

Master of Divinity: Counselling Major

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The Master of Divinity in Counselling provides educational preparation for students interested in counselling in congregational settings or in the marketplace. A hallmark of the MDiv Counselling program is a dual focus on theological and psychological understanding of human personhood and the therapeutic process.

Applicants interested in becoming credentialed counsellors are advised to investigate the accreditation requirements in their area of professional interest (e.g. type of degree, accreditation required, clinical experience needed, registration with a particular professional association or college, etc.) before enrolling in the MDiv Counselling major. Public and private counselling agencies, as well as denominational pastoral counsellors and chaplains, often have credentialing standards that must be met.

The MDiv Counselling major has two tracks: the Clinical Track and the Pastoral Counselling Track. The tracks are designed to prepare students for differing ministry specializations. Students will need to choose their track upon enrolment. Students wishing to change their track designation should speak to the program coordinator.

Clinical Track

The Clinical Track is intended for those who are seeking to become credentialed in the Province of Ontario to offer psychotherapy in agencies (secular or Christian) or in private practice.

The program prepares graduates to practice psychotherapy with clients who are struggling with internal and interpersonal issues that require in-depth, longer-term therapy.

Tyndale Seminary's MDiv Counselling program provides educational preparation, but not certification, as a counsellor/therapist. Further clinical experience and supervision will be required post-graduation to obtain professional accreditation with a certifying body.

Students who plan to pursue registration with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO) or certification with the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) should consult with the faculty advisor early in their program regarding membership criteria.

Students in the clinical track are expected to engage in individual professional counselling for their own personal growth and development.

Ongoing registration in the clinical track is subject to successful annual review of the student's progress by the counselling faculty.

Master of Divinity: Counselling Major, Clinical Track					Courses
Biblical Studies					3
BIBL 0501	Biblical Interpretation				
OLDT 0511	Old Testament Theology and History				
NEWT 0522	New Testament Theology and History				
Theology and Christian History					3
THEO 0531	Systematic Theology				
THEO 0646	Theology of the Human Person				
HIST 0561	History of Christianity I	OR	HIST 0562	History of Christianity II*	
* HIST 0562 is recommended for students who are doing only one history course					
Ministry Formation					3
LEAD 0510	Leadership Development				
MISS 0782	Gospel, Church and Culture				
SPIR 0700	Spiritual Formation				
Core Elective					1
One of					
OLDT ____	Old Testament course				
NEWT ____	New Testament course				
THEO ____	Theology course				
HIST 0561	History of Christianity I	OR	HIST 0562	History of Christianity II	
Counselling: Clinical Track					13
COUN 0574	Foundational Perspectives of Christian Counselling				
COUN 0674	Personality Theories				
COUN 0677	Family Systems Theory				
COUN 0680	Research Methods in Counselling				
COUN 0601	Pre-Internship Counselling Skills Lab I				
COUN 0602	Pre-Internship Counselling Skills Lab II				
COUN 0772	Theories and Methods of Family Therapy I				
COUN 0774	Theories and Methods of Family Therapy II				
COUN 0671	Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Marriage and Family Therapy				
COUN 0679	Current Issues in Psychopathology				
COUN 0777	Gender and Socio-economic Perspectives in Marriage and Family Therapy				
COUN 0701	Counselling Major Internship				
COUN 0775	Professional Ethics				
Electives					4
Total Course Requirements					27

Pastoral Counselling Track

The Pastoral Counselling Track focuses on short-term pastoral counselling around issues such as family and life crisis and other difficult life circumstances and transitions. Deeper psychotherapy would not be part of this work. Students in this track will have the flexibility to select electives to prepare them for leadership in congregational care and counselling ministries or chaplaincy.

Master of Divinity: Counselling Major, Pastoral Counselling Track					Courses
Biblical Studies					4
BIBL 0501	Biblical Interpretation				
OLDT 0511	Old Testament Theology and History				
NEWT 0522	New Testament Theology and History				
OLDT ____	Old Testament course	OR	NEWT ____	New Testament course	
Theology and Christian History					4
HIST 0561	History of Christianity I				
HIST 0562	History of Christianity II				
THEO 0531	Systematic Theology				
THEO 0646	Theology of the Human Person				
Ministry Formation					4
INTD 0701	Internship				
LEAD 0510	Leadership Development				
MISS 0782	Gospel, Church and Culture				
SPIR 0700	Spiritual Formation				
Counselling: Pastoral Counselling Track					10
COUN 0574	Foundational Perspectives of Christian Counselling				
COUN 0674	Personality Theories				
COUN 0677	Family Systems Theory				
COUN 0683	Pastoral Care and Counselling				
COUN 0601	Pre-Internship Counselling Skills Lab I				
COUN 0602	Pre-Internship Counselling Skills Lab II				
COUN 0654	Lifespan Human Development				
COUN 0655	Grief, Death and Dying in the Family System				
COUN 0775	Professional Ethics	OR	THEO 0535	Christian Ethics in a Post-Christian World	
COUN ____	Counselling course				
Electives					5
Total Course Requirements					27

Notes:

1. All applications to the MDiv Counselling major (both new students and students transferring from another program) must be received by April 15 of each year.

Admission criteria includes relevant academic training, vocational goals that align with the program and any counselling-related experience. All applicants will be interviewed by the counselling faculty in April or May. Acceptance notifications will be released in June.

2. This program admits students in the fall semester only. Students who are accepted to the Seminary during other times in the year may take courses in Bible, History and Theology and those counselling courses that are unrestricted. Students who then wish to transfer into the Counselling Major must complete the change of program form and supplemental form in the Office of the Registrar before April 15, and must pass an interview in April or May.
3. A two-semester internship in a counselling setting (approximately 20 hours per week) is required of all students in the Clinical track in the third year of the program. Second-year students prepare for the internship by taking a counselling skills lab, three hours per week, in both semesters of the academic year.

Concentrations

Master of Arts (except Master of Arts Historical and Theological Studies), Master of Divinity, Master of Theological Studies and Graduate Diploma students may use their elective courses to complete a four-course concentration in a specific area of study. Only electives may be used for these four courses.

Concentrations

Counselling

Any four COUN courses in addition to specific core/major requirements
