

Licensed Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC)

Students enrolled in the CMHC program are positioned to obtain their [LPCC](#). Our curriculum is fully aligned to meet the LPCC core content areas outlined in Article 3 of the California License Professional Clinical Counselor Statutes and Regulations [\[4999.33\]](#). Each of the LPCC core content areas below (A – M) is matched to a specific CMHC 3-unit course (see below).

According to the BBS, “Professional clinical counseling means the application of counseling interventions and psychotherapeutic techniques to identify and remediate cognitive, mental, and emotional issues, including personal growth, adjustment to disability, crisis intervention, and psychosocial and environmental problems, and the use, application, and integration of the coursework and training required by Sections [4999.33](#). “Professional clinical counseling also includes conducting assessments for the purpose of establishing counseling goals and objectives to empower individuals to deal adequately with life situations, reduce stress, experience growth, change behavior, and make well-informed, rational decisions” (BBS, Business & Professional Code, 2017).

	LPCC CORE CONTENT AREA	CMHC COURSE #	CMHC COURSE TITLE	UNITS
A	Counseling Theory and Practice	COUN 700	Theories of Counseling & Psychotherapy	3
B	Human Development	COUN 703	Developmental Foundations for Counselors	3
C	Career Development Theories	COUN 720	Career Counseling	3
D	Group Counseling	COUN 811	Group Counseling	3
E	Psychological Assessment & Testing	COUN 715	Assessment in Counseling	3
F	Multicultural Counseling	COUN 833	Social and Cultural Foundations	3
G	Principles of Diagnostic Process	COUN 703	Psychological Foundations in Counseling	3
H	Research & Evaluation	COUN 794	Seminar in Research	3
I	Professional Orientation, Law and Ethics in Counseling; including CA Law	COUN 857	Law and Ethics	3
J	Psychopharmacology	COUN 737	Psychopharmacology	3
K	Addictions Counseling, Co-occurring Disorders	COUN 738	Addictions	3
L	Crisis or Trauma Counseling	COUN 741	Crisis Counseling	3
M	Advanced Counseling and Psychotherapeutic Theories and Techniques	COUN 736	Advanced Counseling Process	3
	<i>*For students who want to work with families, couples</i>	COUN 858 COUN 860	Couples and Family I Couples and Family II	3 3

	<i>and children and supervise MFTs/LPCCs who work with families, couples & children*</i>			
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ADVANCED COURSEWORK – In addition to the courses above, CMHC students must take 15 semester units of advanced coursework listed below.

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS
COUN 704	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability	3
COUN 870	Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care	3
COUN 890	Integrative Counseling and Internship	3
COUN 891	Case Studies and Internship	3
COUN 892	Culminating Experience	3
	Total Units	15

PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP – CMHC students take 15 units of supervised practicum and internship in a clinical setting that provides a range of clinical counseling experience as identified in the LPCC Section 4999.33(c)(2)(3)(A-K): (A) Applied psychotherapeutic techniques; (B) assessment; (C) diagnosis; (D) prognosis; (E) treatment; (F) issues of development, adjustment, and maladjustment; (G) health and wellness promotion; (H) professional writing including documentation of services, treatment plans, and progress notes; (I) how to find and use resources; (J) other recognized counseling interventions; and (K) achieve a minimum of 280 hours of face-to-face supervised clinical experience counseling individuals, families, or groups. CMHC specialization students must complete 600 of their 840 total fieldwork hours in a setting that meets CMHC/LPCC field work requirements, of which 280 must be direct contact hours. Students must also be supervised by a LPCC, MFT, Licensed Social Worker, Licensed Psychologist, or Licensed Physician Board Certified in Psychiatry. CMHC students must use the CMHC log to track their hours, roles and functions. Practicum/internship courses listed below.

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS
COUN 705/706	Counseling Practicum and Basic Counseling Process	6
COUN 736	Advanced Counseling Process & Internship	3
COUN 890	Integrative Counseling and Internship	3
COUN 891	Case Studies and Internship	3
	Total Units	15

The CMHC program offers instruction in each of the following LPCC areas: (There are no specific unit requirements for this content.)

Additional Required Content	Course #	Course name
Socio Economic Status Impact	COUN 704 COUN 736 COUN 833 COUN 890 COUN 891	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability Advanced Counseling Process Social and Cultural Foundations Integrative Counseling & Internship Case Studies & Internship
Cultural Competency (California specific)	COUN 704 COUN 736 COUN 833 COUN 890 COUN 891	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability Advanced Counseling Process Social and Cultural Foundations Integrative Counseling & Internship Case Studies & Internship
Spousal or Partner Abuse Intervention and Dynamics	COUN 736 COUN 741 COUN 857 COUN 890 COUN 891	Advanced Counseling Process Crisis Counseling Law and Ethics in Counseling Integrative Counseling & Internship Case Studies & Internship
Child Abuse Assessment & Reporting (7 clock hours) (BPC Section 4999.33(c)(2)(3)(d)(9))	COUN 715 COUN 736 COUN 741 COUN 857 COUN 890 COUN 891	Assessment in Counseling (7 hours) Advanced Counseling Process Crisis Counseling Law and Ethics in Counseling Integrative Counseling & Internship Case Studies & Internship
Issues of aging and long term care; including elder abuse and neglect	COUN 702 COUN 704 COUN 741	Developmental Foundations of Counseling Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability Crisis Counseling
Human Sexuality	COUN 702 COUN 704 COUN 890 COUN 891	Developmental Foundations in Counseling Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability Integrative Counseling & Internship Case Studies & Internship
Mental Health Recovery-Oriented Care, Resiliency, Case Management and Systems of Care. (45 clock hours) BPC Section 4999.33(c)(2)(3)(e)(1))	COUN 703 COUN 704 COUN 738 COUN 870	Psychological Foundations of Counseling Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability Addictions Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care
Students have opportunity to meet with consumers of mental health services and their families	COUN 703 COUN 704 COUN 870	Psychological Foundations of Counseling Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care

Additional Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) Information:

1. For students who want to become a California Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), you must be in the CMHC program (specialization or emphasis). If a student is not in the CMHC program as either a specialization or emphasis at the start of their program, the student will need to apply for an emphasis in CMHC using the, "[Application for Addition or](#)

[Deletion of Emphasis](#)” form located on the Department of Counseling Website under Current Students. The application must be submitted in October or February of the academic year. Students are not automatically accepted into the CMHC emphasis. The CMHC faculty will contact you to request a meeting and/or additional information. A final decision will be made within a month of the form submission.

- CMHC emphasis students are required to complete the following courses in addition to those courses required by their specialization curriculum.

Specialization	Emphasis	Course #	Course Title
Career	CMHC	704	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability
		737	Psychopharmacology
		870	Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care
College	CMHC	704	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability
		737	Psychopharmacology
		870	Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care
Gerontological	CMHC	704	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability
		737	Psychopharmacology
		870	Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care
MFT	CMHC	704	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability
		737	Psychopharmacology
		741	Crisis Counseling
		870	Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care
School	CMHC	704	Biopsychosocial Aspects of Health, Behavioral Health, Aging & Disability
		737	Psychopharmacology
		*738	*Addictions (if was not taken as elective)
		870	Professional Issues, Clinical Case Management & Systems of Care

- For CMHC specialization or emphasis students who want to work with couples, families and children or supervise LPCCs/MFTs working with couples, families or children, you must take two additional courses focused on marriage, family and children (COUN 858 and COUN 860). In addition, you must also accrue 500 post-graduate hours of supervised experience working with couples, families or children and six hours of CEUs in marriage, family and children in each renewal cycle. LPCC’s must obtain written confirmation from BBS of meeting the requirements to treat couples, families or children and supervise LPCCs/MFTs *who are working with couples, families and children*. BBS requires LPCC’s to provide clients and supervisees prior to commencing treatment/supervision (California Business & Professions Code 4999.20(a)(3), 4980.03(g)). Upon receipt of this verification, there is no restriction for LPCCs to assess and treat children.

4. CMHC students can earn the 500 hours of couples, families and children experience during their practicum or internship (pre-graduate) as long as they receive fieldwork supervision from an LPCC, MFT, Licensed Social Worker, Licensed Psychologist, or Licensed Physician Board Certified in Psychiatry who has met the supervision requirements (BBS Regulation 1820.5). While it is advisable to complete the two courses in couples, families and children (COUN 858 & COUN 860) before earning the 500 hours, it is not required, as long as the student is under supervision.

5. Once a CMHC student graduates, the counselor applies to the BBS to register as a Professional Clinical Counselor Intern (PCCI) which positions the student to begin accruing the required 3,000 supervised hours over a minimum of two years and a maximum of six years. Applicants will have one year, from the date of their letter of deficiencies, to complete any education deficiencies outlined by the BBS. All education requirements must be completed before the intern number can be assigned. The LPCC Law & Ethics Exam is taken in the first year of post graduate internship and the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Exam is taken when all 3,000 supervised hours are complete. An exam must be attempted at least once a year until all have been passed. This process can take several years, since applicants will have one year to complete the application, one year to complete deficiencies after Board notification, one year to complete each exam and up to six years to complete the 3,000 supervised hours. Counselors licensed in other states, who are applying for the LPCC in California, may have already met these requirements, so their path to licensure will be expedited. Please review the following links from the [CALPCC website](https://www.calpcc.org) @ <https://www.calpcc.org>.
 - LPCC Process & Requirements: <https://www.calpcc.org/licensure-requirements>
 - BBS LPCC Application: <https://www.calpcc.org/bbs-applications>
 - Exams for LPCC Licensure: <https://www.calpcc.org/exams-for-licensure>