Building A Career

Counseling is one of the most rewarding careers for caring individuals. If you are considering a career in counseling, you probably recognize your desire to help people work through life’s challenges.

Counseling can offer the right individual a rewarding career path in a health profession that is growing. It requires a strong desire to interact with people, exceptional communication skills, and an ability to complete a graduate degree. Choosing to become a professional counselor is a commitment to yourself, to others, and to society as a whole.

Our College of Education offers counseling program coursework leading to the Master of Education (M.Ed.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees, to state certification in elementary and secondary school counseling, to eligibility for licensing as a professional counselor (state), and to eligibility for board certification in counseling (national).

“It was important for me to graduate from a nationally accredited program – and UMSL’s program delivered with quality and high standards that I’ll take with me wherever I go in my counseling career.”

—Graduate Student Counseling
What can you do with a Counseling Degree?

Mental health counselors work in a variety of community settings such as mental health clinics, community agencies, counseling centers, colleges, universities, and businesses, and for jobs as addictions counselors, career counselors, couples and family counselors, child and adolescent counselors, and many others.

School counselors assist students of all levels, from elementary school to postsecondary education. They advocate for students and work with other individuals and organizations to promote the academic, career, personal, and social development of children and youth. School counselors help students evaluate their abilities, interests, talents, and personalities to develop realistic academic and career goals.

A unique, nationally recognized program

The M.Ed. programs in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Clinical Mental Health Counseling with an emphasis in Career Counseling along with the Ph.D. in Counseling are all fully nationally accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). All of our students are eligible for licensing as a professional counselor.

Our counseling faculty is committed to training you as a multiculturally-competent counselor to serve clients and students in diverse urban environments. As a counseling student at UMSL, you will have the advantage of attending:

—A highly rated program, ranked No. 5 in the country (2010)

—The only CACREP accredited program in the St. Louis metropolitan region.

UMSL at a glance

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is a public, research university located in Missouri’s most populous and economically important region. Founded in 1963, UMSL attracts more students than any other university in the St. Louis region.

We offer you 54 undergraduate degree choices from our five colleges. And we partner with more than 400 companies and organizations for our internship program. You’ll get out of the classroom, gain practical experience, make connections and jump-start your career.

St. Louis: Something for everyone

UMSL is a vital part of St. Louis, and the city and surrounding areas make up the most culturally vibrant region in Missouri. That means we offer you more than a top-ranked learning environment.

There’s a night out with friends on Washington Avenue. An exhibit opening at the Saint Louis Art Museum. A Saturday afternoon at the Saint Louis Zoo. A home-run celebration at Busch Stadium.

St. Louis is a place where you can be you.