WELCOME to the Department of Counseling Information Session!

- Have a seat
- Take an index card, burning question?
AGENDA

- Welcome from Dr. Rebecca Toporek, PhD, Department Chair
- About our department, programs, courses, internships and admissions process.
- Conversation with current students in the program.
ABOUT US: OUR MISSION

- train the next generation of counselor leaders
- who recognize that the liberation of all communities is only possible when an intersectional, participatory, community-driven approach to counseling is practiced.
- Our training program is grounded in the belief that counseling, as a field of practice, affords professionals the knowledge and skills needed to carry out social justice work
- via strengths-based healing and wellness, advocacy, critical consciousness development, and action-oriented scholarship and research.
ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

OUR SPECIALIZATIONS

Career Counseling

School Counseling

Marriage and Family Therapy

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

College Counseling

Gerontological Counseling

*May choose a specialization and emphasis
3 DEGREES
6 SPECIALIZATIONS

- Master of Science in Counseling
  - Career
  - College
  - Gerontology
  - School Counseling

- Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

- Master of Science in Counseling Concentration in Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling
OUR ACCREDITATION

• Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
• Council for the Accreditation of Counselor and Related Education Programs (CACREP)
• The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)
LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS AND CREDENTIALS

- Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT)
- Licensed Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC)
- Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential
- National Certified Counselor (NCC)
- Certified Mental Health Counselor (CMHC)
- Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC)
TWO LICENSES

Marriage, Family Therapy License (MFT)

License in Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC)

PATHS TO LICENSURE

SPECIALIZATION       EMPHASIS       LICENSE

Marriage, Family & Child Counseling       Option to choose an emphasis (not required)       MFCC

Clinical Mental Health Counseling       Option to choose an emphasis (not required)       LPCC
*May apply to more than one emphasis
OUR FACULTY

- Graduates of the top counseling programs
- 10 full time faculty and 15+ adjunct faculty
- Practicing counselors and therapists, researchers, writers
- Internationally and nationally recognized scholars and professional leaders
Our Graduates

• **Career Counselors:** College and university career centers, employment agencies, non profits, private practice

• **College Counselors:** Advisors, EOP, instructors, Student Resource Centers, administrators

• **Clinical Mental Health Counselors:** community mental health, private practice, Deputy Director of Clinical Services

• **Gerontological Counselors:** Non-profits, community mental health

• **Marriage Family Therapists:** Private practice, non profit mental health, student mental health

• **School counselors:** School counselors and administrators in districts around the bay area
ONLINE APPLICATION

- Personal Information
- Academic History
- Supporting Information
- Program Materials – Resume, Statement of Purpose, Unofficial Transcript, GRE Unofficial Score, Volunteer Verification
Complete Admission Package

- Division of Graduate Studies Application (Cal State Apply)
- Resume
- Unofficial Transcripts (with degree listed)
- Personal Statement
- Verification of volunteer experience
- Letters of recommendation (type in names and their email addresses)
- GRE Scores
- In-person interview (if required by program)
Deadline: Jan 15, 2020 for Fall 2020 Admit (no spring admits)

- Letters of recommendation – system emails your recommenders. System notifies you when your recommender submits their letter.

- Processing Fee = $25.00. Checks or money orders payable to Department of Counseling. Nonrefundable.

- Online application becomes available on October 1, 2019.
Pre-Admission Writing Assessment

- GRE Written Analytical Section
- Used only after admission to determine whether to require you to take an additional graduate level writing course.
- A score below 4.0 means that you will be required to take the course, HSS 700 (Graduate Level Writing Course), after you are admitted into the program.
- HSS 700, Graduate Level Writing Course, is offered on a CR/NC basis.
Holistic Admission Criteria

- Previous Academic Success
  - Undergraduate GPA at least 3.0 (last 60 units)
- Other Educational Experiences
- Letters of Recommendation
- Counseling Related Work or Volunteer Experience
- Work Experience
- Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Related to Diversity
- Personal Essay

Global Rating of Application
Recommended Preparatory Courses*

- **Theories of personality** (At SF State, PSY 451): Prereq for COUN 700
- **Lifespan developmental psychology** (At SF State, PSY 431): Prereq for COUN 702
- **Abnormal psychology** (At SF State, PSY 452): Prereq for COUN 703
- **COUN 690 – Field of Counseling** (offered only at SF State through the Dept of Counseling).

*Recommended, no longer required prerequisites
Interviews

- Last Spring
  - School Counseling Program interviewed candidates
  - Interviews select the best fit from an already strong pool of applicants.

- Next year, interviews likely to be in March
  - CMHC and School Counseling Programs likely to interview
Courses:

60 units of coursework required
- Core classes
- Specialization and emphasis classes

Classes- 3 hour blocks (Monday – Thursday)
- 9am – 12noon; 1 – 4pm, 4 – 7pm; 7 – 10pm
- Some courses may be offered only day, some only night
- Almost all classes require in-person participation

Part-time or Full-time
- 50-75% complete courses in 2 years
- Max. 7 years to complete program
Internships

- Internship provides training at master’s level counseling skills; more than 200 approved sites
- 2 years of internship in specialization setting (in 2 different sites)
  - First year internship 12-16 hours/week
  - Second year internship 16-20 hours/week
- Internships generally weekday-daytime hours
- Supervised by professional counselor
- Pre-approved by department
Licensure

**LMFT**
- Specialization: MFT
- Total 3000 hours of supervised experience (some of which can be completed as part of masters program)
- Licensure exams (post degree and after required hours are completed)

**LPCC**
- Specialization or emphasis: CMHC
- Total 3000 hours of supervised experience after completing masters program
- Licensure exams (post degree and after required hours are completed)
Professional Training Program with Professionalism Expectations

- Attendance
- Collegial Student Behavior
- Maintain contact with advisor and instructors
- Look ahead to ensure reasonable load and balance of responsibilities
- Be prepared for class
- Final capstone project—Culminating Experience Project
NEED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT?

Our Website
https://counseling.sfsu.edu

Always check instructions on the online application packet for answers.

If the answer is not on the website, email questions to counsel@sfsu.edu