



COLLEGE OF
PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Department of Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Program

Annual Report for CACREP Accredited Programs
Program Assessment and Evaluations

2019-2020

The Masters of Science degree in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling (CLRC) prepares candidates to provide rehabilitation services aimed at helping individuals with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential. This program empowers individuals to make informed choices, to help individuals achieve positive mental health, and to maximize opportunities for economic independence.

The program includes an intensive internship experience that provides students with opportunities to interact with a variety of clients in extended counseling relationships and situations under close supervision.

The CLRC program at Mercer University is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) under the 2009 standards.

Enrollment

The demographic data for students enrolled in the CLRC program during 2019-2020 is provided below:

Race/Ethnicity	Females	Males	Total
Asian	1	0	1
Black or African American	13	3	16
Hispanic/Latino	1	0	1
Two or more races	1	0	1
Unknown	2	0	2
White	15	5	20
Total	33	8	41

Age	Female	Male	Total
< 25	4	0	4
25-29	8	3	11
30-34	9	3	12
35-39	2	1	3
40-44	3	0	3
45-49	3	0	3
50 and Over	4	1	5
Total	33	8	41

Acceptance Rates

For the calendar year of 2019-2020, the CLRC program admitted 43% of the students who applied.

Semester	Inquiries	APPLY	ADMIT	ENROLL
Fall 2019	19	13	7	7
Spring 2020	13	8	4	3
Summer 2020	11	9	2	1

Retention and Graduation

From Summer 2019 through Spring 2020, the Mercer University CLRC program graduated ten (10) students, with a four-year completion rate of 67%.

**A program's completion rate is defined as the percentage of admitted students who graduate from the program within the expected time period. The majority of our students take classes on a part-time basis. The completion rate reflects the percentage of students entering in 2015-16 that graduated within four years.*

National Tests and Exit Exams

The National Counselor Exam (NCE) serves as the licensing exam for the State of Georgia. CLRC students maintained an overall pass rating of 100% (n = 6) during 2019-2020 with an average NCE score above the national mean.

Mercer National Counselor Examination (NCE) (Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling program)				
Year	N tested	MU pass rate	Mercer Mean	National Mean
Fall 2019	1	100%	112.16	108.43
Spring 2020	TBD			

In addition, CLRC students are eligible to take the exam to become a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC). CLRC students maintained an overall pass rate of ___% (n= __) during the 2019-2020 academic year. (To be released from CRCC in October)

CLRC students must take and successfully pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) to matriculate through the program.

Mercer Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) Pass Rates				
2019-2020				
(All programs – CMH, SCH, and REHB)				
Year	N testing	MU pass rate	Mercer Mean	National Mean
Fall 2019	36	83.33%	86.94	81.38
Spring 2020	55	85%*	88.15	83.87

*A departmental passing score for Spring 2020 was suspended midsemester due to the lack open testing sites and testing capacity for the CPCE. The pass rate includes the scores of the students who were notified of the suspension of the required passing score, and yet still took the exam. It is hypothesized that final MU pass rate is deflated due to this event.

Employment Data

Recent graduates were invited to complete a survey at the end of Spring 2020. Of the 10 CLRC graduates, 80% indicated that they are currently being employed at least part-time in a counseling related position or continuing their education. Two others are currently interviewing.

Site Supervisor Program Evaluation

In the Spring of 2020, a survey was sent to site supervisors who are currently supervising Counseling students in their Practicum or Internship courses. Twenty-three site supervisors responded to the survey, one of which was a CLRC supervisor. Results indicate that students are, on average, performing “very good” on the different areas.

Quality of the education and training provided by Mercer University Counselor Education Programs

Site Supervisor Program Evaluation

In the Spring of 2020, a survey was sent to site supervisors who are currently supervising counseling students in their Practicum or Internship courses. Twenty-five site supervisors responded to the survey, of which seven were CLRC supervisors. Results indicate that students are performing on average, “Very Good” to “Excellent.”

	N	MEAN	STD. DEV
Based on your experiences with Mercer University Counseling Students, please rate the Mercer University Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program on the			

following: (1-Poor, 2-Fair, 3-Good, 4-Very Good, 5-Excellent):			
Ability to prepare students in counseling theory	24	4.25	0.77
Ability to prepare students in interpersonal skills and openness to feedback	25	4.52	0.57
Ability to prepare students in knowledge of counseling skills and techniques	25	4.32	0.73
Ability to prepare students in cultural competence	25	4.24	0.82
Ability to prepare students in ethical decision-making skills in ethical issues	25	4.36	0.74
Ability to prepare students in research analysis skills	25	4.72	1.08
Ability to prepare students to work with special populations (i.e. LGBT clients, individuals with disabilities)	25	4.20	0.80
Ability to prepare students in dealing with substance use	25	4.32	1.01
Ability to prepare students in professional dispositions	24	4.13	0.88

Other information on the survey indicated a willingness to attend a program sponsored CE workshop for site supervisors, particularly if the training were offered online.

Student and Graduate Program Evaluation

In the Spring of 2020, a request for a program/curricular evaluation was sent to students and recent graduates of all counseling programs. In total, 14 individuals from the CLRC program responded to the evaluation. The individuals were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with the following:

	Mean	N
Choice of Elective Topics	4.13	14
Current Course Offerings	4.22	14

Time of Day of Practicum/Internship Courses	4.00	14
Orientation to Program	4.33	14
Advisement	4.22	14
Online Course Offerings	4.00	14
Orientation to Practicum/Internship	3.60	14
Degree of Difficulty of the Coursework	4.11	14
Training in Counseling Ethics	4.44	14
Training in Counseling Theories	4.78	14
Training in Counseling Skills	4.75	14
Class Sizes	4.00	14
Preparedness for Working with Clients	3.78	14
Support by Faculty during COVID-19	4.44	14
Selection of Format of Classes (face-to-face, online, hybrid)	4.11	14
Quality of Online Components in Courses	4.00	14

Overall, students seem to be “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the CLRC program. It seems that the areas of orientation to practicum/internship and preparedness for working with clients produced the lowest scores. Qualitative feedback indicates that students felt their advisor was approachable and overall, the faculty was responsive and knowledgeable. Other feedback indicates that students desire more sections of courses to be offered in a format that allows for more online engagement to create flexibility with scheduling. All faculty in the college underwent

additional training in best practice in online learning and new ways utilize livestreaming technology to ensure accessibility for students.

Assessment of Student Learning and Performance

The counseling program faculty meet monthly to discuss the disposition of students in the program. All students are discussed on a regular basis but in addition, students who are identified as “students of concern” are discussed in the monthly faculty meetings with movement towards a plan for remediation if needed. Additionally, students are evaluated by key performance indicators (KPI) throughout the program and dispositional issues are addressed as issues arise.

Furthermore, university supervisors are in contact with site supervisors throughout field experience to allow concerns to be addressed quickly. Students in their clinical experience, Practicum/Internship, also are evaluated by their site supervisors at the end of each semester to evaluate proficiency and growth over the experience.

Program Modifications

No significant program modifications were made during the 2019-2020 academic year.