MA in Mental Health Counseling (MAMH) PLOs x Student Learning Outcomes in the 2009 Standards of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for a specialization in Clinical Mental Health Counseling[[1]](#footnote-1)

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| MAMH PLOs | Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student Learning Outcomes |
| 1. Demonstrates mastery of skills for individual and group settings at an accomplished level, including the ability to articulate the theoretical foundations upon which these models are built. | CMHC A.5 Understands a variety of models and theories related to clinical mental health counseling, including the methods, models, and principles of clinical supervision.CMHC A.6 Recognizes the potential for substance use disorders to mimic and coexist with a variety of medical and psychological disorders.CMHC A.9 Understand the impact of crisis, disasters, and other trauma-causing events on people.CMHC A.10 Understands the operation of an emergency management system within clinical mental health agencies in the community.CMHC C.1 Describes the principles of mental health, including prevention, intervention, consultation, education, and advocacy, as well as the operation of programs and networks that promote mental health in a multicultural society.CMHC C.2 Knows the etiology, the diagnostic process and nomenclature, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders.CMHC C.3 Knows the models, methods, and principles of program development and service delivery (e.g. support groups, peer facilitation training parent education, self-help).CMHC C.4 Knows the disease concept and etiology of addiction and co-occurring disorders.CMCH C.6 Understands the principles of crisis intervention for people during crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events.CMHC C.7 Knows the principles, models, and documentation formats of biopsychosocial case conceptualization and treatment planning.CMHC C.8 Recognizes the importance of family, social networks, and community systems in the treatment of mental and emotional disorders.CMHC D.1 Uses the principles and practices of diagnosis, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders to initiate, maintain, and terminate counseling.CMHC D.4 Applies effective strategies to promote client understanding of and access to a variety of community services.CMCH D.6 Demonstrates the ability to use procedures for accessing and managing suicide risk.CMCH D.8 Provides appropriate counseling strategies when working with clients with addiction and co-occurring disorders.CMCH E.3 Understands current literature that outlines theories, approaches, strategies, and techniques shown to be effective when working with specific populations of clients with mental and emotional disorders.CMCH F.1 Maintains information regarding community resources to make appropriate referrals.CMHC G.1 Knows the principles and models of assessment, case conceptualization, theories of human development, and concepts of normalcy and psychopathology leading to diagnoses and appropriate counseling treatment plans.CMCH G.2 Understands various models and approaches to clinical evaluation and their appropriate uses, including diagnostic interviews, mental status examinations, symptom inventories, and psychoeducational and personality assessments.CMCH G.3 Understands basic classifications, indications, and contraindications of commonly prescribed psychopharmacological medications so that appropriate referrals can be made for medication evaluations and so that the side effects of such medications can be identified.CMHC G.4 Identifies standard screening and assessment instruments for substance use disorders and process addictions.CMCH H.1 Selects appropriate comprehensive assessment interventions to assist in diagnosis and treatment planning, with an awareness of cultural bias in the implementation and interpretation of assessment protocols.CMHC H.2 Demonstrates skill in conducting an intake interview, a mental status evaluation, a biopsychosocial history, a mental health history, and a psychological assessment for treatment planning and case management.CMHC H.3 Screens for addiction, aggression, and danger to self and/or others, as well as co-occurring disorders.CMHC H.4 Applies assessment of a client’s stage of dependence, change, or recovery to determine the appropriate treatment modality and placement criteria within the continuum of care.CMHC I.1 Understands how to critically evaluate research relevant to the practice of clinical mental health counseling.CMHC I.2 Knows models of program evaluation for clinical mental health counseling.CMHC I.3 Knows evidence-based treatment and basic strategies for evaluating counseling outcomes in clinical mental health counseling.CMHC J.1 Applies relevant research findings to inform the practices of clinical mental health counselingCMHC J.2 Develops measurable outcomes for clinical mental health counseling programs, interventions, and treatments.CMHC J.3 Analyzes and uses data to increase the effectiveness of clinical mental health counseling interventions and programs.CMHC K.1 Knows the principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of the current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).*CMHC K.2 Understands the established diagnostic criteria for mental and emotional disorders, and describes treatment modalities and placement criteria within the continuum of care.CMHC K.3 Knows the impact of co-occurring substance use disorders on medical and psychological disorders.CMCH K.5 Understands appropriate use of diagnosis during a crisis, disaster, or other trauma-causing event.CMHC L.1 Demonstrates appropriate use of diagnostic tools, including the current edition of the *DSM*, to describe the symptoms and clinical presentation of clients with mental and emotional disorders.CMHC L.2 Is able to conceptualize an accurate multi-axial diagnosis of disorders presented by a client and discuss the differential diagnosis with collaborating professionals.CMHC L.3 Differentiates between diagnosis and developmentally appropriate reactions during crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events. |
| 2. Practices professional behavior that maintains appropriate boundaries, conforms to ethical standards, and reflects respect and sensitivity for persons from diverse backgrounds. | CMHC A.2 Understands ethical and legal considerations specifically related to the practice of clinical mental health counseling.CMHC B. 1 Demonstrates the ability to apply and adhere to ethical and legal standards in clinical mental health counseling.CMHC D.2 Applies multicultural competencies to clinical mental health counseling involving case conceptualization, diagnosis, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders.CMHC D.5 Demonstrates appropriate use of culturally responsive individual, couple, family, group, and systems modalities for initiating, maintaining, and terminating counseling.CMCH D.7 Applies current record-keeping standards related to clinical mental health counseling.CMHC D.9 Demonstrates the ability to recognize his or her own limitations as a clinical mental health counselor and to seek supervision or refer clients when appropriate.CMHC E.1 Understands how living in a multicultural society affects clients who are seeking clinical mental health counseling services.CMCH E.2 Understands the effects of racism, discrimination, sexism, power, privilege, and oppression on one’s own life and career and those of the client.CMCH E.5 Understands the implications of concepts such as internalized oppression and institutional racism, as well as the historical and current political climate regarding immigration, poverty, and welfare.CMCH F.3 Demonstrates the ability to modify counseling systems, theories, techniques, and interventions to make them culturally appropriate for diverse populations.CMHC K.4 Understands the relevance and potential biases of commonly used diagnostic tools with multicultural populations. |
| 3. Practices theological/theoretical integration, which is demonstrated in a maturing biblically-grounded theological understanding of God and persons, along with an informed theoretical perspective of the counseling role. | CACREP does not include SLOs for theological integration. |
| 4. Identifies self as a professional counselor. | CMHC A.1. Understands the history, philosophy, and trends in clinical mental health counseling.CMHC A.3 Understands the roles and functions of clinical mental health counselors in various practices settings and the importance of relationships between counselors and other professionals including interdisciplinary treatment teams.CMHC A.4 Knows the professional organizations, preparation standards, and credentials relevant to the practices of clinical mental health counseling.CMHC A.7 Is aware of professional issues that affect clinical mental health counselors (e.g. core provider status, expert witness status, access to and practice privileges within managed care systems).CMHC A.8 Understands the management of mental health services and programs, including areas such as administration, finance, and accountability. CMHC B.2 Applies knowledge of public mental health policy, financing, and regulatory processes to improve service delivery opportunities in clinical mental health counseling.CMHC B.5 Understands the range of mental health service delivery – such as inpatient, outpatient, partial treatment and aftercare – and the clinical mental health counseling services network.CMHC C.9 Understands professional issues relevant to the practice of clinical mental health counseling.CMHC D.3 Promotes optimal human development, wellness, and mental health through prevention, education, and advocacy activities. CMHC E.4 Understands effective strategies to support client advocacy and influence public policy and government relations on local, state, and national levels to enhance equity, increase funding, and promote programs that affect the practice of clinical mental health counseling.CMHC E.6 Knows public policies on the local, state, and national levels that affect the quality and accessibility of mental health services.CMCH F.2 Advocates for policies, programs, and services that are equitable and responsive to the unique needs of clients. |

1. The Department of Counseling and Pastoral Care is preparing a self-study, which is to be submitted no later than 9.1.2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)