Admission Requirements for Part-time MS in Counseling at CSUF Garden Grove Center

Applications are accepted August 1st to November 1st for the Spring 2016 term.

Preparation for the counseling profession is rigorous and multifaceted, requiring the student’s development in interpersonal, self-reflective, and academic realms. Admission is based upon indicators of the applicant’s potential for becoming an effective counseling practitioner. Admission is not based upon any single factor but on a composite assessment of all factors.

The following are required for consideration to the program:

- Bachelor’s Degree (or equivalent) from a regionally accredited institution
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 for the undergraduate degree
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 for four prerequisite courses (see details below) in behavioral science (or equivalents): counseling theory, research methods or statistics, abnormal psychology, and human development
- At least two of the four prerequisite courses must be completed at the time of entrance; any remaining prerequisite(s) must be completed during the first semester of enrollment
- Three letters of recommendation - these letters should address the author’s assessment of your suitability for pursuing graduate studies and entering the counseling profession. At least one letter must be academic (i.e., written by a professor or an instructor). The Department understands that for some applicants, contacting former instructors is not feasible; in these situations, professional references, written by supervisors or managers who are familiar with your work, are also appropriate
- An interview with Department faculty
- The GRE is not required
- A detailed personal statement (approximately 3,000 words) should inform the faculty about the applicant’s educational background, personal biography and its relevance to your goal of becoming a counselor, strengths and weaknesses, understanding of the counseling profession, motivation and suitability for entering it, long-term professional goals

Prerequisites

Prerequisites may be taken at California State University Fullerton, or at any accredited graduate, undergraduate or community/junior college. Several different course titles may meet the content areas we require. In some cases, a combination of several courses may be deemed equivalent to a single prerequisite course. It is the student’s responsibility to provide relevant information (e.g. syllabi, course descriptions, and assignments) when requested.

1. Counseling Theory/Psychology of Personality/History of Psychology. **COUNS 380; PSYC 331, 431 or 408;** or equivalent
2. Research Methods or Statistics **CAS 301; HUSR 315; PSYC 201 or 202; SOCI 302 or 303;** or equivalent
3. Abnormal Psychology or Psychopathology **PSYC 341; SOCI 466;** or equivalent
4. Human Development or Developmental Psychology **CAS 312, 315 or CAS 325A and 325B; PSYC 361;** or equivalent