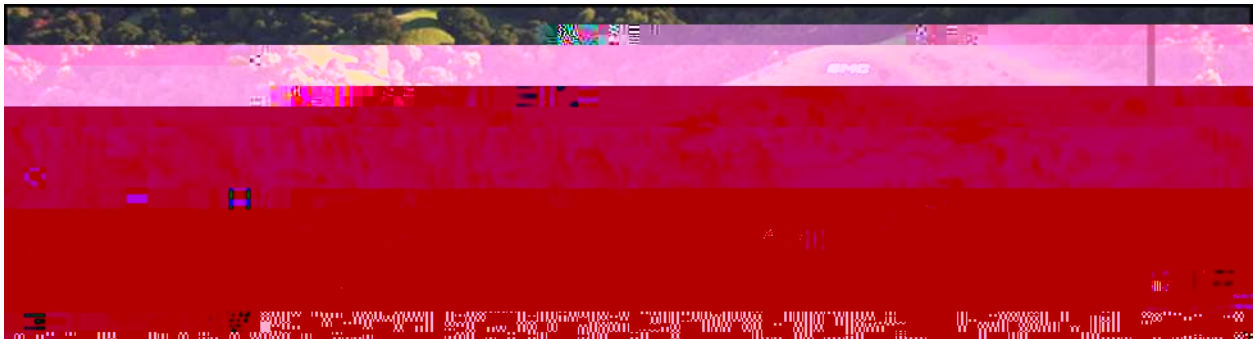




KALMANOVITZ SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT:
MISSION,
VISION,
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES,
AND CURRICULAR THEMES**



UPDATED AND REVISED NOVEMBER 2014

THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

The Counseling Department (CD) aims to prepare counselors to competently address the whole person, given the individual's socio-political and cultural context. Faculty members are committed to a holistic, multicultural approach to counseling, synthesizing physical, intellectual, psychological, emotional, interpersonal, socio-cultural, and spiritual processes and emphasizing the systemic interconnection among these dimensions of our lives. **Within this framework, the goal of counselor education matches that of counseling: the empowerment of the whole person, the family, the school, and, ultimately, the community. The faculty members prioritize the healthy personal and professional development of counselors-in-training, as well as their cultivation of self-awareness (particularly in regard to the therapeutic relationship and client-counselor differences), knowledge, demonstration of counseling skills, and ability to critically evaluate and integrate information relevant to this profession.** Students are provided with the theoretical and research-based knowledge, experiential practice, supervision, and personal attention needed to become competent counselors. Master of Arts degree students are required to complete practicum and field experience placements in diverse community, school, and/or college/university settings that are appropriate to students' career objectives and designed to make them more well-rounded counselors.

The Counseling Department specializations are designed for people who wish to work in schools, colleges, family service agencies, private practice, or a variety of other counseling settings. Candidates may choose a plan of study leading to a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in Counseling with a specialization in one of these programs:

Career Counseling
College Student Services
Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) & Professional Clinical Counseling (PCC)
(integrated emphasis)
School Counseling (SC)
School Psychology (SP)

We also offer post-master's degree Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential specializations:
PPS Credential in School Counseling (SC)
PPS Credential in School Psychology (SP)

With the permission of their advisor, students may complete more than one program by taking additional courses and successfully completing all field placement requirements for the chosen programs.

COUN Mission Statement

The mission of the Counseling Department is to prepare counselors to be competent practitioners and agents for positive personal and social change through advocacy.

COUN Vision Statement

The Counseling Department provides a supportive learning environment that encourages students' personal wellness, cultural awareness, and professional development as counselors. As students seek to learn not only facts but also fundamental principles, they gain insight into their own life experiences and personalities. They embark upon a quest that touches the spirit as well

as the intellect, illuminates connectedness as much as individuality, and promotes wonder as much as it instills mastery.

The department enables the development of counselors who affirm and foster the essential goodness, dignity and freedom of all people. Becoming an effective helping professional requires more than learning theories, techniques, and research methods; ultimately, counselors integrate academic knowledge and clinical experience with their own quality of being. They become empathic listeners and potent allies, engage in self-awareness, and develop critical thinking skills that will make them effective advocates to address the needs of underprivileged populations as well as systemic discrimination. We ask students to be ready to grow, with the struggle and exhilaration that such growth implies. Cultivating self-awareness, self-inquiry, self-understanding, self-compassion, and cultural humility are essential traits of effective counselors. Students are strongly encouraged to do their own counseling as well their own inner work to examine who and what they are and believe, considering multiple dimensions, from self-constructs and world views to cultural/ethnic, sexual/gender, spiritual/religious, and other identities, beliefs, values, and biases.

The department's faculty members are also engaged in their own personal and professional development, thereby modeling as well as teaching the attitudes and behaviors that they value. Students can expect faculty and staff to care about them, treat them with respect, and attempt to accommodate individual needs. In the heritage of Saint Mary's College and the Lasallian tradition, students and faculty are expected to be as committed to a high standard of professional ethics and proactive social responsibility as they are to academic excellence. To this end, the Counseling Department offers a synthesis of foundational information in counseling theory, values, history, and research, as well as competency-based counseling skills, within a holistic, humanistic, multicultural, and systemic framework.

Student Learning Outcomes for the MA in Counseling

1. **Theories:** Students begin to demonstrate knowledge of and skills in applying a wide range of developmental and counseling theories relevant to counseling in general and specific to their specialization(s), and are aware of the limitations of these theories when working with diverse or multicultural populations.
2. **Counseling Skills:** Students will articulate the core conditions of a high quality therapeutic relationship and conceptual framework of the Human Resource Development (HRD) Model, and demonstrate the full range of counseling skills of the HRD Model.
3. **Personal Growth and Wellness:** Students will identify goals and steps, and implement action plans that promote their personal growth and w2(1)f the 72.0T~~B~~()02 024 653.62 TmcL2diverse or

