Program Student Learning Outcomes

College: Education
Program: Counselling Psychology, PhD

Graduates of the PhD program in Counseling Psychology should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the foundational areas of psychology and the history of psychology. Specifically, students will be able to:
  1) Demonstrate knowledge of the bases of scientific and professional psychology (e.g., developmental, biological, cognitive/affective, and social aspects of behavior, and the history of the discipline of psychology).
  2) Demonstrate the ability to access, evaluate, and apply knowledge of psychology foundations in their clinical practice.

- Demonstrate knowledge and competency in research conceptualization, design, data analysis and interpretation, and dissemination of research findings. Specifically, students will be able to:
  1) Demonstrate knowledge of and competence in basic quantitative methods and data analysis, research design, and psychological measurement commonly used in counseling psychology.
  2) Demonstrate skills in advanced research methods appropriate to conducting their pre-dissertation research projects and dissertation research.
  3) Demonstrate the ability to initiate, plan, and conduct an independent research project.
  4) Demonstrate the ability to present research findings and other scholarship via formal academic presentations, professional conferences, peer-reviewed journals, or other scholarly outlets.

- Demonstrate knowledge and competency in assessment, diagnosis and treatment, and supervision and consultation. Specifically, students will be able to:
  1) Demonstrate competence in theories and methods of assessment and diagnosis.
  2) Demonstrate ability to integrate assessment data into comprehensive conceptualization of diverse clients including an appropriate treatment plan and effective interventions.
  3) Demonstrate ability to provide effective psychological interventions.
  4) Demonstrate ability to evaluate efficacy of interventions.
5) Demonstrate foundational knowledge and initial competence in clinical supervision and professional consultation.

- Apply the knowledge base of counseling psychology in a scientifically based, theoretically driven manner. Specifically, students will be able to:
  1. demonstrate knowledge of evidence-based practices in counseling psychology.
  2. use science and relevant theories to develop treatment plans and implement appropriate interventions.
  3. conduct research that is informed by clinical practice.

- Demonstrate knowledge of a wide range of theoretical perspectives and research methodologies within counseling psychology. Specifically, students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of a wide range of theoretical and philosophical perspectives in case conceptualization, intervention, and evaluation of treatment.

- Display in their relationships with clients, peers, faculty, staff, etc. the professionalism that is necessary for success in multiple career settings. Specifically, students will be able to:
  1) demonstrate the ability to collaborate in training, clinical practice, and research.
  2) demonstrate facilitative interpersonal skills with others, including supervisors, peers, staff, and supervisees.
  3) responsive to feedback from faculty, supervisors, and peers.
  4) engage in critical self-exploration of attitudes, assumptions, behaviors, meanings and values relevant to the practice of counseling psychology.
  5) demonstrate self-awareness of personally held attitudes, assumptions, behaviors, meanings and values as they relate to all aspects of clinical work.
  6) demonstrate awareness of their strengths and areas of needed development in order to practice as a competent and ethical professional.

- Demonstrate knowledge about and able to engage in culturally competent clinical and professional practice that reflects social justice values. Specifically, students will be able to:
  1) Demonstrate awareness and understanding of diversity and contextual issues (e.g., culture, identity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, marginalization, etc.).
  2) Apply knowledge of diversity and contextual issues to clinical work.
  3) Demonstrate awareness of and commitment to multicultural counseling competency and relevant professional guidelines (e.g., APA’s Multicultural Guidelines, Guidelines for Psychotherapy with Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Clients) in their professional interactions.
Engage in culturally competent research and scholarly work that reflects a social justice orientation informed by current research and theory. Specifically, students will be able to:

1) Apply multicultural knowledge, experience, theory and scholarship to their own research.
2) Demonstrate commitment to learning and applying multicultural competencies.

Demonstrate knowledge about social justice values and their application to research and practice in counseling psychology. Specifically, students will be able to:

1) Recognize connections among injustice, oppression, and privilege, and mental health, and the responsibility of counseling psychologists to address these issues from a perspective informed by ethical practice.
2) Demonstrate critical self-awareness in areas such as privilege, power differentials, social justice, and interpersonal impact.
4) Demonstrate an awareness of the potential impact of diversity issues in their own research.