MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING

The Master of Arts in Counseling degree offers two tracks of study, Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Marriage-Couples and Family Counseling. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling track is a CACREP-accredited program. Students select the Clinical Mental Health Counseling track if they want to complete coursework needed in the State of Texas to apply for licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). The counseling faculty are in the process of applying for CACREP-accreditation for the Marriage-Couples and Family track. Students select the Marriage-Couples and Family Counseling track if they want to complete the Marriage and Family Therapist license academic coursework requirement for the state of Texas.

Licensed Professional Counselor

Students completing the Clinical Mental Health degree will have the academic requirements and practical skills needed to apply for a temporary license as a Professional Counselor in the state of Texas. Students may choose electives that provide them with more specific training about working with special populations (i.e. play therapy, couples and family). Typically, students graduating from the Clinical Mental Health Counseling track secure employment in service agencies, mental health centers, the prison system, community college counseling centers, treatment centers, etc. Once fully licensed, the graduates of this program may also work in private practice.

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Students selecting the Marriage Couples and Family Counseling track will be prepared for employment in settings that focus on family systems. Once graduated, student may pursue the Marriage and Family Therapy license with the state of Texas and work in private practice, agencies serving families, home based family therapy programs and other employment opportunities servicing couples and families. Students in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling track wanting to specialize in marriage and family counseling may take electives in this area.

Both degree tracks, Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Marriage Couples and Family Counseling are sixty semester credit hours for completion. A comprehensive examination is required for graduation and is taken when enrolled in Supervised Practicum (COUN 6376). Students must be enrolled in the university when taking the comprehensive examination and when applying for graduation.

Applicants seeking admission to the Master of Arts in Counseling must submit the following directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions:

1. Graduate Application (http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply-texas.html)
2. Application fee (http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-studies/application-fee.html)
3. Official transcript from the baccalaureate degree granting institution
4. Official GRE scores with writing section or MAT scores (no older than five years)
5. Three Reference Forms:
   a. one from a current employer/supervisor
   b. one from a former professor, certified school counselor or licensed counselor, marriage and family therapist, MSW, or psychologist
   c. one from someone other than a family member
6. Essay
7. Face-to-Face interview

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<td>COUN 5011</td>
<td>Counseling Profession &amp; Ethics</td>
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<td>Theories Of Counseling</td>
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<td>COUN 5379</td>
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<td>COUN 5397</td>
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<td>COUN 6332</td>
<td>Theories Of Marr &amp; Fam Therapy</td>
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<td>COUN 6363</td>
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<td>COUN 6364</td>
<td>Counseling For Addictions</td>
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### Master of Arts in Counseling - Marriage-Couples and Family Counseling Track

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**Total Hours**: 60

^ COUN 6386 is taken twice for a minimum of six semester credit hours.

### Restricted Electives

Select four of the following: 12

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<td>COUN 6331</td>
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**Total Hours**: 63-69

^ COUN 6386 is taken twice for a minimum of six hours.

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2 Master of Arts in Counseling

COUN 6376 | Supervised Prac In Counseling | 3
COUN 6386 | Internship (First Semester) ^ | 3
COUN 6386 | Internship (Second consecutive semester) ^ | 3

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Total Hours: 63-69

^ COUN 6386 is taken twice for a minimum of six semester credit hours.