WELCOME to the Department of Counseling Information Session!

- Step 1: Explore website Academics and Admissions information
- View Information Session Video
- More Questions? Step 2: Register for Follow-Up Q&A session

Slides available at https://counseling.sfsu.edu/admissions
Thinking of Applying to Department of Counseling Graduate Programs?

STEPS for Prospective Applicants

1) Explore our Website: https://counseling.sfsu.edu
   - Information about program and specializations
   - Detailed information about the admissions process

2) View this Information Session for Prospective Students (this pre-recorded session)

3) Follow-up Q&A Sessions after viewing Information Session (see website for dates and registration)

4) If you still have questions after doing the above, contact counsel@sfsu.edu

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Overview of this Information Session

- Introduction: Dr. Rebecca Toporek, Department Chair, Department of Counseling, SF State University (she/they pronouns)
- About our program, our mission and our aspirations
- Programs, courses, and internships
- Admissions process

If you have questions that have not been answered on our website or in this Information Session, please register for one of the Follow-up Q&A Sessions this fall (see website for dates and registration)
Acknowledgement

- San Francisco State University is located on the occupied Ohlone Ramaytush territories and we humbly acknowledge that our opportunity to live and work in what is now called the San Francisco Bay Area is only possible by the sacrifice of many indigenous people historically as well as their contributions today.

- We also acknowledge that we benefit from the many Black and Brown communities who have worked, often in unjust circumstances, to make the public university system possible in California as well as the U.S. as a whole.
ABOUT US: OUR MISSION

- To train the next generation of counselor leaders who recognize that the liberation of all communities is only possible when an intersectional, participatory, community-driven approach to counseling is practiced.
- Our training program is grounded in the belief that counseling, as a field of practice, affords professionals the knowledge and skills needed to carry out social justice work via strengths-based healing and wellness, advocacy, critical consciousness development, and action-oriented scholarship and research.

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

OUR SPECIALIZATIONS

Career Counseling

School Counseling

Marriage, Family and Child Counseling

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

College Counseling

Gerontological Counseling

*May choose a specialization and emphasis

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
3 DEGREES
6 SPECIALIZATIONS

- Master of Science in Counseling
  - Career
  - College
  - Gerontology
  - School Counseling

- Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

- Master of Science in Counseling Concentration in Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling

https://counseling.sfsu.edu/academics

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Professional Paths and Careers of Our Graduates

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Career Counseling Specialization

MS in Counseling

Career Practitioner
- College and university career centers, employment agencies, non profits, private practice

LPCC License
- Holistic career counseling including mental health counseling: College and university career centers, employment agencies, non profits, private practice

Career Counseling Specialization

Oftentimes may also do College Counseling Emphasis

CMHC Emphasis
- Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams
College Counseling Specialization
MS in Counseling

**COLLEGE COUNSELOR**
Community colleges and universities, advisors, student retention specialists (e.g., EOPS), student affairs professionals, instructors, student resource centers, administrators

**LPCC LICENSE**
Holistic college counseling in colleges and universities including mental health counseling: College and university mental health and wellness, psychological services, non profits, private practice

**OFTEN MAY ALSO DO CAREER COUNSELING EMPHASIS**

**CMHC EMPHASIS**
Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams
Gerontological Counseling Specialization
*MS in Counseling*

**Gerontological Counseling Specialization**

**CMHC Emphasis**
Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams

**GERONTOLOGICAL COUNSELOR**
Work with elders in non-profits, community mental health, health care settings, often under the supervision of a licensed provider

**LPCC License**
Work with elders in non-profits, community mental health, health care settings, private practice, and other mental health provision.
School Counseling Specialization
MS in Counseling

SCHOOL COUNSELING SPECIALIZATION
PPS Credential

CMHC EMPHASIS
Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams

SCHOOL COUNSELOR
K-12 settings, public, private and charter, school counselors and administrators in districts around the Bay Area

OFTEN MAY ALSO DO CAREER COUNSELING EMPHASIS

LPCC LICENSE
K-12 settings, public, private and charter, school counselors and wellness center counselors/therapists
Clinical Mental Health Counseling Specialization (CMHC)
MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Specialization (CMHC)

LICENCED CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR (LPCC)
Licensed counselors in community mental health, private practice, health care settings, integrative behavioral health

OFTEN MAY ALSO DO CAREER, COLLEGE, OR GERONTOLOGICAL COUNSELING EMPHASIS
Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams
Marriage, Family and Child Counseling Specialization (MFCC or MFT)

MS in Counseling with Concentration in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling

MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND CHILD COUNSELING SPECIALIZATION (MFCC)

Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams

LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST (LMFT)

Private practice, non profit mental health, college student mental health, school wellness centers, health care settings

CMHC EMPHASIS

Complete post degree supervised hours and licensure exams

AND LPCC LICENSE

Licensed counselors in community mental health, private practice, health care settings, integrative behavioral health

OFTEN MAY ALSO DO CAREER, COLLEGE, OR CMHC COUNSELING EMPHASIS
LICENSES, CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATIONS

State of California
- Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT)
- Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)
- Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential

National Certifications
- National Certified Counselor (NCC)
- Certified Career Counselor (CCC)
- Certified Mental Health Counselor (CMHC)
- Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC)
Licensure and Credential Requirements

- **License in Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC)**
  - Master’s degree in Counseling with clinical counseling training. In our program is Specialization or Emphasis in CMHC
  - Total 3000 hours of supervised experience after completing master’s program
  - Licensure exams (post degree and after required hours are completed)

- **License Marriage, Family Therapy (LMFT)**
  - Master’s degree in MFCC or MFT
  - Total 3000 hours of supervised experience (some of which can be completed as part of master’s program)
  - Licensure exams (post degree and after required hours are completed)

- **Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS)**
  - Master’s degree in School Counseling
  - State mandated forms and health clearances
  - Successful passing of CBEST

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
OUR ACCREDITATION

- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
- Council for the Accreditation of Counselor and Related Education Programs (CACREP)
- The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)

https://counseling.sfsu.edu/content/program-assessment-and-accreditation

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
OUR FACULTY

• 9 full time faculty and 15+ adjunct faculty
• Committed to student success and developing effective and competent counselors
• Practicing counselors and therapists, researchers, writers
• Internationally and nationally recognized scholars and professional leaders
• See our website for bios of all of our faculty

https://counseling.sfsu.edu/people

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Our Expectations of Ourselves as Faculty and a Department

- Engage in ongoing research, writing and community work that is relevant to our mission statement and values
- Seek to continuously improve and update our teaching skills and approach
- Advocate for counseling program nationally and at the university
- Stay current in the field
- Advocate for social justice in the community and nationally
- Dedicated to examining our program and ourselves to strengthen an anti-racism and anti-oppression approach to counselor education and the success of our students

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Being a Student In the Program

- Course load
- Internships
- Time to graduation
- Opportunities for community building
- Resources
- Professional training program with professionalism expectations

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Courses and Load

60 units of coursework required for degree (minimum)

- Core classes
- Specialization and emphasis classes
- Internship classes

Fall and Spring program
1-2 courses offered in summer, varies by year and funding

Classes- Each class meets 3 hours 1x week (Monday – Thursday)

- 9am – 12noon; 1 – 4pm, 4 – 7pm; 7 – 10pm
- Some courses may be offered only day, some only night
- Almost all classes require in-person participation

Part-time or Full-time

- Approx. 50-75% complete courses in 2 years

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialization and/or emphasis?</th>
<th>Full-time (15 units) or Part-time (9-12 units)</th>
<th>Estimated time to degree*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specialization only</td>
<td>Full time</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialization only</td>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>3+ years (depends on number of units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialization and emphasis</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>2-3 years (depends on which specialization and emphasis; some combinations require 3 internships)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialization and emphasis</td>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>3+ years (depends on which specialization and emphasis; some combinations require 3 internships)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students required to take HSS 700 to meet Graduate Writing Standards. Add an additional semester or take 18 units at least one semester or summer session.
Internships

- Internship provides training at master’s level counseling skills; more than 200 approved sites
- 2 years of internship in specialization setting (in 2 different sites)
  - First year internship 12-16 hours/week
  - Second year internship 16-20 hours/week
- Internships weekday-daytime hours
- Supervised by professional counselor
- Pre-approved by department
- Enrolled in practicum or internship courses concurrently when placed in internship site

https://counseling.sfsu.edu/content/fieldwork

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Opportunities for Community Building

- Faculty advisors
- Specialization cohort
- Counseling Student Association (CSA)
- Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) International Honors Society
Resources

- **Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC)**
  https://access.sfsu.edu

- **Equity Center** https://equity.sfsu.edu

- **Graduate Studies**
  - Funding your education (tuition, fees, financial aid, etc.)
    https://grad.sfsu.edu/content/funding-your-education
  - Housing https://grad.sfsu.edu/content/housing

- **Counseling and Psychological Services**
  https://caps.sfsu.edu

- **Food+Shelter+Success** https://basicneeds.sfsu.edu
Professional Training Program with Professionalism Expectations

- Commitment to multicultural and social justice values
- Accountability, participation and attendance
- Collegial student behavior
- Maintain communication with advisor and instructors
- Look ahead to ensure reasonable load and balance of responsibilities
- Be prepared for class
- Seek help when needed
- Final capstone project—Culminating Experience Project

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Holistic Admission Criteria

Global Rating of Application

Letters of Recommendation

Counseling Related Work or Volunteer Experience

Work Experience

Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Related to Diversity

Personal Essay

Previous Academic Success
Undergraduate GPA at least 3.0 (last 60 units)

Other Educational Experiences
Recommended Preparatory Courses*

- COUN 690 – Field of Counseling*
- Coun 691 – Multicultural Human Relations*
- Theories of personality
- Lifespan developmental psychology
- Abnormal psychology
- Ethnic studies or multicultural relations

*offered only at SF State through the Dept of Counseling

*Recommended, no longer required prerequisites

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Personal Information

Academic History

Supplementary Program Materials:
  - Resume
  - Personal Statement (must be authored by applicant)
  - Unofficial Transcripts
  - Experience Summary: 1) Counseling Experience; 2) Other Experience

2 Letters of Recommendation (academic and/or professional sources)

https://counseling.sfsu.edu/admissions

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Deadline: Jan 15
for the following Fall Admit (no spring admits)

► Online application becomes available on October 1 (https://counseling.sfsu.edu/admissions)

► Letters of recommendation – CalApply emails your recommenders. System notifies you when your recommender submits their letter. Letters MUST be submitted through CalApply. Hardcopies of letters will not be accepted.

► Processing Fee = $25.00. Information about submitting the fee online will be available on our website.

► Some specializations will select applicants for an interview before making final admission decision

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
Pre-Admission Writing Assessment

- University requires a pre-admission writing assessment
- GRE not required
- The writing assessment will be based on the personal statement submitted in the application. You will be required to sign an affidavit that you are the original author of your personal statement.
- HSS 700, Graduate Level Writing Course, is required for students who have been accepted into the program and whose writing indicates a need for improvement to meet graduate standards.

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University
NEED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM?

► Our Website
► https://counseling.sfsu.edu

► Always check instructions on the online application packet for answers.

► If the answer is not on the website, email questions to counsel@sfsu.edu

Department of Counseling, San Francisco State University