

UNIVERSITY *of*  
NORTHERN COLORADO



**Counseling Psychology  
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree  
An American Psychological Association (APA) Accredited Program**

Dear Prospective Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Northern Colorado. Our program admits students with both bachelors and masters degrees. We offer a welcoming and inclusive environment that embraces both individual and group diversity. This letter is intended to provide you with information about APA Accredited Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program and the necessary application materials for the School of Applied Psychology and Counselor Education. If you have questions regarding program accreditation, you can contact the APA's Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation at 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242 or at (202) 336-5979 or at <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation/>.

Our program adheres to the scientist-practitioner model of training but we place greater emphasis on training practitioners to work with diverse populations. The program is designed to train psychologists who can independently apply psychological principles to improve the well being of individuals across the lifespan. The program focuses on developing competencies in the application of three treatment modalities: Individual, Group and Couples & Family therapy. Additional competencies are also developed in the areas of Psychological Assessment, Clinical Supervision, Advocacy, Program Evaluation and Research. Students also complete an empirical doctoral dissertation and a 1 year pre-doctoral internship. Our graduates have obtained employment in private practice, community agencies, health care, business and academic settings. Over 90 percent of our graduates have become licensed mental health providers.

Most counseling practica at UNC occur in our in-house Psychological Services Clinic, which serves both the university and surrounding communities. All sessions are video-recorded and most sessions also receive live-supervision from a licensed psychologist observing sessions from behind a one-way mirror. Feedback is provided immediately following your sessions and is also dubbed onto recorded sessions so that students can review sessions at a later time and hear the feedback that was provided. In addition to completing practica in the three core treatment modalities, students also complete a practicum in the supervision of individual therapy. Additional practica experiences are also available for play therapy, the supervision of play therapy, supervision of couples & family therapy and supervision of group therapy. In fact it is possible for our students to complete all of the didactic requirements necessary to become a Registered Play Therapist (RPT) while completing the doctoral program.

Our assessment core emphasizes the development of student competency in their knowledge about and application of numerous cognitive, educational, behavioral and personality tests in order to assess, diagnose and direct treatment for clients or to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions. Our school has its own Diagnostic Materials Library, which houses well over 100 different assessment instruments. Computerized administration and scoring for many tests is also available. Additional coursework and clinical experiences in Rorschach, neuropsychological and infant/toddler assessments are available. Students will also complete psychological assessments while working in the Psychological Services Clinic. In addition to our practica and assessment cores, we also provide the requisite coursework and experiences to become a licensed psychologist. A complete listing of required courses is attached to this document (See attached Sequence of Courses).

While our program is weighted on the practitioner side of the scientist-practitioner continuum, the faculty is also strongly committed to training psychologists who know how to conduct, understand and utilize psychological research. Consequently, a research based doctoral dissertation is required. To help prepare students, completion of a semester long program evaluation project and a semester long research apprenticeship is required. The research apprenticeship involves working on a research project with a faculty member. You will also complete the sequence of courses in the Research Core that gives you the foundation needed to understand and conduct quantitative and qualitative research and to be an informed user of the research literature. The university also operates a statistical consulting laboratory where experts can assist you in designing, analyzing and interpreting the findings of your doctoral research. As a result of these activities, approximately 70 percent of our recent graduate students have made professional presentations or coauthored articles with members of the faculty. The School of Applied Psychology & Counselor Education has been recognized by the university for its Departmental Excellence in Scholarly Activity and University/Community Service.

Completing the PhD degree will require a total of four to five years of full-time study both on and off campus. Enrolling in the program on a part-time basis is not possible. Our Counseling Psychology program has been fully accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) since 1995. Our program is built on a strong advising base and it recognizes that students enter with differing backgrounds and coursework and experiences. Thus, individual plans of study may not reflect an equal number of hours or identical courses. Students coming from strong backgrounds in the counseling field (e.g., already possessing a MA degree) would be able to waive duplicate coursework thereby reducing the total number of hours he/she would need to graduate. Students with little graduate training in the counseling field will be required to complete more coursework thus increasing the number of hours required to graduate. A dissertation and a 2000-hour, one-year long, pre-doctoral internship are required as part of your degree. In recent years, our students have completed internships all over the United States and about 85 percent of them obtained internships that are also APA approved. The minimum number of credits required for the degree (excluding dissertation and internship) is 72 semester hours.

Our students range in age from their mid 20's to their mid 50's. Approximately 75 percent are female and 15 percent are members of underrepresented groups. Each year we receive 60-90 applications, and admit 6-8 students (4-5 at the MA level and 2-3 at the BA level). Our attrition, or drop out rate, is 12 percent. For students entering with a MA degree, the average length of time it takes to complete the program is 5.3 years (median 4.0 years). Since we started admitting students with BA degrees in 2006, we do not have data on their time to completion, but the program is structured so they could complete the program in 5 years. During the past 7 years, 92 percent of our students obtained accredited internships with the 70 percent of them going to APA accredited internships, and 22 percent going to APPIC accredited internships. All of our students obtained paid internships. Among our students who have graduated between 2002 and 2008, 94 percent have become licensed mental health professionals. The vast majority (80 percent) have become licensed psychologists, while the others obtained licensure as Professional Counselors or a Psychiatric Nurse.

**Average scores for recently admitted doctoral students by degree**

	<u>Entering with a BA/BS degree</u>	<u>Entering with a MA/MS degree</u>
<b>GPA (4 point scale)</b>	3.5	3.8
<b>GRE: Verbal</b>	540	555
<b>GRE: Quantitative</b>	568	587
<b>GRE: Analytic Writing</b>	4.0-6.0	4.0-6.0
<b>TOEFL</b>	NA	610

## Program Student Attrition Data: Number (Percent)

Year of Enrollment	# Enrolled	# Graduated w/ Doctorate	# Still Currently Enrolled	# No longer Enrolled
2003	7	1 (14)	3 (43)	3 (43)
2004	7	3 (43)	4 (57)	0
2005	6	5(83)	1 (17)	0
2006	8	0	5 (63)	3 (37)
2007	7	0	7 (100)	0
2008	9	0	9 (100)	0
2009	7	0	7 (100)	0

In addition to the Counseling Psychology program, the School of Applied Psychology and Counselor Education also offers an APA accredited PhD degree in School Psychology and a CACREP accredited PhD degree in Counselor Education and Supervision. We also offer CACREP accredited MA programs in Clinical Counseling, Clinical Counseling with a Couples & Family emphasis, and School Counseling and a NASP approved EdS program in School Psychology. For more information about these programs contact the APCE Office at (970) 351-2731 and you will be put in contact with the appropriate program coordinator.

### What are the Admission Procedures?

Applying to the Counseling Psychology Program is a two-step process:

**Step 1: Apply to UNC's Graduate School & International Admissions office.** To download a Graduate School application, go to <http://www.unco.edu/grad/prospective/applying.html>. You can also call (970) 351-2831 to get an application sent to you. You can also write for an application by sending your request to **The Graduate School, University of Northern Colorado, 501 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Campus Box 135, Greeley, CO 80639**, or emailing the Graduate School at: [grad.school@unco.edu](mailto:grad.school@unco.edu)

The Graduate School application will also request official copies of your transcripts, letters of recommendation (with UNC's Recommender Evaluation Form), copies of GRE results and the application fee.

**Step 2: Complete the Counseling Psychology Program's Supplemental Data Form and Application Questions.** The supplemental data form and application questions are attached to this letter. Along with this supplemental information, please include a copy of your vita.

All information can be sent to: **The Graduate School & International Admissions  
The University of Northern Colorado  
501 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Campus Box 135  
Greeley, CO 80639**

All students applying to the Counseling Psychology program should have a grade point average of at least 3.00 and have Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores of at least 400 on both the Verbal and Quantitative subtests and at least 3.5 on the Analytical Writing subtest. While we sometimes make exceptions for individuals with lower GRE scores, your admission into the program would be on a provisional basis. Scores on the GRE must be less than 5 years old.

**The deadline for completion of all application materials is December 15.** The Admissions Committee will review all completed applications and select approximately 25-30 finalists. All applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by mid to late January. Finalists will then be invited to attend a day long admission workshop typically held in mid to late February. From these finalists, approximately 6-7 students are admitted each year. If attending the admission workshop creates a hardship for a finalist, we do provide the opportunity for them to record their responses to the interview questions. The Counseling Psychology Program is committed to the recruitment of applicants from underrepresented groups and to creating a climate of diversity that respects individual differences and strives to understand and appreciate persons from all backgrounds.

## What does it Cost to Attend UNC?

Tuition at UNC varies depending upon your residency status. The Counseling Psychology Program is a member of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education's (WICHE) Western Regional Graduate Program. What membership in the WRGP means is that applicants who are residents of 15 western states (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) would qualify for resident tuition status starting their first year in the program. Applicants who are US citizens, but residents from other states would need to pay nonresident tuition their first year on campus, but could then qualify for resident tuition status after 1 year in Colorado. International students currently remain classified as nonresidents throughout their degree program. Current information regarding tuition and fees can be found at the following link: <http://www.unco.edu/acctservices/budget/costs.htm>

For more information regarding the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) go to <http://www.wiche.edu/>. For more information regarding WICHE's Western Regional Graduate Programs (WRGP) go to <http://wrgp.wiche.edu/>.

## What types of Financial Aid are Available for Graduate Students?

The Counseling Psychology program has a limited number of graduate assistantships that pay a portion of your tuition and provide a monthly stipend. There are also several other sources of financial assistance available to our students. The Graduate School has financial support for out-of-state graduate students, as well as some support for students from diverse backgrounds. Recipients of the Graduate School Dean's Scholarship receive support for the length of their program. Assistantships are also available across the campus. Finally, there is a student loan program. Upon admission to the program, all students will be informed of financial aid awards and provided with appropriate application forms. To pursue student loans, you should directly contact the **Office of Financial Aid, Carter 1005, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639** or call (970) 351-2502. They can also be found on the web at <http://www.unco.edu/grad/financial/home.htm>.

- To review:
- (1) Apply for admission to the Graduate School
    - A. Appropriate application form completely filled out and submitted
    - B. Two official transcripts from all accredited institutions attended since high school, except for transcripts from UNC.
    - C. Paid non-refundable processing fee
    - D. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores requested from ETS. If available, a copy of scores can be enclosed with a written request to evaluate pending receipt of official scores
    - E. TOEFL scores *for International Students Only*.
    - D. Three Letters of recommendation
  - (2) Complete the Supplemental Admission Application for the Counseling Psychology Program.
    - A. Complete the Supplemental Data Form (attached)
    - B. Provide Answers to the Additional Questions (attached)
    - C. Include a copy of your Vita or résumé

Thank you for your interest our APA Accredited Counseling Psychology (PhD) program. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any further questions regarding our program. Also please feel free to check out our program's website at <http://www.unco.edu/cebs/counpsych/>

Sincerely,

Brian D. Johnson, Ph.D.  
Professor and Director of Training  
Counseling Psychology  
Licensed Psychologist  
970-351-2209  
[brian.johnson@unco.edu](mailto:brian.johnson@unco.edu)

*Here are some more useful links*

UNC School of Applied Psychology and Counselor Education: <http://www.unco.edu/cebs/ppsy/>  
Cost of attending UNC: <http://www.unco.edu/acctservices/budget/costs.htm>  
UNC Application for Graduate School: <http://www.unco.edu/grad/admissions/home.htm>  
Interactive Map of UNC: <http://www.unco.edu/unormap/>  
UNC Campus Housing: <http://www.unco.edu/housing/>  
Off-Campus Housing: <https://www.unco.edu/applications/OCH/>  
UNC Campus Life: <http://www.unco.edu/studentactivities/>  
UNC Campus Safety: <http://www.unco.edu/safety/>  
UNC Career Services: <http://www.unco.edu/careers/>  
UNC Catalog/Bulletin: <http://bulletin.unco.edu/>  
UNC Counseling Center: <http://www.unco.edu/counseling/>  
UNC Dean of Students: <http://www.unco.edu/dos/>  
UNC Dining Options: <http://www.unco.edu/dining/>  
UNC Disability Support Services: <http://www.unco.edu/dss/>  
UNC Libraries: <http://library.unco.edu/>  
UNC Office of Student Financial Resources: <http://www.unco.edu/sfr>  
UNC Registrars Office: <http://www.registrar.unco.edu/>  
UNC Schedule of Classes: <http://www.unco.edu/sched>  
UNC Student Health Center: <http://www.unco.edu/shc/>  
UNC Student Cultural Centers:  
Asian/Pacific American Student Services <http://www.unco.edu/apass?>  
Center for international Education <http://www.unco.edu/cie/>  
Cesar Chavez Cultural Center <http://www.unco.edu/ccc/>  
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies <http://www.unco.edu.glbt>.  
Marcus Garvey Cultural Center <http://www.unco.edu/garvey/>  
Native American Student Services <http://www.unco.edu/nass/>  
Women's Resource Center: <http://www.unco.edu/wrc/>  
Greeley Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.greeleychamber.com/>  
Greely Tribune newspaper: <http://www.greeleytribune.com/>

## Sequence of Courses PhD – Counseling Psychology

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Semester Admitted: \_\_\_\_\_ MA/BA Degree: Institution/Program \_\_\_\_\_  
 MA Program CACREP Accredited: Yes No NA Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Introductory Core – 17 semester hours	Taken in MA (Date)	Taken/Will Take @UNC (Semester)
SRM 600 Introduction to Graduate Research (3)	_____	_____
APCE 558 Abnormal Psychology (3)	_____	_____
APCE 612 Practicum in Individual Counseling (5)	_____	_____
APCE 665 Family Systems (3)	_____	_____
APCE 669 Advanced Methods: Couples & Family Therapy (3)	_____	_____

(Some courses may be waived, with program consent, if similar coursework was completed during your Master's Degree)

### Counseling Psychology Core (All Required) – 8 semester hours

APCE 616 Career Theory, Counseling and Assessment (3 )	_____	_____
PSY 530 Life Span Developmental Psychology (3)	_____	_____
APCE 701 Pro. Dev. Seminar in Counseling Psych (1/semester; 2 semesters)	_____	_____

### Research Core (All Required) 16 semester hours

<u>Research Methodology</u> (Both Required)		
SRM 700 Advanced Research Methods (3)	_____	_____
SRM 680 Introduction to Qualitative Research (3)	_____	_____

### Techniques of Data Analysis (Both Required)

#### Applied Statistics

SRM 602 Statistical Methods I (3)	_____	_____
SRM 603 Statistical Methods II (3)	_____	_____

#### Applied Research Methods

APCE 733 Research Apprenticeship (1)	_____	_____
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Depending upon the type of methodology your dissertation will use, choose one course from below.

<u>Quantitative Dissertation (choose one)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Qualitative Dissertation (choose one)</u>	<u>Date</u>
SRM 610 Statistical Methods III (3)	_____	SRM 685 Education Ethnography (3)	_____
SRM 625 Applied Multiple Regression Analysis (3)	_____	SRM 688 Writing as Analysis of Qualitative Research (3)	_____
SRM 627 Survey Research Methods (3)	_____	SRM 641 Special Topics (3)	_____
SRM 607 Non-Parametric Statistics (3)	_____	SRM 686 Qualitative Case Study Research (3)	_____
SRM 609 Sampling Methods (3)	_____	SRM 687 Narrative Inquiry (3)	_____

### Practicum Core (All Required) - 24 semester hours

APCE 702 Practicum in Counseling (4) *	_____
APCE 712 Advanced Practicum in Individual Counseling (4) *	_____
APCE 714 Practicum in Supervision of Counseling (3) *	_____
APCE 715 Seminar in Counselor Supervision and Theory (2) *	_____
APCE 762 Practicum in Group Facilitation (4) *	_____
APCE 694 Practicum in Family Therapy (4) *	_____
APCE 793 Psych Services Clinic (1) *	_____
APCE 794 Psych Services Clinic (2) *	_____

**Suggested Practica Electives**

- APCE 773 Practicum in Supervision of Group Facilitation (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- APCE 774 Practicum in Supervision of Family Therapy (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- APCE 617 Practicum in Play Therapy (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- APCE 713 Practicum in Supervision of Play Therapy (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Assessment Core (All Required) - 10 credit hours**

- APCE 674 Assessment for Intervention: Intellectual & Academic (5) \* \_\_\_\_\_
- APCE 678 Assessment for Intervention: Personality & Behavioral (5) \* \_\_\_\_\_

**Suggested Assessment Elective 3 credit hours**

- APCE 782 Intro. to Rorschach Administration and Scoring (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Licensing Core – 24-25 credit hours**

Biological Bases of Behavior

- PSY 580 Psychopharmacology (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

- PSY 625 Principles of Neuropsychology (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

- APCE 777 Applied Neuropsychology (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Cognitive – Affective Bases of Behavior

- PSY 540 Theories and Principles of Learning (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Social Bases of Behavior

- APCE 655 Social and Community Psych (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

- PSY 664 Advanced Social Psychology (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Behavior

- APCE 707 Seminar in Personality & Counseling Theories (3) \* \_\_\_\_\_

**AND**

- APCE 758 Advanced Psychopathology (3) \* \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Ethics

- APCE 657 Legal/Ethical Aspects-Couns. Psych (3) \* \_\_\_\_\_

History & Systems

- PSY 590 Seminar in History and Systems (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural & Individual Differences

- APCE 623 Understanding & Couns. Diverse Pops (3) \* \_\_\_\_\_

**Internship Core**

- APCE 791 Internship in Counseling Psychology (3-18)  
(1 Year, 2000 Hours) \_\_\_\_\_

**Dissertation Core**

- APCE 797 Doctoral Proposal Research (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- APCE 799 Doctoral Dissertation (12) \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Students must receive a “Satisfactory” or at least a B- or in order to pass these classes, regardless of overall GPA. (The Program requires a minimum of 72 credit hours of coursework in addition to APCE 797 & APCE 799)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Advisor  
2/09

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO  
School of Applied Psychology & Counselor Education  
Greeley, Colorado 80639  
(970)351-2731 FAX(970)351-2625

Counseling Psychology  
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Supplemental Data Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Office (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ BEAR # \_\_\_\_\_

*We will provide your BEAR #*

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a resident of (circle your state of residence) Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and eligible for resident tuition under the Western Regional Graduate Program agreement.

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Graduate Education

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate Education

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

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**Recommendations:** Please list the names of the people who are providing letters of recommendation. Letters should be from people who know your academic and professional experience.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

*Please do not write below this line --- APCE Office Use Only*

-----  
GPA \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Application from Graduate School

GRE Verbal \_\_\_\_\_

1 2 3 Letters of Recommendation

GRE Quantitative \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Personal Statement

GRE Analyt Writing \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Supplementary Data Sheet

GRE V + Q Total \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ VITA

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete the Supplemental Data Form and the information requested below (Please Type) and mail it, along with a copy of your vita/resume, to:

The Graduate School & International Admissions  
The University of Northern Colorado  
501 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Campus Box 135  
Greeley, CO 80639

Should you have questions, you may contact Ms. Greenshields at [diane.greenshields@unco.edu](mailto:diane.greenshields@unco.edu) or call the main office at 970-351-2731.

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Please respond to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach to the Supplemental Data Form. We are aware that some applicants, especially those applying without any prior graduate coursework may not have many of the experiences we are asking about.

### I. Mental Health Related Work Experiences

- a. Please list the mental health related job experiences you have had. This can include work as a paid research assistant, teaching assistant and applied clinical experience. Please list your jobs with the most recent position first. Your listing should include the name of each employer/supervisor, the address, the dates of employment, and a brief statement describing your major responsibilities.
- b. Please list volunteer experiences you have had using the same format as above.

### II. Professional Background and Interests

- a. What are your three most significant professional experiences?
- b. What are your major professional interests?
- c. To which professional organizations do you belong? Indicate offices held, if any.
- d. List any professional presentations and workshops you have conducted.
- e. List any publications and/or works in progress.
- f. List any special recognitions or awards you have received.
- g. List any interest areas outside your professional interests.

### III. Aspirations

- a. In a maximum of two (2) single spaced typed pages, comment on why you want a doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology.
- b. What are your major professional goals (independent practice, research, teaching, administration).
- c. How did you select the University of Northern Colorado?

Please note: Letters of Recommendation should come from individuals who are familiar with your academic work, research capabilities and/or counseling skills.