

# Counseling Program Report Summary

Northwestern State University

2017-2018

# Northwestern State University Assessment of Counseling Program Objectives (2017-2018)

Objective	Content Area	NSU Comprehensive Exam Percentage	NCE National Statistical Summary (2016)
#1	Professional Functioning/Helping Relationships	78%	70%
#2	Multicultural/Cultural Contexts	76%	76%
#3	Human Growth/Development	65%	71%
#4	Career Development/Life Factors	74%	63%
#5	Counseling Process/Professional Orientation	78%	73%
#6	Group Counseling	76%	63%
#7	Assessment	65%	68%
#8	Research/Program Evaluation	66%	60%
#9	Field Experiences	Student Overall Ratings - Excellent	
#10	Professional Development	Two professional developments offered	

# CMHC Concentration

- Percentages for each standard were either at Target (90% or higher) or Acceptable (80-89%)
- Strengths:
  - Strong clinical portfolios (Practicum and Internship I/II)
  - Counseling Process
  - Group Counseling
- Areas for Focus:
  - Human Growth and Development
  - Analysis

# School Counseling Concentration

- Percentages for each standard were either at Target (90% or higher) or Acceptable (80-89%)
- Strengths:
  - Intro School Counseling
  - Group Counseling
  - Strong clinical portfolios (Practicum and Internship I/II)
- Areas for Focus:
  - Human Growth and Development
  - Analysis

# Survey Results

- Surveys sent to Graduates, Site Supervisors, and Employers assessing their perceptions of the program and if objectives were met.
- Mean results indicate stakeholders believe understanding of the core areas was at Excellent (5.0) or Good (4.0).

# Survey Data for AY 2017-2018 (COUN)

Objective	Graduates	Supervisors	Employers
	2017-2018 n=10	2017-2018 n=10	2017-2018 n=7
Objective 1 – understanding of <u>professional functioning</u> as a counselor	5.0	4.6	4.71
Objective 2 – understanding of the <u>cultural</u> context of relationships, issues, and trends in a multicultural society	4.9	4.7	4.71
Objective 3 – understanding of the <u>nature and needs of persons</u> at all developmental levels and in multicultural contexts	4.4	4.6	4.86
Objective 4 – understanding of the <u>career development</u> and related life factors	4.6	4.7	4.71
Objective 5 - understanding of the <u>counseling process</u> in a multicultural society	4.8	4.6	4.86
Objective 6 - understanding of the <u>group</u> purpose, development, dynamics, theories, methods, skills, and other group approaches in a multicultural society	4.8	4.8	4.86
Objective 7 - understanding of the individual and group approaches to <u>assessment and evaluation</u> in a multicultural society	4.4	4.7	4.71
Objective 8 - understanding of <u>research methods, statistical analysis, needs assessment, and program evaluation</u>	4.4	4.6	4.71
Objective 9 – to offer practicum/internship experiences and provide quality supervision	5.0	N/A	N/A
Objective 10 – to offer professional development opportunities which directly contribute to the personal and professional growth of candidates	4.8	N/A	N/A

# Areas of Strength from 2017-2018

Based on student feedback, surveys, and assessments, in 2017-2018, the faculty took the following actions:

- Faculty encouraged study groups for students preparing to take the comprehensive exam and completed a review of appropriate preparation materials to include textbooks and study guides.
- Audio lectures were added to COUN 6500, a prerequisite course for internship, to enhance student learning.
- Faculty attended professional development opportunities emphasizing ethics in practice and incorporated that knowledge into coursework and student interactions.
- Faculty conducted a research study on cultural issues and incorporated that knowledge into coursework and student interactions, (2) Faculty incorporated activities to promote and personalize the understanding of other cultures into COUN 5610, a prerequisite course for field experiences.
- Faculty required students to present research articles on subjects that were directly related to their clients' issues, (2) Faculty created experiences and opportunities which demonstrated appropriate supervisory relationships, normalized personal limitations in counseling, and addressed ways to account for these limitations.

# Looking Forward

- Based on student feedback, surveys, and assessments the faculty have identified the following Areas of Focus for 2018-2019
  - Human Growth & Development (EPSY 5460)
  - Analysis of the Individual (EPSY 5520)
  - While scores indicate students are able to apply and adhere to legal and ethical standards, counseling faculty recognize the landscape for mental health issues is diverse and ever-changing. To enhance student learning and engage in continuous improvement, faculty have committed to introducing additional professional development regarding current ethical issues throughout program coursework.

The complete report for 17-18 can be accessed at:

[https://www.nsula.edu/documentprovider/docs/139/COEHD%20Counseling%20MA%20\(533\)%20AY%202017-2018.pdf](https://www.nsula.edu/documentprovider/docs/139/COEHD%20Counseling%20MA%20(533)%20AY%202017-2018.pdf)