

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Master of Arts



Expanding Your Mind and Advancing Your Career

If your career goal is to work with individuals, couples and families, UNC's Professional Counseling programs will prepare you to make a difference in people's lives. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling coursework draws from theory-based content, with an emphasis on application through practicum and field-based experience. This creates an interactive and dynamic learning environment, providing our students with highly-developed clinical skills and knowledge. Taught

by licensed faculty with diverse areas of specialization, our program will help you to become an informed, well-rounded mental health practitioner. The Master's Programs in Professional Counseling has 14 full-time faculty members who teach most of the courses. UNC's faculty has long been recognized for excellence in teaching and advising. Most have done significant research in their respective fields, are licensed mental health professionals and have had extensive clinical experience which they draw upon when teaching.

Career Pathway

Graduates of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program typically achieve the credential of Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC) through the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) in Colorado, or the licensing agency in the states in which they reside.

Degree Options

Our Greeley campus, which includes our state-of-the-art Psychological Services Clinic, offers a more traditional graduate school experience, while our Denver and Colorado Springs centers offer a more flexible delivery in a weekend-based format.

Program Details

- Greeley Campus Delivery, classes start Summer or Fall semesters
- Extended Campus, multiple start terms, more at [EXTENDED.UNCO.EDU](https://www.extended.unco.edu)
- Credits Required: 60
- Time to Completion: 2.5 years

Related Programs

- School Counseling, M.A.
- Marriage, Couples, and Family Counseling/Therapy, M.A.
- Rehabilitation Counseling, M.A.

Cost and Value

Tuition rates are based on the 2021-22 Academic Year:

Colorado Resident Tuition: \$633 per credit hour plus fees.

Nonresident Tuition: \$1,185 per credit hour plus fees. You may qualify for CO resident tuition — see WRGP information at right.

Extended Campus: \$618 per credit hour.

UNC is regularly recognized as a top value for both resident and nonresident students, and the university offers financial aid packages for qualified students. For more information, visit [UNCO.EDU/COSTS](https://unco.edu/costs).

What Students Say

"I enjoyed every moment of the program and felt very prepared when I entered the work force in clinical mental health counseling. The faculty was very involved in my growth and gave important and honest feedback."

-Current Student, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, 2017

Financing your Education

UNC offers a variety of financial support options, including:

- Every year a number of competitive graduate assistantships are open to students throughout campus. Our students typically are highly successful at securing assistantships with, for example, Housing and Residential Life, Veterans Services, Disability Support Services, Career Services and the Department of Athletics, just to name a few.

- Colorado resident tuition for students from 15 western states is offered through the Western Regional Graduate Program. To see if you qualify visit [UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL/FUNDING/WESTERN-REGIONAL-GRADUATE-PROGRAM.ASP](https://unco.edu/graduate-school/funding/western-regional-graduate-program.asp)

For more information contact Financial Aid at [UNCO.EDU/FINANCIAL-AID/](https://unco.edu/financial-aid/).

Faculty Spotlight

Jennifer Smith, Ph.D.

Jennifer Smith, Ph.D., is a researcher specializing in qualitative methodologies with scholarly publications including "A phenomenological investigation: Microaggressions and counselors-in-training" and "Proposing an initiative research methodology for LGBTQ+ youth: Photo-elicitation and thematic analysis." Her research interests include equity for marginalized populations, namely LGBTQ+ youth, play therapy, and counselor development. She currently serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Counselor Leadership and Advocacy, a Chi Sigma Iota publication. She is an Approved Clinical Supervisor and a Registered Play Therapist Supervisor.

Program Contact

Heather Helm, Ph.D.
heather.helm@unco.edu
970-351-1630

Kayleen Allen
Graduate Admissions Counselor
kayleen.allen@unco.edu
970-351-1711

About UNC Graduate School

The University of Northern Colorado, founded in 1889, is Colorado's right-sized doctoral research university, serving a diverse student body around the world. Given its size, program mix, and mission, UNC offers students the access and opportunities of a small college along with the nationally recognized programs, research funding and facilities that come with being a leading U.S. university. Students seeking preparation for a world (and workplace) full of opportunities and options, complexities and cultures, diversity and demands, will find faculty mentors and excited fellow students to engage with here at UNC.



UNC

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Graduate School

[UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL](https://unco.edu/graduate-school)