

ELECTIVE COURSEWORK (Optional)
CN 735  Couples & Family Therapy
CN 737  Counseling & Treatment of Addictive Disorders
CN 743  Advanced Clinical Skills
CN 752  Psychopharmacology
CN 760  Contemporary Topics in Counseling

Courses listed are 3 semester hours unless stated.
NON-DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENT POLICY

Students not pursuing a master’s degree in counseling at Lakeland University, may apply to be non-degree-seeking in Lakeland University’s Master of Arts in Counseling program. Students in non-degree seeking status enroll in courses to strengthen an existing or add a new emphasis, develop a new area of interest, or complete requirements for a new profession.

Non-degree-seeking student status is available for those who possess a bachelor’s degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution. Non-degree-seeking students are required to complete a Graduate Admission Application and are subject to the following unique policies:

▪ Non-degree-seeking students may register for up to twelve (12) semester hours.

▪ Enrollment in courses is on a space-available or standby basis. Students fully admitted or on conditional admission status into the M.A. in Counseling program will be given priority in all courses.

▪ With the exception of applicable Veterans Benefits, no financial aid is available.

▪ Practicum, Internship and Independent Study courses are not available to non-degree-seeking students.

▪ Non-degree-seeking students must meet all identified course prerequisites including:
  ✓ Submission of a Criminal Background Check received from Wisconsin Department of Justice or student’s state of residence.

For more information about the non-degree-seeking status, completion of an application and tuition costs, please contact an Admissions Advisor.

For more information, visit

LAKELAND.EDU