

Louisiana State University Shreveport
Counseling Program

CACREP Vital Statistics 2018/2019

As part of our accreditation requirements from CACREP, the Counseling Program at Louisiana State University Shreveport must report the following information annually.

Minimum Credit Hours:	60
Students Currently Enrolled:	39
Graduates in the Past Year:	13
Completion Rate:	83%
Licensure Exam Pass Rate:	100%
Job Placement Rate:	89% (response rate: 100%)

2018-2019 MSC Program Annual Summative Report

The faculty of the MSC Program meet annually to (a) review, amend, and approve Program Objectives within the context of data gathered from the previous academic year, and (b) review and approve recommendations for programmatic changes to be instituted in the upcoming year.

CACREP requires that within core and specialty areas, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are identified. KPIs are capstone assignments which measure teaching and learning.

Academic Year Key Performance Indicator Mean Scores (Scaled 1-4)

KPI Course and Assignment	Mean Score
COUN 728 Ethics and Law in Counseling ACA Ethics Code Practice Simulation	4
COUN 732 Social & Cultural Foundations in Counseling Experiential Experience Paper	3.88
PSYC 709 Advanced Human Development Lifespan Portfolio Paper	3.4
COUN 733 Career & Lifestyle Development in Counseling Personal Career Development Paper	3.25
COUN 723 Counseling Method Techniques Professional Counseling Session Videotapes	3.81
COUN 722 Group Processes Group Therapy Presentation/Simulation	3.6
PSYC 716 Intermediate Statistics Data Analysis Report	3.07
PSYC 718 Introduction to Methodology & Research Design Research Proposal	3.2
COUN 724 Marriage & Family Therapy Analysis of Videotaped Couple/Family Counseling Sessions	3.82
COUN 780 Consultation in Human Development Program Evaluation Review	3.92
COUN 783 Practicum Final Site Supervisor Evaluation	4
COUN 787 Internship Final Site Supervisor Evaluation	4

As a result of this data, the MSC faculty decided to implement the following changes:

- 1) Prior to COUN 783: Practicum, students will be required to meet individually with the clinical coordinator for an orientation of expectations. In addition, for the field experience courses (COUN 783: Practicum, COUN 786: Internship I, and COUN 787: Internship II), students are now required to collect for each course a printout of all the required

documents in one folder for each course and submit to the program instructor at the end of the semester. This ensures that all documents (including log hours, evaluations, etc.) will be stored in one place in the department office for each student.

- 2) For the COUN 728 Course: Legal and Ethical Issues, students in the class continued to present ethics-related topics at the annual Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference in New Orleans, LA.
- 3) The MSC Program is offering more training opportunities for site supervisors, such as the Chi Sigma Iota mixers with site supervisors and workshops facilitated by licensed professional counselors for NBCC CE hours.

CACREP Student Outcome Snapshot

Students Enrolled	New Students	Graduates	Completion Rate	Licensure Exam Pass Rate	Job Placement Rate
39	13	9	83%	100%	89%

Substantial Program Changes

- 1) For admissions changes, the program committee no longer requires certain psychology undergraduate prerequisite courses to apply to the program. In addition, the GRE score requirement was removed due to minorities not being adequately reflected in the minimum score requirement. The interview and undergraduate GPA are still required components, along with the personal essay and two reference letters.
- 2) A Rehabilitation Counseling concentration was added to the program's elective course offerings. Three new rehabilitation counseling courses were developed, and the Foundations of Rehabilitation Counseling elective course was redesigned. This was due to requests by multiple students and the current faculty member's expertise in Rehabilitation Counseling, Dr. Kacie Blalock. Currently, this makes the LSUS MSC Rehabilitation Counseling Concentration the only such offering in Northwest LA.

"COUN740: Professional Orientation and Ethics in Rehabilitation Counseling 3 cr. This course provides a conceptual overview of the professional, historical, theoretical, research, and applied foundations of the rehabilitation profession as related to the ethical provision of services for individuals with disabilities. Three hours of lecture or equivalent."

“COUN741: Rehabilitation Case Management 3 cr. This course examines the case management process in rehabilitation. Prospective helping professionals will learn how to guide clients through the rehabilitation process from referral to case closure and develop appropriate ethical rehabilitation plans with clients. Three hours of lecture or equivalent.”

“COUN742: Employment Development and Vocational Placement 3 cr. This course examines theories and practices associated with successful job placement of individuals with disabilities. Prospective helping professionals will learn techniques for empowering individuals with disabilities to obtain integrated, community-based employment. Three hours of lecture or equivalent.”

“COUN743: Medical and Psychosocial Aspects of Disability 3 cr. This course examines the medical, functional, and environmental aspects of disability. The focus is on understanding the medical aspects related to human body systems and disability; understanding medical terminology, principles of the diagnostic process, and diagnostic tools used by medical and other health professionals; understanding the onset, severity, progression, and duration of an individual’s disability; understanding the psychosocial impact of disability on the individual, family, and environment; and evaluating the use of assistive technology and other appropriate intervention resources to reduce or eliminate barriers and functional limitations. Three hours of lecture or equivalent.”

- 3) The CPCE exam was not included as a requirement as a benchmark in the program and instead an internal, multiple-choice exam was administered and used as the benchmark. The MSC program is weighing the logistics of offering the NCE exam in the future.
- 4) A new administrator, Megan Davenport, was hired to assist the Program Director in accumulating and compiling assessment and demographic data and assist with the admissions and advising process.
- 5) The Counseling Clinic was completely renovated and two group rooms were added as well as up-to-date security systems/cameras/wireless access and more individual counseling rooms. LSUS funded this renovation for an expense of \$180,000. In addition, plans are underway to utilize the counseling clinic for training our students and collaborating with community partners (LSU Children’s Center, LSU Allied Health, Caddo Parish Juvenile Justice System).



- 6) The MSC program adopted “Qualtrics” instead of “Survey Monkey” to better capture survey information from our alumni, employers, and site supervisors.

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Master of Science in Counseling
May 6, 2019

A FORE FROM DR. NELSON:

As another academic year draws to an end, I want to commend the MSC graduate students on another year of professional excellence and hard work. Learning the art of helping is a journey. With another

semester completed, I hope that you take a moment to reflect on your progress since the start of your training.

Also, I would like to take the time to congratulate the students who are graduating this semester.



Learning the art of helping is a journey.

Many of our students who complete our CACREP accredited program find many opportunities from all over the country. Our students have found positions from Colorado to Hawaii.

And, many thanks to the MSC faculty who all work

so hard to maintain CACREP standards. We have new additions to our program coming soon!

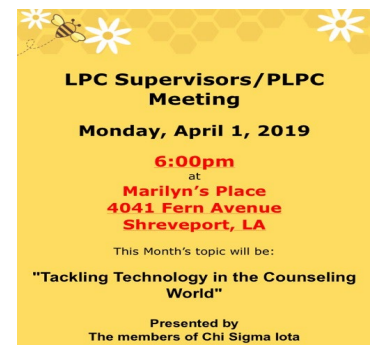
Once again, thank you for all your hard work. I wish you all a restful and restorative summer, full of self-care. I look forward to seeing you in class.



CHI SIGMA IOTA

Lamda Sigma Upsilon Chapter

Congratulations to the newest initiates of Chi Sigma Iota! As the international honor society for counseling professionals, invitation to CSI is an honor only extended to the students who demonstrate professional excellence (3.5+ GPA) in addition to a professor's recommendation



From left to right: Dr. Meredith Nelson, Kyrenda Petty, Christian Pere, Caitlin Bruce, Allyson Greer, Shaylee Sirmons, Jasmin Mohamed, Andy Koerner, Kirsten Blake, Chichi Zhang, Sarah McGee, Drue McInnis, Angela Coulter, Dr. Hsin-Ya Tang

As the honor society for counseling professionals, CSI focuses on the importance of professional development, community engagement, and wellness advocacy. In the past year, CSI organized events such as a couple of LPC Supervisors/PLPC Mixers at Grub Burger and Marilyn's Place to provide MSC students to socialize and potential network with LPCs in the area. Also, CSI participated at the Spring Fling with a gratitude board. In order to promote self-care, CSI members encouraged LSUS students to write down their gratitudes.

For more information on CSI, please see www.csi-net.org.

CONFERENCES

Professional Development

Since psychology is perpetually evolving, professional development is essential to remaining current. Attending conferences such as the Law and Ethics in Counseling and ACA conference not only helps professionals keep up-to-date, it also allows for the exchange of cutting-edge knowledge as well as networking.

In Dr. Tang's Ethics course, MSC students are assigned to write a research proposal to present at the Law and Ethics conference. These research proposals must outline a current and controversial topic within the field of counseling. The students who are invited to present at the conference can accompany Dr. Tang for this weeklong event. The Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference is held annually in New Orleans during the Spring.

Not only do students get the valuable experience of presenting, they get to meet the authors of their textbooks who are "celebrities" in their own right. MSC students got to meet 3 former APA presidents, the head of CACREP, and Dr. Ted Remley!



Left to right: Kim Wood, Dr. David Capuzzi, Angela Coulter, Chichi Zhang



Morgan got to meet Dr. Gerald Corey and Stan at the ACA conference!



MSC Students and Dr. Tang with Dr. Sylvia Fernandez, Dr. Ted Remley, Dr. Lee Richmond, and Dr. Catherine Roland

CONFERENCES

MSC Students Presentations

The thought of presenting at a professional conference is quite intimidating and daunting. Fret not! At the Law and Ethics in Counseling conference, MSC students presented at small tables which seated about 8-9 people max. While referred to as Round Table presentations, these presentations were more like discussions with seasoned professionals who were more than happy to share their insights and experiences.



Counseling in a Digital World: Advantages, Disadvantages, and Ethical Considerations

Presented by Dr. Tang, Chichi Zhang, Angela Coulter
(Pictured on the left)

Reducing the Prevalence of Domestic Violence in Rural Areas

Presented by Dr. Tang, Drue McInnis, Shaylee Simons

Ethical Issues in Caring for Clients with Dementia: Autonomy vs Safety

Presented by Dr. Tang, Chichi Zhang, Angela Coulter, Sarah McGee (Pictured on the right)

Preventing Unethical Referral Within the Counseling Profession

Presented by Dr. Tang, Kimberly Wood



Incorporating Music Therapy Throughout Sessions with Autistic Individuals

Presented by Dr. Tang, Jasmin Mohamed, Sarah McGee, Natalie Elliot (Pictured on the left)

Ethical Counseling of Impaired Adolescents: Client Autonomy Versus Parental Authority

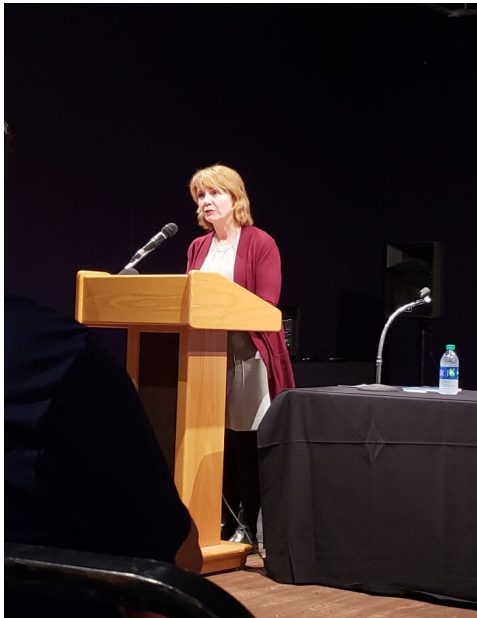
Presented by Dr Tang, Kimberly Wood, Natalie Elliot



COMMUNITY EVENTS

MSC Students Visit Centenary

MSC students benefit from many experiential learning activities incorporated within the courses. These activities can include events within our local community as it related to counseling.



At this book signing event hosted by Centenary College, MSC students listened to the co-author, Elaine McArdle, and a panel of specialists speak on the interesting field of neuroscience and its relationship with mental wellness. Elaine read some passages from *The Neuroscientist Who Lost Her Mind: My Tale of Madness and Recovery* which illustrated a first-person perspective of a neuroscientist who suffered mental illness as a result of brain tumors. After these readings, Elaine joined a panel with another local neuroscientist and a local coordinator at a center that helps people to deal with Alzheimer's. They spoke about how the main intent of this book was to de-stigmatize mental illness and also how important it is to take care of the brain as an essential part of our being. They discussed how the same things that are beneficial to the heart are also beneficial to brain health.



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Promoting Health and Wellness Within the Community

MSC faculty and students have worked hard this past year to provide the local community with psychoeducation on various topics.

Well-o-ween Health Fair (pictured below)

MSC program partnered with the City of Shreveport to provide local mental health resources as well as spooky healthy treats to their employees. Also, MSC students, Patti Shelton and Angela Coulter, handed out information on PACE and their monthly support group meetings which take place at LSUS.

ACES Presentation

One of the many hats that Dr. Nelson wears is that of Adversive Childhood Experiences (ACES) Trainer. Last fall, Dr Nelson and MSC graduate, Melissa Valia, presented on ACES to school counselors in the area.

Dementia Presentation to Social Workers

Recently, Dr Nelson presented the research on working with individuals suffering from Dementia to social workers within the community. The research outline was created by Chichi Zhang, Angela Coulter, and Sarah McGee.

Resume Round Robin

The Career Counseling Class evaluate resumes and provided feedback during a Round Robin Workshop with Student Teachers in March 2019



Patti Shelton at the Well-O-Ween Health Fair to scare City of Shreveport employees into health and wellness with our health treats and snacks!



NEW PROGRAM ADDITION

Become a Rehabilitation Counselor

Through our CACREP accredited program, MSC students can obtain their LPC. But, what would you think if you could get TWO credentials by just taking a few more classes?

The Counseling Program will offer a 12-hour concentration in Rehabilitation Counseling which will allow students to obtain their credentials as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and LPC. The courses for this concentration begin Summer Session 2019. An online survey will be posted on possible creative solutions to incorporating these courses throughout the MSC program.

These courses will be headed by Dr. Kacie Blalock, the resident CRC. Specializing in Rehabilitation Counseling, Dr. Blalock remains proactive on keeping current with research in the field. Dr. Blalock attended the National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) Conference in April 2019 and rendered a presentation entitled "Mental Illness as Predictor of Suicide Among Asian American Young Adults." Dr. Blalock co-authored an article published in the Internal Journal of Social Science Studies entitled "Understanding Differences between CORE and CACREP Counselors-In- Training Perceptions of Self-Efficacy."



REHABILITATION COUNSELORS

Counsel individuals to maximize the independence and employability of persons coping with personal, social, and vocational difficulties that result from birth defects, illness, disease, accidents, or the stress of daily life. Coordinate activities for residents of care and treatment facilities. Assess client needs and design and implement rehabilitation programs that may include personal and vocational counseling, training, and job placement.

Reported titles include:

Rehabilitation Counselor, Rehabilitation Specialist, Vocational Case Manager, Vocational Placement Specialist, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC)

Information obtained from ONET

MSC GRADUATES

Where are they now?

Within the field of counseling, there are many opportunities! Read about past students and where they are working now.

As students trudge through the endurance race that is finals week, we often wonder if it's all worth it. Will all this hard work pay off in the end? Well, ask the previous graduating class! All the graduate students who graduated in the previous fall semester have

all found gainful employment.

One of the previous Graduate Assistants, Melissa Vallia, works at New Day Recovery. In another substance abuse facility, Shannon Fowler works at Active Recovery. A number of MSC students have interned at these sites in the

past. The other MSC graduate opted to work in the neighboring state. Aaron Mussat works at CHI St. Luke's Hospital in Houston, TX.

So, take heart that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Would you like to be featured in the newsletter?
We want to hear from you!

ANGELA COULTER

coultera11@lsus.edu

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE THIS NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE:

Dr. Meredith Nelson, Dr. Hsin-ya Tang, Dr. Kacie Blalock

Chichi Zhang, Kimberly Wood, Patti Shelton, Morgan Matthews