



**GRADUATE PROGRAM
IN COUNSELING**

Program Outcomes Report for 2020-2021 Academic Year

I. Program Updates

Despite continuing challenges related to the pandemic, the Messiah University Graduate Program in Counseling continues to grow and demonstrate positive outcomes for students and graduates.

- The program welcomed one new faculty member in the fall of 2021. Dr. Tracey Duncan joined the Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling track so we continue to have 10 full-time faculty. Dr. Duncan’s bio can be found [here](#). We are also thankful to the excellent new and long-time adjunct faculty as well as three departmental staff members who are essential to keeping our program strong.
- Although our program is mostly online, we are still significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Intensive courses continue to have a completely online format though we are hoping to have in person courses on campus in July.

II. Mission

Our mission, as a Christ-centered program, is to educate invested and caring individuals who will serve in a variety of settings as counselors characterized by integrity, humility, skillfulness, and understanding. We desire that these professionals will be leaders who facilitate healing, growth, reconciliation and spiritual well-being for diverse people.

III. Student Data/Vital Statistics

CMHC = Clinical Mental Health Counseling (MA)

SCH = School Counseling (MA)

MCFC = Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling (MA)

CAGS = Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (not CACREP accredited)

A. Enrollment (End of Academic Year 20-21 Snapshot)

CMHC	SCH	MCFC	TOTAL
130	55	59	244

B. Graduates (December 2020 to August 2021)

CMHC	SCH	MCFC	TOTAL
44	15	15	74

C. Completion Rate* (Master’s students who completed the program)

CMHC	SCH	MCFC
65.9%	65.7%	76.3%

* 3-year average of completion rates for students who began in 2012, 2013, and 2014 fiscal years

D. National Counselor Exam (NCE) 2020-2021 Academic Year

Historically, students in all three tracks of the Counseling program have taken the National Counselor Exam before graduation.

	Tested	Passed	Pass Rate
Fall 20	24	23	96%
Spring 21	34	30	88%

Pass rates by track: School Counseling 7 of 7 (100%), Marriage Couple and Family Counseling 13 of 14 (93%), and Clinical Mental Health Counseling 33 of 37 (89%)

E. Praxis II

Professional School Counselor exam required of School Counseling students in order to become certified school counselors in Pennsylvania.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, 100% of the students who took the Praxis II exam passed.

F. Job Placement Rate for graduates of Master’s programs 6 or more months after degree completion in counseling positions (based on 2021 Alumni Survey). Excludes those not seeking counseling positions.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling N= 37	School Counseling N=27	Marriage Couple and Family Counseling N=8
97%	100%	63% (5 of 8 respondents)

IV. Demographics

A. Counseling Student by Gender and Ethnicity, snapshot at the end of 2021 academic year
(Master's only):

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS	
GENDER	
Female	206
Male	38
ETHNIC BACKGROUND	
Asian / Asian-American	6
Black / African-American	24
Hispanic, Latino/a, inc. Spain	17
Multi-Ethnic / 2 or more races	10
White / Non-Hispanic	184
Unknown	3

B. Geography: The Counseling Program has students in 30 states in addition to District of Columbia, and the Pacific district of the Military. Pennsylvania has the most students with 150. Maryland, Texas, New Jersey, and Virginia have the next most students.