WHAT IS COUNSELING?

Counseling is a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education and career goals. (CAO/CP 20/20 Consensus Definition of Counseling)

Prospective students wishing to take courses prior to basic admission to the program may take only the following courses:

- COUN 4103/5103 Introduction to Professional Counseling
- COUN 4105/5105 Counseling Skills

APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 1 FOR FALL ADMISSION

CSBS
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
University of Northern Iowa

Want More Information?
SCHOOL OF APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES
235 Latham Hall • 319-273-2814
csbs.uni.edu/counseling

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN COUNSELING
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH & SCHOOL COUNSELING

Strong Community Traditions • 21st Century Global Vision

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The UNI Counseling Program is grounded in a wellness philosophy and is devoted to providing a culturally and developmentally responsive education in which students are encouraged and challenged to be exemplary counselors, innovative practitioners, and active agents of social justice in a diverse world through practical experiences and rigorous academic expectations.
COUNSELING PROGRAMS

CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

- Prepares graduates with knowledge and skills in diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders.
- Includes a site-based practicum at a counseling agency in the area.
- Includes a two-semester internship with a weekly seminar, as well as individual and group supervision by the faculty.
- Includes CACREP-required coursework.

SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

- Prepares graduates for their Iowa Professional Service License in School Counseling, which provides greater job mobility because graduates can assume a position at any level.
- Includes a practicum, supervised by experienced professionals in the field.
- Includes a school-based internship with weekly individual supervision and group seminars by UNI faculty.
- Includes CACREP-required coursework.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do I need to be a teacher to be a school counselor?
A: No. A teaching degree or teaching experience is not required.

Q: Does the school counseling degree limit me to work at a specific grade level?
A: No. The degree allows school counselors to be employed at the K-12 level.

Q: Do I need a psychology degree to apply to the clinical mental health program?
A: No. Any undergraduate degree from an accredited school will serve as a prerequisite. However, having some background knowledge about human behavior is beneficial.

Q: What kind of jobs can I find when I finish my clinical mental health degree?
A: Clinical mental health counselors are employed in hospitals, clinics, community agencies, nonprofit agencies, H.R. offices, college counseling centers and private practice.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Dorcie Davis-Gage
Division Chair and Program Coordinator of Counseling; Clinical Coordinator of Mental Health Counseling

Olivia [Tai-Chun] Chen
Assistant Professor of Counseling

Robert Swazo
Professor of Counseling

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Our graduate programs in school counseling and clinical mental health counseling have been nationally CACREP accredited since 1990.

UNI was also one of the first programs nationally to prepare K12 and elementary school counselors. Our clinical mental health counseling program was the first accredited program in the nation.

Our students have had a 94 percent pass rate for the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPE) and National Counselor Exam (NCE) since implementation in 2007.