

Counseling and Student Personnel Services – Gwinnett Campus

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the differences between the 2 doctoral programs in counseling?

- The Doctoral Program in Counseling and Student Personnel Services offered on the Gwinnett campus is designed as a part-time program to prepare graduates to be counselor educators and to assume positions of leadership in P – 16 educational settings. The primary areas of specialization beyond the counseling core are school counseling and student affairs administration, with a strong emphasis on social justice. This program will eventually seek CACREP accreditation. The Gwinnett program is 4 years minimum but is part-time only. There is a Doctoral Program in Counseling and Student Personnel Services at the Athens campus that is primarily a full-time program and has a college student affairs administration emphasis. There is a Counseling Psychology program (APA accredited) on campus which trains psychologists. The counseling psychology program is full-time only and is 3 years in Athens and 1 year in an internship.

What is CACREP?

- The acronym stands for Council for Counseling and Related Educational Programs. CACREP is an independent agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. It is the leading accrediting organization for counseling. For more information on CACREP, visit the website at www.cacrep.org.

Can I get accepted into the program with 2 years of experience?

- The requirements state an expectation of 3 (three) years of experience and we expect to adhere to that.

If I have a Masters in Guidance and Counseling, how many more credits would I need for the doctoral program?

- Each student's work will be evaluated when they apply. This program is based on a cohort model and so students are expected to proceed through a prescribed sequence of courses together. There may be some circumstances where an applicant can waive a course and substitute another in its place; however, this program is a doctoral program and therefore some courses may not be eligible for transfer.

Will a master's degree in some other area, e.g. Social Work, be accepted?

- Students with degrees in other fields are eligible to apply; however, the previous graduate work must include at least 6 of the 8 CACREP master's core courses.

Can any of these courses be taken online?

- Several delivery models are planned for this program, including on-line options and intensive weekend sessions, in addition to face to face class meetings.

When will classes meet during the fall/spring?

- Typically the course schedule is 5:00-7:45 PM

Will assistantships be available?

- Because this program is a part time program, no assistantships will be available. For financial aid information contact the Financial Aid Office at www.uga.edu/osfa/.

Who are the program faculty? How will we get 'face time' with them?

- The faculty teaching in this program are also faculty in the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services in the College of Education at the UGA Athens campus. Tenure track, graduate faculty will chair dissertation committees. Time will be available at both the Gwinnett and Athens campuses for students to meet with their major professors and committee members.

What should I include in the personal statement?

- Why this program, specifically addressing issues related to the P-16 and social justice emphasis.
- Why doctoral study.
- Future plans and goals; what does the applicant expect on the other side of the doctorate.
- How does the applicant believe being a part-time doctoral student will work at this point in their lives.

General admissions FAQ's can be found at:
http://www.coe.uga.edu/chds/students/grad_faq.html