

Western Carolina University Counseling Program 2013-2014 Data Report

Programs

Western Carolina University's Counseling Program includes two separate but related degree programs:

M.A.Ed. in School Counseling (SC), and

M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC)

Both programs are CACREP accredited (through October 2015; note that CMHC was last accredited as Community Counseling) and lead graduates toward the post-Master's Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) licensure, and for SC only, K-12 School Counseling licensure through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Enrollment

In 2013-2014, we had an average of 71 total (full-time and part-time) students enrolled in our program:

Fall 2013 – 77 (53 CMHC, 24 SC)

Spring 2014 – 66 (44 CMHC, 22 SC)

This represents an average ratio of (FTE*) faculty to (FTE*) students of 1:10.

(*FTE = Full-time equivalent)

Graduation

In 2013-2014, we graduated 33 students:

August 2013 – 0 CMHC, 1 SC

December 2013 – 8 CMHC, 1 SC

May 2014 – 17 CMHC, 6 SC

This represents an 89% completion rate. 100% of the students leaving the program without completion did so of their own initiative (e.g., changes in personal life and/or career goals).

Licensure Exams

National Counselor Exam (NCE) – Among 34 test takers in 2013-2014, WCU yielded a 97% pass rate.

Praxis II: Professional School Counseling – Among 14 test takers in 2013-2014, WCU yielded a 100% pass rate.

Job Placement

Among 33 2013-2014 graduates, 29 (88%) were employed in counseling occupations within 90 days of graduation, 1 in a counseling-related occupation, 1 in a non-counseling occupation, and 2 chose not to pursue employment.

Program Modifications Based on Data Findings

The WCU Counseling Program graduation exit survey and 3-Year program evaluation revealed overall satisfaction with all program objectives. However, one area, while satisfactory overall, was not rated as highly as others. A curricular modification was initiated in February 2014: The previous education elective requirement for School Counseling will, beginning Fall 2014, be replaced by a required course COUN 645: Consultation and Collaboration.