

School of Counseling  
 Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program  
 Fall 2024-2025 Annual Report

**Program Objectives & Major Program Activities**

- Enrollment steady with up to 52 accepted every admissions cycle
  - *Students Started:*
    - Fall 2024 - 51 Students
    - Spring 2025 - 49 Students
    - Summer 2025 - 36 Students
    - Fall 2025 - 59 Students

**Program Changes, Improvements, and Response**

- Hired 3 core full time faculty members
- Increased admissions number

**General Program Data**

- The program continues to grow with 301 students.
- Support for these students include 14 full time core faculty that teach, advise, and supervise students, 6 faculty teaching our philosophy and theology courses, 14 adjunct faculty assisting in courses, small groups, and residencies, and an administrative team of four.
- From December 2024 - October 2025, we have had 67 graduates.
- Please see the University Student Achievement Outcomes page <https://divinemercury.edu/academics/student-achievement-outcomes/> for information on additional Vital Statistics.

**CPCE Pass rate chart**

CPCE Scores: September 2024 - August 2025	
National Mean of Total Score	90.6
DMU Mean of Total Score	
DMU Passing Score = 88	94

Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	<b>68%</b> of these students scored at or above the national average on this section
Social and Cultural Diversity	<b>70%</b> of these students scored at or above the national average.
Human Growth and Development	<b>61%</b> of these students scored at or above the national average.

Career Development	54% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Counseling and Helping Relationships	80% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Group Counseling and Group Work	73% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Assessment and Testing	67% of these students scored at or above the national average.
Research and Program Evaluation	63% of these students scored at or above the national average.

**NCE/NCMHCE Fall 2024**

No DMU counseling students took the NCMHCE during the Fall 2024.

Of the 14 measured areas in the National Counselor Examination, DMU counseling students (n=16) scored at or above the national mean in 10 areas and an overall score above the national mean. The program pass rate was 88%.

**NCE/NCMHCE Spring 2024**

No DMU students took the NCMHCE in Spring 2025.

Of the 14 measured areas in the National Counselor Examination, DMU counseling students (n=16) scored at or above the national mean in 14 areas and an overall score above the national mean. The program pass rate was 100%.

**Clinical Placements:**

181 students were involved in clinical health mental counseling at clinical placements from August 2024 - September 2025.

**Faculty Highlights of 2024-2025**

Publications and Presentations by Faculty:

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.

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.

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. (Accepted). Emery, K. (2024). Understanding the Lived Experiences of Detransitioners. University of Wyoming.

Erwin, K.T. (2024). Recognizing Trauma in Older and Vulnerable Adults. In L. Compton & T. Patterson (Eds.), Skills for Safeguarding: A Guide to Preventing Abuse and Fostering Healing in the Church Intervarsity Press.

Gerig, M. S. (2024). The Integration of a Catholic Christian Meta-model into the Practice of Clinical Mental Health Counseling. *The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, 24(2), 311-328.

Gerig, M. S. (in process). The Role of Intellectual Virtues in the Practice of Clinical Mental Health Counseling. *Journal of Humanistic Counseling*.

Gerig, M. S. (Nov. 1, 2024). The role of metaphor and imagination in the practice of counseling. 2024 deNicola Fall Conference. Notre Dame, IN

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  
The Outstanding Supervisor Award – Pennsylvania Counseling Association

Gunnells, T. (2024). Writing Client-Driven Treatment Plans that are Regulation Friendly – ACA Emerging Professionals Conference, Online presenter.

Herod, L.A. (2024, Oct 31). Counseling children: Practicalities and Intervention. (1.5 hours). Presentation and panel discussion at the Global Member Care Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

Herod, L.A. (2024, Oct 29). Counseling children: An overview and practical considerations. (1.5 hours). Presentation and subsequent panel discussion 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.

McWhorter, M. (2024) *Meditation as Spiritual Therapy: Bernard of Clairvaux's De consideratione* (Book)

McWhorter, M. (2024) "Jean Leclercq, Modern Psychology, & Structural Hermeneutics"

McWhorter, M. (2024) "Integration as the Goal of Indigenization: The Cross-Cultural Psychology of Durganand Sinha"

Salgado, A. (2025) "The Diagnostic Dilemma: Unraveling the Intersection of Medical and Behavioral Symptoms in PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections)". Presenter, Law and Ethics in Counseling Conference in New Orleans.

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

Conference. Titus, C. S. (June 4, 2024). The Method Behind the Meta-Model: Integrative Method, Presuppositions, and Personal Wholeness. Universitat Abat Oliba-CEU. Barcelona, Spain.

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 SelfAwareness, Continuing Formation Presentation for the DMU, School of Counseling. Sterling, VA. (.5 hr)

Titus, C. S. (2024). Philosophy of Mental Health Based on a Catholic Meta-Model of the Person. National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly. 24(2): 251-280.

Titus, C. S. (October 15, 2024). Resilience, fortitude, & perseverance: Implications for human growth from science, reason, and faith. Aquinas College, Nashville, Tennessee. Conference.

Titus, C. S. (June 4, 2024). The Method Behind the Meta-Model: Integrative Method, Presuppositions, and Personal Wholeness. Universitat Abat Oliba-CEU. Barcelona, Spain. Conference.

Titus, C. S. Titus (April 25, 2024). 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.

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

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

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

### **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
- Site-supervisor records in Tevera
- Admissions, enrollment, and graduation data for the 24-25 cycle

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