



La Sierra  
UNIVERSITY

MASTER OF ARTS  
IN COUNSELING  
MASTER'S DEGREE WITH AN LPCC TRACK

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
4500 RIVERWALK PARKWAY  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92515

## MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING (LPCC TRACK)

This is a M.A. in Counseling degree with an option to work towards becoming a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) through the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS).

### WHAT KIND OF A CAREER CAN SUCH A DEGREE OFFER?

Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors do not need to work under supervision. Such counselors can work in a variety of settings to include mental health centers/clinics, psychiatric hospitals, social service agencies, government bodies/agencies, and private practice settings. Counselors are often involved in such areas as intake assessment evaluations, crisis intervention, individual and/or group counseling, individual/group testing, and/or research.

### PREREQUISITES:

#### Legal/Health Clearance

The absence of any conviction for a felony or any communicable or contagious disease, which would prevent the student from teaching or performing other certified services, must be attested to. Students should apply for state criminal clearance immediately following admission to any program that can lead to state licensure.

#### Department Interview

A preadmission interview and writing test are to be scheduled when possible with at least two faculty members in the Department of School Psychology and Counseling who will evaluate the applicant's expressiveness, commitment, values, cultural affirmation, and professional attitudes. When admission is granted without a prior interview, an appointment must be made with the department chair during the first few weeks of residence before program approval. Continuation in the program is contingent upon a satisfactory rating by the interviewers.

## THE PROGRAM:

The program includes all of the coursework and fieldwork listed below. In order to be eligible to apply as a *Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor*, a minimum of 90 units are required and the course units must be based on a semester system. Thus, courses normally listed as only 3.0 units will require an additional 1.5 units of practicum for a total of 4.5 units. The only three exceptions are EDAD 524 (or EDAD 540), EDCI 514 (or EDCI 545), and EDCI 512 which are listed at 3.0 units only. For course descriptions, please check [La Sierra Academic Bulletins](#).

### REQUIRED CORE (18 UNITS):

- |   |      |      |           |
|---|------|------|-----------|
| • Educational Organization and Leadership | EDAD | 524* | 3 units   |
| • Curriculum Planning                     | EDCI | 514* | 3 units   |
| • Methods and Materials of Research       | EDRS | 504  | 4.5 units |
| • Counseling Theories and Techniques      | EDPC | 561  | 4.5 units |
| • Faith and Learning                      | EDCI | 512  | 3 units   |

\* EDAD 524 can be replaced with **EDAD 540 Personality and Philosophical Aspects of Leadership** whereas EDCI 514 can be replaced with **EDCI 545 Brain Research and Learning** at a student's discretion.

### CONTENT SPECIALIZATION (84 UNITS):

- |   |      |     |           |
|---|------|-----|-----------|
| • Standardized Testing                    | EDPC | 504 | 4.5 units |
| • Lifespan Development                    | EDPC | 524 | 4.5 units |
| • Education and Career Planning           | EDPC | 554 | 4.5 units |
| • Counseling Practicum                    | EDPC | 562 | 9.0 units |
| • Group Theory and Procedures             | EDPC | 564 | 4.5 units |
| • Community Agency Counseling             | EDPC | 568 | 3 units   |
| • School Psychology and Counseling Ethics | EDPC | 573 | 4.5 units |
| • Dynamics of Personality                 | EDPC | 607 | 4.5 units |
| • Child, Partner, and Elder Abuse         | EDPC | 610 | 4.5 units |
| • Human Sexuality                         | EDPC | 615 | 4.5 units |

• Marriage and Family I	EDPC	620	4.5 units
• Marriage and Family II	EDPC	621	4.5 units
• Psychopathology	EDPC	631	4.5 units
• Psychopharmacology	EDPC	645	4.5 units
• Advanced Counseling Theories	EDPC	655	4.5 units
• Intervention Methods and Consultation	EDPC	666	4.5 units
• Seminar: Individual and Cultural Differences	EDPC	694A	4.5 units
• Seminar: Alcohol & Drug Addictions	EDPC	715	4.5 units

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. At the conclusion of this program, a *passing* score must be obtained on a departmental comprehensive exam. The University must receive a satisfactory score at least four weeks prior to graduation or the issuance of a diploma. Early registration for the test is essential.
2. A satisfactory showcase portfolio is also required.
3. After receiving the *M.A. in Counseling* degree, students must complete a post-degree field practice of 150 hours and an internship of 3,000 hours.
4. Before students can collect internship hours, they must apply to the BBS to become an LPCC intern, and they must find a community agency counseling setting where they can receive appropriate supervision from a licensed mental health clinician. LPCC interns can receive supervision from licensed marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical social workers, clinical psychologists, and psychiatrists who are certified in psychiatry and neurology or other licensed professional clinical counselors.