

Our Program

WCSU offers a Master of Science degree in Counselor Education. We are a 60-credit, part-time evening program designed to be completed in three years. We offer concentrations in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) and School Counseling (SC). Both concentrations are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

What makes WCSU unique is that our classes are primarily online and synchronous. We do have an on-campus requirement of three Saturdays per semester for clinical skills labs. Classes start at 4:30 pm or later. This allows our students to work during the day. Students normally take 2 courses per semester, including summers. The program starts in May and students progress through the program in a cohort.

Our Faculty

All core faculty hold doctoral degrees and are actively involved in the profession. Part-time faculty who teach courses hold master's or doctoral degrees and assist WCSU students in developing experiential perspectives with regard to the role of professional counselors.

For more information, see our website:



Core Faculty

Lorrie-Anne Monte, Ph.D.
Counselor Education Program
Coordinator
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Jessica Gutheil, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
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Assistant Professor
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Admissions

You are welcome to apply to the program by the January 10th deadline for the May cohort. Further details are available on the WCSU Counselor Education program webpage, <https://www.wcsu.edu/educational-psychology/counselor-education/>

Office of Graduate Studies
181 White Street, Danbury, CT 06810
203-837-8243
graduateadmissions@wcsu.edu
www.wcsu.edu/graduate/



Master of Science in Counselor Education

Office of Graduate Studies

Our Mission

We are committed to standards of excellence in the counseling profession. The graduate program in counselor education acknowledges a commitment to the students who will pursue professional preparation as school and clinical mental health counselors and to the larger public served by these graduates. We believe in and respect the inherent worth and dignity of each person. Our preparation program incorporates the need to develop throughout the lifespan a greater sense of self-realization with a commitment to serve a diverse society. We are committed to the service of others for the prevention and remediation of life's problems. We seek to meet the larger goals of Western Connecticut State University, which serves as an accessible, responsive, and creative intellectual resource for the people and the institutions of Connecticut. We strive to meet the needs of a diversified student body through instruction, scholarship, and service.



School Counseling Overview

The School Counseling option requires 60-credits and meets CACREP accreditation standards. The program is specifically designed to prepare students to work as school counselors in a K-12 setting. In addition to the core CACREP areas, candidates will gain in-depth training on the role and function of the school counselor within the CT Comprehensive K-12 School Counseling Framework and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model. Upon completion of the program, candidates will have met the educational requirements for the Connecticut Initial Educator's Certification: School Counselor (068) endorsement. Students from New York are eligible to apply for certification in Connecticut. New York State has additional fieldwork requirements and testing, but accepts the 60-credit M.S. degree towards certification through the New York State Department of Education.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Overview

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling option requires 60 credits and meets CACREP accreditation standards. Students who complete the degree will have met the educational requirements for certification through the National Board for Certified Counselors. The program is specifically designed to prepare students to work as counselors in clinical mental health settings.

The WCSU Clinical Mental Health Counseling option meets the educational requirements for both the Connecticut Department of Public Health for licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPCA) and the New York State Office of the Professions for licensure as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Limited Permit. Students must complete 3,000 work hours with supervision after graduation and pass an examination to obtain full licensure. Our graduate students typically come from communities in both Connecticut and New York.

