

## FACULTY

### Chairperson and Graduate Program Coordinator:

To be determined

**Professors:** Victoria Bacon, Maxine Rawlins

**Associate Professors:** Louise Graham, Michael Cocet,  
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**Location:** Kelly Gymnasium, Room 104

**Web site:** [www.bridgew.edu/counselingprograms](http://www.bridgew.edu/counselingprograms)

## DEGREE PROGRAMS

- MEd in Counseling  
Concentrations: Mental Health Counseling, Mental Health Counseling—Dual License, School Counseling (PreK-8, 5-12), Student Affairs Counseling

## CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMS (CAGS)

- Mental Health Counseling
- School Counseling

## POSTMASTER'S LICENSURE PROGRAM

- School Counseling (PreK-8, 5-12)

### Mission Statement

The Bridgewater State College graduate Department of Counselor Education prepares professional counselors to provide counseling, consultation and preventive services to individuals, families, groups and communities in mental health, student affairs and PreK-12 educational settings. The faculty embrace a professional identity as counselors and facilitate the development of this professional identity in students by stressing wellness, lifespan development, professional ethics, multicultural competencies and prevention. The counseling faculty are diverse with regard to background, experience and counseling orientation, and prepare counselors to help clients effectively respond to developmental, educational, career, mental health and other lifespan challenges. As professional counselors, students in the Department of Counselor Education are educated to think critically, communicate effectively and responsibly utilize innovative strategies to enhance the practice of counseling in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The faculty facilitate the ability of students to translate theoretical and philosophical principles into practical application to promote wellness throughout the lifespan. Students graduate prepared to pursue licensure in their respective area of counseling.

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

### COUNSELING PROGRAM OPTIONS

#### Master of Education in Counseling Program Options

Mental Health Counseling - 60 credits

Mental Health Counseling: Dual License - 63 credits

School Counseling - 51 credits

Student Affairs Counseling - 54 credits

#### Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Counseling Program Options

Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Mental Health Counseling - 30 credits (minimum)

Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in School Counseling - 30 credits

### General Admission Criteria for the Counselor Education Programs

The counselor education faculty seek to admit students who will become highly effective professional counselors. As such, the faculty look at each student's application as a whole and do not exclude students based on any one criterion. Students must submit a complete application by **Oct. 1** for spring semester admission and **Feb. 1** for summer/fall semester admission. In addition to the admission standards set by the college, there are general admission criteria for counseling that are based on state and national standards outlined below. Specific program admission requirements are identified under individual program options on the following pages.

- Each applicant is reviewed by counselor education faculty who serve on the Counseling Programs Committee.
- Each applicant must demonstrate success in forming effective interpersonal relationships in individual and small group contexts.
- Each applicant must demonstrate aptitude for graduate-level study.
- Each applicant must provide career goals and objectives and their relevance to their chosen program.
- Each applicant must demonstrate openness to self-examination and personal and professional self-development.

Students are conditionally admitted to one counseling program. All students must successfully complete the three core requirements (CNGC 528, CNGC 529, CNGC 500) to be considered as a master's candidate. Degree-seeking students who desire to change programs must file a formal petition with the Counseling Programs Committee and meet all admission requirements of the desired program. A student whose petition is approved must adhere to the specific program requirements in place at the time of approval.

The counselor education faculty actively seek to recruit applicants with diverse backgrounds.

## Counseling Program Planning

All accepted students must attend an orientation for new students and meet with their faculty adviser upon acceptance.

Prospective candidates who have not been formally accepted into the program are urged to confine their selection of courses to the three core courses (CNGC 528, CNGC 529, CNGC 500).

The Department of Counselor Education takes very seriously its responsibility and commitment to train professional and ethical counselors and to “protect the public good.” Faculty are committed to supporting student success, and providing remedial interventions, when needed. However, the department also recognizes that there will be a small number of students for whom it becomes clear that transitioning out of the program is necessary. The department has written a Learning Contract that reflects ACA ethical standards, college guidelines, department expectations and requirements, as well as the procedures that will be followed in response to academic, personal and /or professional student-related concerns that may arise. During the new student orientation experience, the department’s Learning Contract will be reviewed and discussed with all students; students will sign and receive a hard copy of the contract. Students must sign and receive a copy of the Learning Contract to continue to take courses as degree-seeking students. The contract will also be posted on each of the department’s program-specific Blackboard virtual sites. A signed copy will be put in each student’s file at the School of Graduate Studies.

## Grade Requirement

Students must receive a grade of “B-” or higher in each graduate course or fieldwork experience; students who receive a grade lower than a “B-” must repeat the course. In addition, students who receive a grade of “F” in any course will be dismissed from the program. Lastly, students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or they will be placed on academic probation as outlined in the graduate student handbook.

## Fieldwork Experiences

Field experiences (e.g., practicum or internship) are required of all matriculated students. Depending on the counseling program, students complete between 700 and 1000 hours of supervised fieldwork experience. Each student, in conjunction with an academic adviser, selects an appropriate site and is supervised by an on-site professional while meeting with a Bridgewater State College faculty member for a fieldwork seminar. Most important, students must submit a fieldwork application to the fieldwork director to participate in any fieldwork experience. Fieldwork applications must be completed by **April 1** for the fall and summer semesters and by **Nov. 1** for the spring semester.

## Culminating Experience

As part of the graduation requirement in the department, students are expected to complete a culminating experience which is overseen by members of the Department of Counselor Education faculty. The culminating experience focuses on students’ ability to integrate counseling and development theory into direct practice. Through the culminating experience, students will demonstrate the counseling competencies that align with

current CACREP standards (Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs), as well as standards that align within respective programs of study. Students will have the choice of a master’s thesis, taking the CPCE Exam (Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination) or a professional portfolio. Students completing a master’s thesis must follow the guidelines established by the School of Graduate Studies. Students who are considering pursuing future doctoral studies are especially encouraged to select the master’s thesis option.

Students who do not successfully pass their culminating experience have one additional time to retake the exam or provide a revision of the portfolio or thesis project pending successful completion of a remediation plan with a faculty adviser.

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## SCHOOL COUNSELING (51 credit hours)

### Admission Requirements

- Dependent upon the candidate’s counseling experience noted on their application, CNGC 501 Orientation to Counseling may be required based on a review by the Counselor Education Admissions Committee and the Department of Counselor Education
- A 2.8 undergraduate GPA
- A composite score of 1000 on the quantitative and verbal parts of the GRE General Test
- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from a supervisor who has knowledge of the applicant’s aptitude for the counseling profession and counseling-related experience
- Successful experience in a counseling capacity specifically related to working with children in an educational setting
- A passing score on the Communication and Literacy portion of the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure® (MTEL)
- All applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- A completed application, including a 500-word personal statement that presents a synthesized, integrated and self-reflective description of the applicant’s career goals as they relate to school counseling

### School Counselor Licensure

Course requirements leading to initial licensure by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as a school counselor at the pre-kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade level (PreK-8) or the 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade level (5-12) are outlined below. Licensure by the college will result in interstate reciprocity with signatory states as specified under the Interstate Certification Compact. To discuss the various licensure program options, please consult with your adviser.

### School Counseling Program

#### Initial Licensure (PreK-8) (51 Credit Hours)

Requirements should be taken in the following sequence.

## General Counseling Core Courses Credits

*CNGC 528 Counseling and Development.....	3
*CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling .....	3
*CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation .....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction ...	3
CNGC 520 Group Experience (graded on a (P)Pass/(N)No Pass basis).....	0
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3

## School Counseling Courses

CNSC 516 Foundations in School Counseling .....	3
CNSC 515 Ethical and Legal Issues for the School Counselor.....	3
CNSC 523 The School Counselor: Psychological Development and Clinical Issues .....	3
CNSC 524 Applied School Counseling.....	3
CNSC 526 Consultation and Collaboration for School Counselors.....	3

## School Counseling Fieldwork

CNSC 570 Advanced Applied Counseling – School Counselor: (PreK-8) (150 hours).....	3
CNSC 571 Practicum: School Counselor (PreK-8) (600 hours)** .....	12
Six credits in electives at the 500 level or above .....	6

## Culminating Experience

\* To be taken within the first 15 credits

\*\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students will need to complete 600 hours of fieldwork in a minimum of two semesters and a maximum of four semesters. Students may work 10-30 hours per 15 week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester. For example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience.

Students should consult with their academic adviser when choosing an appropriate elective.

Total minimum credits: 51

## School Counseling Program Initial Licensure (5-12) (51 credit hours)

Requirements should be taken in the following sequence.

## General Counseling Core Courses Credits

*CNGC 528 Counseling and Development.....	3
*CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling .....	3
*CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation .....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction ...	3
CNGC 520 Group Experience (graded on a (P)Pass/(N)No Pass basis).....	0
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3

## School Counseling Core Courses

CNSC 516 Foundations in School Counseling .....	3
CNSC 515 Ethical and Legal Issues for the School Counselor.....	3
CNSC 523 The School Counselor: Psychological Development and Clinical Issues .....	3

CNSC 524 Applied School Counseling.....	3
CNSC 526 Consultation and Collaboration for School Counselors.....	3

## School Counseling Fieldwork

CNSC 580 Advanced Applied Counseling – School Counselor: (5-12) (150 hours) .....	3
CNSC 581 Practicum: School Counselor (5-12) (600 hours)** .....	12
Six credits in electives at the 500 level or above .....	6

## Culminating Experience

\* To be taken within the first 15 credits

\*\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students would need to complete 600 hours of fieldwork in a minimum of two semesters and a maximum of four semesters. Students may work 10-30 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester. For example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience.

Students should consult with their academic adviser when choosing an appropriate elective.

Total minimum credits: 51

## MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING (60 credit hours)

### Admission Requirements

- Dependent upon the candidate's counseling experience noted on their application, CNGC 501 Orientation to Counseling may be required based on a review by the Counselor Education Admissions Committee and the Department of Counselor Education
- A minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.8
- Composite score of 1000 on the quantitative and verbal parts of the GRE General Test
- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from a supervisor who has knowledge of the candidate's aptitude for the counseling profession and counseling related experience
- Applicants must have successful volunteer or paid experience in a counseling capacity specifically related to mental health counseling
- All applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- A completed application, including a 500-word personal statement that presents a synthesized, integrated and self-reflective description of the applicant's career goals as they relate to mental health counseling
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work

This 60-credit program is for those seeking licensure as a mental health counselor in Massachusetts by the Board of Registration. Program requirements have been designed to meet current state licensing requirements (CMR 262).

## MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM

(60 credit hours) Credits

*CNGC 528 Counseling and Development .....	3
*CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling .....	3
*CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation .....	3
CNMH 534 The Professional Counselor: Standards, Ethics and Legal Issues .....	3
CNGC 535 Applied Counseling: Adolescent-Adult .....	3
CNGC 536 Applied Counseling: Pre-Adolescent .....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction ...	3
CNMH 568 Psychopathology.....	3
CNGC 532 Psychological Assessment.....	3
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling .....	3
CNMH 564 Theories of Psychological Development .....	3
CNGC 520 Group Experience (graded on a (P) Pass/(N) No Pass basis).....	0
CNMH 570 Advanced Applied Counseling: Mental Health Counselor (150 hours).....	3
CNMH 571 Practicum: Mental Health Counselor (Total of 900 hours)** .....	18
Six credits of electives at the 500 level or above.....	6

### Culminating Experience

\* To be taken within first 15 credits

\*\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students seeking licensure as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) must complete a minimum of 900 hours of fieldwork at a mental health site. Students may work 10-40 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester. For example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits; 40 hours per week/600 total hours = 12 credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience and must attend a minimum of three seminars over their 900 total hours/18 credits fieldwork experience.

Total minimum credits: 60

## MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING – DUAL LICENSE (63 credit hours)

### Admission Requirements

- Dependent upon the candidate's counseling experience noted on their application, CNGC 501 Orientation to Counseling may be required based on a review by the Counselor Education Admissions Committee and the Department of Counselor Education
- A 2.8 undergraduate GPA
- A composite score of 1000 on the quantitative and verbal parts of the GRE General Test

- A passing score on the communication and literacy portion of the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure® (MTEL)
- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from a supervisor who has knowledge of the candidate's aptitude for the counseling profession and counseling-related experience
- Applicants must have successful volunteer or paid experience in a counseling capacity specifically related to mental health counseling
- All applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- A completed application, including a 500-word personal statement that presents a synthesized, integrated, and self-reflective description of the applicant's career goals as they relate to mental health counseling

This 63-credit program is for those seeking dual licensure as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) in the state of Massachusetts by the Board of Registration and a School Social Worker/School Adjustment Counselor License with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Program requirements have been designed to meet current state licensing requirements (CMR 262) and initial licensure by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as a school adjustment counselor.

## Mental Health Counseling – Dual License Counseling Program (63 credit hours) Credits

*CNGC 528 Counseling and Development.....	3
*CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling .....	3
*CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation .....	3
CNMH 534 The Professional Counselor: Standards, Ethics and Legal Issues .....	3
CNGC 535 Applied Counseling: Adolescent-Adult .....	3
CNGC 536 Applied Counseling: Pre-Adolescent .....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction ...	3
CNMH 568 Psychopathology.....	3
CNGC 563 Psychopharmacology for Nonmedical Professionals.....	3
CNGC 520 Group Experience (graded on a (P) Pass/(N) No Pass basis).....	0
CNGC 532 Psychological Assessment.....	3
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3
CNMH 564 Theories of Psychological Development .....	3
CNGC 582 Principles and Methods of Community Counseling and Consultation.....	3
CNMH 580 Advanced Applied Counseling: Mental Health Counselor – Dual License (150 hours).....	3
CNMH 571 Internship: Mental Health Counselor (Total of 450 hours)** .....	9
CNMH 582 Internship: Mental Health Counselor - Dual License (Total of 450 hours)** .....	9
Three credits of elective at the 500 level or above.....	3

### Culminating Experience

\*To be taken within the first 15 credits

\*\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students pursuing an LMHC and a license as a School Social Worker/School Adjustment Counselor must

complete a minimum of 450 hours of fieldwork at a mental health site and 450 hours at a school-based mental health site. Students may work 10-40 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester: 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits; 40 hours per week/600 total hours = 12 credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience and must attend a minimum of three total seminars.

Total minimum credits: 63

## STUDENT AFFAIRS COUNSELING

(54 credit hours)

### Admission Requirements

- Dependent upon the candidate's counseling experience noted on their application, CNGC 501 Orientation to Counseling may be required based on a review by the Counselor Education Admissions Committee and the Department of Counselor Education
- A minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.8
- Composite score of 1000 on the quantitative and verbal parts of the GRE General Test
- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from a supervisor who has knowledge of the applicant's aptitude for the higher education/student affairs profession and related experience
- Successful experience in a counseling capacity or related experience in student affairs
- All applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- Completed application, including a 500-word personal statement that presents a synthesized, integrated and self-reflective description of the applicant's career goals as they relate to student affairs counseling
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work

This 54-credit program is designed for those students interested in careers in student affairs settings.

### Student Affairs Counseling Program

(54 credit hours)

Credits

Requirements should be taken in the following sequence.

*CNGC 528 Counseling and Development.....	3
*CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling .....	3
*CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation .....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction ...	3
CNGC 520 Group Experience (graded on a (P) Pass/(N) No Pass basis).....	0
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3
CNSA 551 Student Development Theory in Higher Education....	3
CNSA 523 Foundations in Higher Education Counseling for Student Affairs Practice .....	3

CNSA 520 Ethical, Legal and Professional Issues in Student Affairs.....	3
CNSA 525 Student Affairs Administration .....	3
CNSA 530 Applied Counseling for Student Affairs Professionals .....	3
CNSA 560 Special Topics in Student Affairs (1-3 credits) or any counseling elective.....	3
CNSA 570 Advanced Applied Counseling: Student Affairs Counseling (150 hours; 3 credits).....	3
CNSA 571 Internship: Student Affairs Counselor (Total of 600 hours)** .....	12
Six elective credits at the 500 level or above .....	6

### Culminating Experience

\*To be taken within first 15 credits

\*\*Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students must complete a minimum of 600 fieldwork hours at a site approved by the Counseling Programs Committee. An internship includes from 150-600 clock hours with a total of 600 hours at the site. Students may work 10-40 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester. For example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours nine credits; 40 hours per week/600 total hours = 12 credits.

Students should consult with their academic advisers when choosing an appropriate elective.

Students in the student affairs counseling program will not be eligible for licensure.

Total minimum credits: 54

## POSTMASTER'S LICENSURE IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

The Postmaster's Licensure program is designed for individuals who seek initial licensure as a school counselor, and who possess an applied master's degree in counseling or a related field (e.g., social work, clinical psychology), which has included a formal, supervised internship experience. Each student plans their program of study with a faculty adviser in accordance with the current BSC requirements for licensure as a school counselor, which are aligned with licensure requirements established by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program will complement previous master's level course work, and will include all appropriate field experiences and a capstone experience.

### Admission Requirements for Postmaster's Licensure in School Counseling

- An applied master's degree in counseling or related field (i.e. social work, clinical psychology) which includes a formal, supervised field experience
- A 3.25 cumulative GPA in the master's program

- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from a supervisor who has knowledge of the applicant's aptitude for the counseling profession
- Successful experience in a counseling capacity
- Applicants seeking licensure must complete at least 50 percent of the required school counseling course work at BSC as required by the School of Education and Allied Studies and School of Graduate Studies
- Final applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- A completed application, including a 500-word personal statement that presents a synthesized, integrated and self-reflective description of the applicant's career goals as they relate to school counseling
- A passing score on the Communication and Literacy portion of the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure® (MTEL)
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work

### Postmaster's Licensure in School Counseling (PreK-8) Program

Note:

- Students must complete CNSC 524 Applied School Counseling before entering the field experience (a minimum grade of "B" is required).
- Students must complete CNSC 615 Legal and Ethical Issues for the School Counselor, which can be taken concurrently with either the pre-practicum or practicum experience.
- Students must complete all required field experience requirements and may not waive the field experience requirement based on previous experience.

Requirements should be taken in the following sequence.

General Counseling Core Courses	Credits
CNGC 528 Counseling and Development.....	3
CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling.....	3
CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation.....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction...	3
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3

### School Counseling Core Courses

CNSC 516 Foundations of School Counseling.....	3
CNSC 515 Ethical and Legal Issues for the School Counselor.....	3
CNSC 523 The School Counselor: Psychological Development and Clinical Issues.....	3
CNSC 524 Applied School Counseling.....	3
CNSC 526 Consultation and Collaboration for School Counselors.....	3

### School Counseling Fieldwork

CNSC 570 Advanced Applied Counseling – School Counselor: (PreK-8) (150 hours).....	3
CNSC 571 Practicum: School Counselor (PreK-8) (600 hours)*.....	12
Six credits in electives at the 500 level or above.....	6

\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students need to complete 600 hours of field-

work in a minimum of two semesters and a maximum of four semesters. Students may work 10-30 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester. For example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience.

Total minimum credits: 51

### Postmaster's Licensure in School Counseling (5-12) Program

Requirements should be taken in the following sequence.

General Counseling: Core Courses	Credits
CNGC 528 Counseling and Development.....	3
CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling.....	3
CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation.....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction...	3
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3

### School Counseling: Core Courses

CNSC 516 Foundations of School Counseling.....	3
CNSC 515 Ethical and Legal Issues for the School Counselor.....	3
CNSC 523 The School Counselor: Psychological Development and Clinical Issues.....	3
CNSC 524 Applied School Counseling.....	3
CNSC 526 Consultation and Collaboration for School Counselors.....	3

### School Counseling Fieldwork

CNSC 580 Advanced Applied Counseling – School Counselor: (5-12) (150 hours).....	3
CNSC 581 Practicum: School Counselor (5-12) (600 hours)*.....	12

\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students would need to complete 600 hours of fieldwork in a minimum of two semesters and a maximum of four semesters. Students may work 10-30 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of fieldwork they will complete that semester. For example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience.

Total minimum credit hours: 45

## CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDY (CAGS) – MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING (30 credits)

The CAGS in Mental Health Counseling is designed for students who are practicing counselors and do not possess a 60-credit master's degree in counseling or related field and need a CAGS to apply for licensure in Massachusetts as a Mental Health Counselor (CMR 262).

## Admission Requirements

- A master’s degree in counseling, which included an applied counseling internship with clinical supervision
- A 3.25 cumulative GPA in the master’s program
- Three letters of recommendation at least one of which should be from a supervisor who has knowledge of the applicant’s counseling activities
- Successful experience in a counseling capacity demonstrated by at least one year of full-time employment as a counselor
- Final applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- A completed application including a 500-word personal statement that presents a synthesized, integrated and self-reflective description of the applicant’s career goals as they relate to mental health counseling
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work

Students accepted in the CAGS in Mental Health Counseling program will meet with a faculty adviser and design a program based on the current requirements for licensure in Massachusetts. The program will complement previous master’s level course work but must include an internship and a comprehensive examination. The program requires a minimum of 30 graduate credits.

## CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDY (CAGS) IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM (30 credits)

	Credits
*CNGC 528 Counseling and Development .....	3
*CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling .....	3
*CNGC 500 Research and Evaluation .....	3
CNMH 534 The Professional Counselor: Standards, Ethics and Legal Issues .....	3
CNGC 535 Applied Counseling: Adolescent-Adult .....	3
CNGC 536 Applied Counseling: Pre-Adolescent .....	3
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction .....	3
CNMH 568 Psychopathology.....	3
CNGC 532 Psychological Assessment.....	3
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling.....	3
CNMH 564 Theories of Psychological Development .....	3
CNMH 570 Advanced Applied Counseling: Mental Health Counselor (150 hours) .....	3
CNMH 671 CAGS Internship: Mental Health Counselor (600 hours)** .....	12
Elective: Three credits at the 500 level or above.....	3

## Culminating Experience

\*To be taken within first 15 credits

\*\* Students will meet with their adviser to plan their fieldwork experience. Students may work 10-30 hours per 15-week semester and will register for three credits for each 150 hours of field work they will complete that semester. For

example, 10 hours per week/150 total hours = three credits; 20 hours per week/300 total hours = six credits; 30 hours per week/450 total hours = nine credits. Students must attend a clinical seminar each semester they are involved in field experience and must attend a minimum of two total seminars.

Total minimum credits: 30

## CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDY (CAGS) – SCHOOL COUNSELING (30 credits)

The Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in School Counseling program is for licensed school counselors seeking to enhance their expertise through professional development.

### Admission Requirements

- A master’s degree in counseling
- An initial or professional license as a school counselor
- Three letters of recommendation at least one from a supervisor who has knowledge of the applicant’s professional experience as a school counselor
- All applicants will be required to interview with a faculty member
- A completed application, including a 500-word personal statement that explains how this CAGS program will contribute to the candidate’s professional development as a school counselor
- Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work

Note: Interested professionals must submit a completed counseling program application by **Oct. 1** for spring semester admission or **Feb 1** for summer/fall semester admission.

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education licensed educators, administrators and professional support personnel are required to renew their professional (formerly “standard”) stage licenses every five years. Individuals must engage in sustained professional development that strengthens their professional knowledge and skills as part of the recertification process. Licensed school counselors need between 120 and 150 professional development points (PDPs) to renew their primary licenses. Under the revised recertification regulations, one graduate credit is the equivalent of 22.5 PDPs.

## CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDY (CAGS) IN SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM (30 credits)

	Credits
CNSC 605 Orientation to Capstone Experience .....	1
CNGC 610 Counselor Supervision: Principles and Practice .....	3
CNSC 615 Legal and Ethical Issues for the School Counselor .....	3
CNGC 620 Multicultural Counseling II .....	3
CNGC 625 Enhancing Counseling and Prevention through Technology.....	3
CNGC 542 Group II: The Facilitation of Group Experience .....	3

CNGC 630 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology .....	3
CNSC 607 Capstone Experience .....	2
Counseling electives to equal nine credits.....	9
(Electives will be determined during the orientation course)	

## Electives

CNGC 529 Multicultural Counseling	
CNGC 536 Applied Counseling: Pre-Adolescent	
CNGC 538 Group I: Theory and Process of Group Interaction (satisfies prerequisite to CNGC 542 Group II: The Facilitation of the Group Experience)	
CNGC 539 Introduction to Career Counseling	
CNGC 544 Introduction to Reality Therapy	
CNGC 561 Grief Counseling	
CNGC 563 Psychopharmacology for Nonmedical Professionals	
CNGC 567 Marital and Family Therapy	
CNGC 582 Principles and Methods of Community Counseling and Consultation (satisfies prerequisite to CNGC 625 Enhancing Counseling and Prevention through Technology)	
CNGC 660 Special Topics in Counseling	
CNMH 564 Theories of Psychological Development	
CNSA 551 Student Development Theory in Higher Education	
CNSC 523 The School Counselor: Psychological Development and Clinical Issues	

Total minimum credits: 30