Master of Science in Counselor Education

This minimum 60-semester-hour clinical program prepares graduates for work as professional counselors in a variety of settings. The program includes three professional specializations accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and recognized by the International Registry of Counselor Education Programs (IRCEP):

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- School Counseling
- Student Affairs and College Counseling

Students complete 45 semester hours of required courses and 15 semester hours of electives. Many students complete a primary professional specialization and a secondary specialization allowing for maximum flexibility over the trajectory of a graduate’s career. Students work closely with faculty advisors and have many opportunities for community engagement, service-learning, participation in professional presentations, collaborative research with faculty and professional service.

Contact Information:

Counselor Education Program
Ragsdale Hall
252-328-6856
MS in Counselor Education

So you are interested in becoming a counselor and you think ECU might have the right program for you. You may find that you still have some questions. We are happy to speak with you to discuss your options further, or you may find some useful information below.

**WHAT is the current job outlook for counselors?**
The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the employment of mental health counselors is likely to grow 19 percent from 2014 to 2024. The recognition of the importance of mental health and wellness and the expansion of mental health counseling services coverage by insurance policies are influential on this projected growth.

**WHEN are classes held?**
Campus-based classes in the Counselor Education programs meet once a week from 6 to 9 p.m. Some classes are hybrid courses with some campus-based sessions and some online components; others will be completely online. Though the program cannot be completed fully online, all students will take some online courses.

**WHAT clinical experiences are required for the program?**
The program includes a supervised counseling practicum and two counseling internships. These clinical experience courses are taken in separate semesters.

**HOW do I apply?**
Applicants should apply through the ECU Graduate School online application. The application includes a statement of purpose, three letters of reference, a GRE or MAT score and the online application. Faculty review applications and select applicants to participate in the interview stage of the application process.

**HOW long does it typically take for students to complete the program?**
Most students complete the program in 2 to 2.5 years, including summer school.

For more information, visit the Masters of Science in Counselor Education website at [www.ecu.edu/cs-educ/idp/coed/Counselor_ed.cfm](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-educ/idp/coed/Counselor_ed.cfm).