

School of Counseling
Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program
Fall 2023-2024 Annual Report

Program Objectives & Major Program Activities

- CACREP Accreditation approved August 7, 2023 for the MS in Counseling, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program through October 31, 2031.
- Enrollment steady with up to 52 accepted every admissions cycle
 - *Students Started:*
 - Fall 2023 - 40 Students
 - Spring 2024 - 32 Students
 - Summer 2024 - 30 Students
 - Fall 2024 - 43 Students
- QEP training
 - The goal of the Quality Enhancement Plan is to improve the mission-specific student learning outcomes related to their ability to apply integration of a Catholic Christian vision of the person flourishing with their specific program student learning outcomes. The current integration student learning outcomes will be measured by expanding them into four competencies that will be consistent across programs:
 1. Respecting religious diversity;
 2. Using integrated ethical reasoning;
 3. Developing an expanded plan; and
 4. Applying a flourishing perspective

Program Changes, Improvements, and Response

- New Program Director hired as of August 2024
- Hiring of a full time position of Program Assistant that began Fall 2024
- Continued advancement of the implementation of a new SIS software, Populi
- Began in Fall 2024 the sequence of the COUN 690 course to implement a revised semester length course
- Hired two core full time faculty members

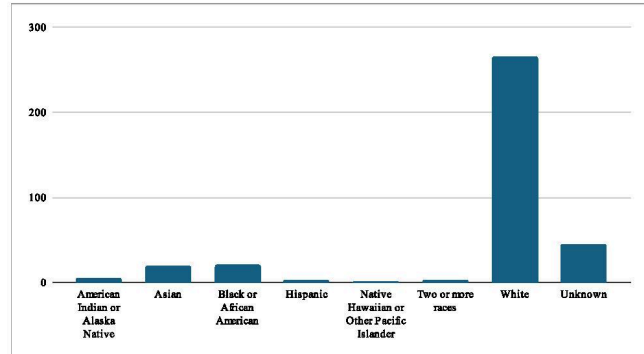
General Program Data

- The program continues to grow with 301 students and 43 new students this fall (2024). Support for these students include 13 full time core faculty that teach, advise, and supervise students, 3 faculty teaching our philosophy and theology courses, 9 adjunct faculty and facilitators assisting in courses, small groups, and residencies, and an administrative team of four.
- From September 2023 - May 2024, we have had 52 graduates.
- As of October 2024, out of the 52 graduates, 42 have applied for provisional licensure status. The status of 10 graduates is unknown.
- Please see the University Student Achievement Outcomes page <https://divinemercury.edu/academics/student-achievement-outcomes/> for information on additional Vital Statistics.

Race /Ethnicity for students enrolled Fall 2023- Summer 2024 (360 Enrolled)

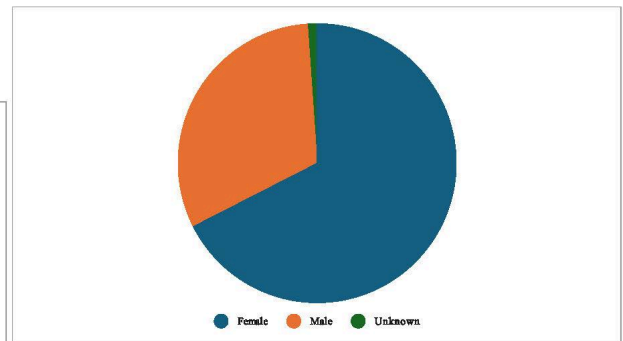
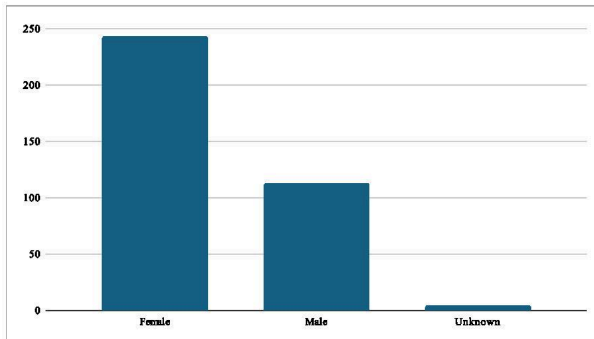
Students By Race

Race	People	Percentage
American Indian or Alaska Native	5	1.39%
Asian	19	5.28%
Black or African American	21	5.83%
Hispanic	2	0.56%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0.28%
Two or more races	2	0.56%
White	265	73.61%
Unknown	45	12.50%
Total	360	100%



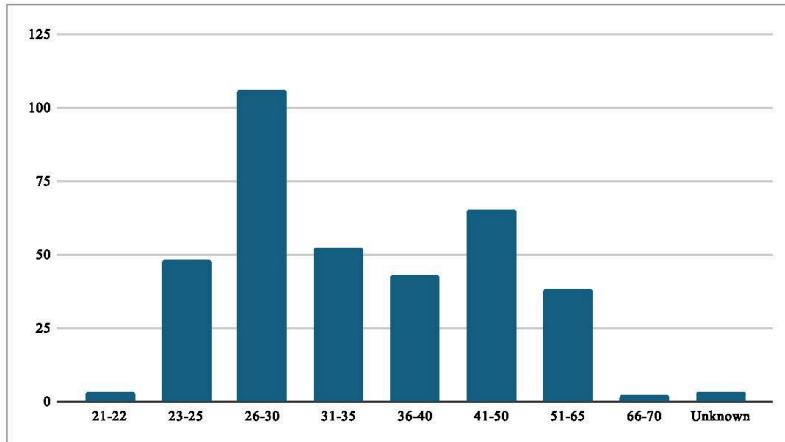
Students By Gender

Gender	People	Percentage
Female	243	67.50%
Male	113	31.39%
Unknown	4	1.11%
Total	360	100.00%



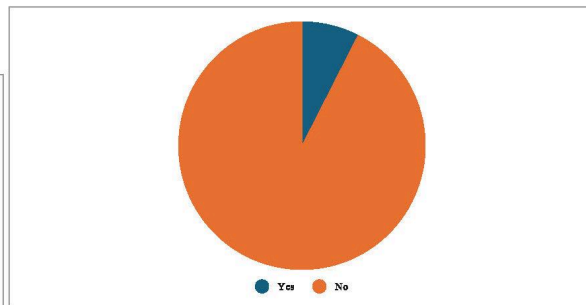
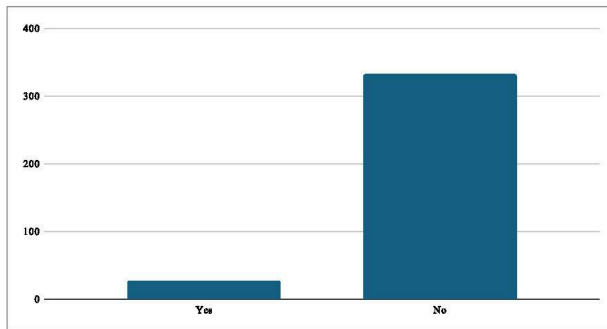
Students By Age

Age	People	Percentage
Mean	44.63	
Median	45.5	
21-22	3	0.83%
23-25	48	13.33%
26-30	106	29.44%
31-35	52	14.44%
36-40	43	11.94%
41-50	65	18.06%
51-65	38	10.56%
66-70	2	0.56%
Unknown	3	0.83%
Total	360	100%



Students By Veteran Status

Vet Status	People	Percentage
Yes	27	7.52%
No	332	92.48%
Total	359	100.00%



CPCE Pass rate chart

CPCE Scores: September 2023 - August 2024	
National Mean of Total Score	84.6
DMU Mean of Total Score	89.5
DMU Passing Score = 88	

Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	73% of these students scored at or above the national average on this section
Social and Cultural Diversity	72% of these students scored at or above the national average.

Human Growth and Development	69% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Career Development	63% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Counseling and Helping Relationships	75% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Group Counseling and Group Work	79% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Assessment and Testing	54% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Research and Program Evaluation	61% of these students scored at or above the national average.

NCE/NCMHCE Fall 2023

Of the 5 measured areas in the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam, DMU counseling students (n=2) scored above the national mean in three out of five areas and an overall score above the national mean. The program pass rate was 100%.

Of the 14 measured areas in the National Counselor Examination, DMU counseling students (n=13) scored at or above the national mean in 13 areas and an overall score above the national mean. The program pass rate was 100%.

These results point to the success of the authentic learning model instituted in the CMHC program.

NCE/NCMHCE Spring 2024

Of the 5 measured areas in the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam, DMU counseling students (n=2) scored above the national mean in all areas and an overall score above the national mean. The program pass rate was 100%.

Of the 14 measured areas in the National Counselor Examination, DMU counseling students (n=8) scored at or above the national mean in 12 areas and an overall score above the national mean. The program pass rate was 100%.

Clinical Placements:

134 students were involved in clinical health mental counseling at clinical placements from August 2023 - September 2024.

Faculty Highlights of 2023-2024

Publications and Presentations by Faculty:

- Dy-Liacco, G. S., & Giacometto, R. (2023). A culture of healing. In Union of International Superiors General, Union of Superiors General, & Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (Eds.), *A culture of care and protection: New challenges for consecrated life*. Rome: Pauline Press.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S., La Vina, M.C., & Masculino, R.M.M. (2023, November 13-24). Basic Orientation Workshop on Safeguarding for Religious Leadership. Ten-day online workshop given to the members of the Conference of Major Superiors of the Philippines. Via Zoom.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2023, October). Understanding the cultures of today's youth. In Tutti fratelli (inter-congregational team of curial formation delegates): *Walking together*. Attended by curial formation delegates at the Generalate of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, Rome.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2023, October). "Rolling-out" your safeguarding policy. Talk given to major superiors worldwide of the Missionary Society of St. Columban. Via Zoom.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2023, October). Understanding and preventing sexual offending by clerics. In Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, *Theological Hour*. Quezon City, Philippines.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S., La Vina, M.C., & Masculino, R.M.M. (2023, October 9-20). Basic Orientation Workshop for a Presbyterium on Safeguarding in the Church. Given to the priests and bishop of the Diocese of Antique. Iloilo, Philippines.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2023, October). Understanding sexual offending by celibates. In Catholic Safeguarding Institute & Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, *Graduate diploma in safeguarding*. Quezon City, Philippines.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2023, September). Understanding victims/survivors. In Catholic Safeguarding Institute & Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, *Graduate diploma in safeguarding*. Quezon City, Philippines.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, September). Understanding victims/survivors. In Catholic Safeguarding Institute & Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, *Graduate diploma in safeguarding*. Quezon City, Philippines.
- Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, August). Sexual abuse and the Church. In Catholic Safeguarding Institute & Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, *Graduate diploma in safeguarding*. Quezon City, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S., & La Vina, M. C. (2024, August). Basic Orientation Workshop on Safeguarding in the Church. Five-day workshop given to the members of the Cebu Province of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. Redemptorist Retreat Center, Cebu City, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, June). Safeguarding in the catholic school. Talk given to administrators, faculty, and staff of St. Scholastica's School (primary and secondary levels)-Pampanga. San Fernand, Pampanga, Philippines.

Gascon SJ, J. U., & Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, June). Cultivating safe spaces in the catholic church. Talk given to Filipino clerics and consecrated men and women in Rome. Philippine Embassy to the Holy See, Rome.

Dy-Liacco, G. S., Masculino, R. M. M., & Daly, B. (2024, May). Creating Metropolitan penal tribunal. Two-day workshop given to bishops and safeguarding teams of the Ecclesiastical Province of Jaro. Iloilo City, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S., La Vina, M. C., & Gascon SJ, J, U. (2024, March). Basic Orientation Workshop on Safeguarding in the Church. Five-day workshop given at the San Carlos National Seminary of the Archdiocese of Manila to applicants for the sacrament of Holy Orders. Guadalupe, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, June). Safeguarding in the catholic school. Talk given to administrators, faculty, and staff of the archdiocesan school system of the Archdiocese of San Fernando (primary and secondary levels). San Fernand, Pampanga, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S., La Vina, M. C., & Masculino, R. M. M. (2024, October). Basic Orientation Workshop on Safeguarding in the Church for Diocesan Youth Ministers. Five-day workshop given to the diocesan youth ministers of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei.

Gascon SJ, J, U., Masculino, R. M. M., & Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, September). Basic Orientation Workshop on Safeguarding in the Church for a Presbyterium. Five-day workshop given to the priests and bishop of the Diocese of Marbel. Mindanao, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, September). Understanding victims/survivors. In Catholic Safeguarding Institute & Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, Graduate diploma in safeguarding. Quezon City, Philippines.

Dy-Liacco, G. S. (2024, August). Sexual abuse and the Church. In Catholic Safeguarding Institute & Pontifical Loyola School of Theology, Graduate diploma in safeguarding. Quezon City, Philippines.

- Dy-Liacco, G. S., & La Vina, M. C. (2024, August). Basic Orientation Workshop on Safeguarding in the Church. Five-day workshop given to the members of the Cebu Province of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. Redemptorist Retreat Center, Cebu City, Philippines.
- Emery, K. K (September 2024) The Trauma-Informed Assessment of Human Trafficking Survivors. Cape Cod Addictions Symposium, Hyannis. MA.
- Emery, K. K (September 2024) Animal Assisted Therapy and Substance Abuse Treatment. Cape Cod Addictions Symposium, Hyannis. MA.
- Emery, K. K & Weber, M (September 2023) Strengthening Bonds: Navigating Couple's Counseling in the face of Substance Abuse. Wyoming Counseling Association Annual Conference. Casper, WY.
- Emery, K. K (September 2023) All the Friendly Beasts: Integrating Animal Assisted Interventions in SUD Treatment. Utah Fall Conference on Substance Use Disorders. St. George, UT.
- Bradford, P & Emery, K. K (October 2023) Prepared and Passionate: Improving Addiction Professional Training. Poster, ACES National Conference. Denver, CO.
- Bizjak, D & Emery, K. K (October 2023) The Innovative Workforce: Understand, Develop, and Sustain Clinical Teams. NAADAC Annual Conference. Aurora, CO.
- Emery, K. (Accepted). Emery, K. (2024). Understanding the Lived Experiences of Detransitioners. University of Wyoming.
- Gerig, M. S. (in process). The integration of a Catholic-Christian metamodel to the practice of clinical mental health counseling. National Catholic bioethics Quarterly.
- Gitonga, S.K. (2024). Clinical supervision of online group counseling. Session accepted for presentation at the 2024 Pennsylvania Counseling Association conference in Harrisburg, PA.
- Gitonga, S.K. & Patel, J. (2024). Exploration of the challenges that people face finding partners. Presented at the 2024 Association for Humanistic Counseling Conference.
- Gitonga, S.K. & Weaver, L. (2024). Artificial Intelligence: Mental health benefits and concerns. Presented at the 2024 Association for Humanistic Counseling Conference

Gitonga, S.K. & Weaver, L. (2023). Artificial Intelligence: Benefits and drawbacks in mental health. Presented at the Pennsylvania Counseling Association Conference in Fall 2023.

Tomlin, E.B, Burns, K., Branch, E., Dattlo, R., Newman, J., & Gitonga, S.K. (2023). Advocacy in action: Constructing the Culture Collective in an online counseling program. 60 Minute Education Session presented at the Pennsylvania Counseling Association (PCA) Conference in Harrisburg, PA.

Herod, L.A. (2024, Oct 31). Counseling children: Practicalities and Intervention. Presentation at the Global Member Care Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

Herod, L.A. (2024, Oct 29). Counseling children: An overview and practical considerations. Presentation at the Global Member Care Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

Herod, L.A. (2024). Short-term transcultural counseling: Personal experiences, cautions, and considerations. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*. 14(4), 352-372.

Deneen, C., Herod, L. A., Varghese, S., Chen, T., Sugrue, A., & Wu, H. (2024, Apr 14). Trauma basics for aid workers with refugee populations. (7 hours). Workshop for Global Hope Network International staff in Cairo, Egypt.

Humes, C. (2024). Conversations about culture: A virtual reflective supervision consultation experience. In C. C. Barron, & K. A. Wilson (Eds.), *Honoring voices within infant and early childhood mental health: Relationship-based stories from the field* (pp. 229-238). ZERO TO THREE.

Humes, C.Y. (Feb 2024). We Go High. In *Our Daily Bread*.
<https://ourdailybread.ca/foreverfaithfulreflections/>.

McWhorter, Matthew. *Meditation as Spiritual Therapy: Bernard of Clairvaux's De consideratione* (Book)

McWhorter, Matthew. "Jean Leclercq, Modern Psychology, & Structural Hermeneutics"

McWhorter, Matthew. "Integration as the Goal of Indigenization: The Cross-Cultural Psychology of Durganand Sinha"

McWhorter, Matthew. "Peter of Celle on the Formation of Conscience, Part II"

McWhorter, Matthew. "Peter of Celle on the Formation of Conscience, Part I"

McWhorter, Matthew. "Hwang's Philosophy for Developing an Indigenous Cultural Psychology"

Titus, C. S. (2024, in print). Philosophy of Mental Health Based on a Catholic Meta-Model of the Person. National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly.

Presenter. C. S. Titus (2024-02-22). A Catholic Vision of Vocations in Mental-Health Practice. Continuing Education Presentation (2 hours). Kenyan Catholic Psychology Association.

Presenter. C. S. Titus (2024-02-29). A Catholic Vision of Virtues in Mental Health Theory and Practice. Continuing Education Presentation (2 hours). Kenyan Catholic Psychology Association.

Presenter. C. S. Titus (2024-04-25). Integration of Christian and Secular Ethics in Clinical Context: Implications of the Catholic Christian Meta-Model of the Person. Continuing Education Presentation (2 hours). Kenyan Catholic Psychology Association.

Presenter, C. S. Titus. (February 1, 2024). Emotions: I. Murphy, The Road to Self-Awareness, Continuing Formation Presentation for the DMU, School of Counseling. Sterling, VA. (.5 hr)

Wines, M. (2024). The Adolescent Brain: Supporting Guardian Ad Litem. Guadian Ad Litem Conference, Lisbon, OH.

Wines, M. & Younkins, K. (2023). Children and Trauma: Supporting Guardian Ad Litem. Guadian Ad Litem Conference, Lisbon, OH.

Wines, M. & Messina, K. (2023). Counseling Clients in Poverty; Adopting a Social Justice Framework for Conceptualization. Annual Pennsylvania Counseling Association Conference, Advocacy in Counseling: Elevating our Clients and Advancing the Profession, Harrisburg, PA.

Sources of Data

The following sources of data were utilized in developing this report:

- Student performance on the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE), NBCC test data
- Alumni follow-up surveys and Alumni Office data
- Site-supervisor records in Tevera
- Admissions, enrollment, and graduation data for the 23-24 cycle

For additional data on the MSC CMHC program, please see the [Student Achievement Outcomes](#) web page.