

Master of Arts: Clinical Counselling Major

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The Master of Arts in Clinical Counselling provides educational preparation for students interested in clinical counselling in the marketplace. A hallmark of the MA Clinical 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 MA Clinical Counselling major. Public and private counselling agencies, as well as denominational pastoral counsellors and chaplains, often have credentialing standards that must be met.

This MA Clinical Counselling major is intended for those who have a completed relevant undergraduate degree in psychology and 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 University's MA Clinical 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 this major are expected to engage in individual professional counselling for their own personal growth and development.

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

MA Clinical Counselling Learning Outcomes:

1. Develop breadth of knowledge and critical understanding of the theological and psychological frameworks of human personhood as applied into the therapeutic process and context.
2. Acquire capacities for understanding and engaging the culture, social, and global context of God's mission in the world.
3. Experience personal and professional growth through a process of intellectual and spiritual formation.
4. Develop and hone skills for research to be applied.

Master of Arts: Clinical Counselling Major		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 (recommended)	
Ministry Formation		3
LEAD 0510	Leadership Development	
MISS 0782	Gospel, Church and Culture	
SPIR 0700	Spiritual Formation	
Clinical Counselling Focus Course		1
COUN 0793	Research Thesis in Counselling and Psychotherapy	
Clinical Counselling Major Courses		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

Notes:

1. All applications to the MA Clinical Counselling major (both new students and students transferring from another program) must be received by April 15 of each year. Admission criteria includes relevant pre-requisites, 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. A two-semester internship in a counselling setting (approximately 20 hours per week) is required of all students in the MA Clinical Counselling program 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.
3. To complete the program in three years requires nine courses per year.
4. Students are normally expected to complete the MA Clinical Counselling within a maximum of 10 years from beginning the program.