

Master of Education with a Major in School Counseling

The faculty prepares students to become school counselors who are eligible for certification by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Students become scholars and practitioners, who think critically and apply their knowledge with skill and compassion.

Admission and Program Information

The School Counseling Program requires a minimum of 48 hours of course work. Applicants who do not have competencies in curriculum and computer technology will be required to complete courses in those areas. In addition, certification in school counseling by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission requires the completion of a special education course. Admission to the program is not guaranteed, even though an applicant may have met the minimum admission standards.

Go to the Graduate School website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/welcome.php>) and click on Our Programs, then click on School Counseling for information on:

- Specific School Counseling M.Ed. Program Admission Requirements
- School Counseling Program Retention, Dismissal, and Readmission Policies
- School Counseling M.Ed. Program Graduation Requirements
- Accreditation Status

Remediation Process

Steps 1-3, below, constitute "due process." Student are advised of the areas that need improvement and the actions needed to improve these areas; are given an opportunity to correct the problems they are experiencing; and are made aware of the possible consequences of failure to make improvements in the areas in which they are experiencing difficulty.

Step 1: Faculty regularly confer about the progress of each student in the School Counseling Program. When a student is experiencing difficulties, the student's advisor gathers relevant documentation identifying any particular problems the student is experiencing. Students are informed that this information is being gathered. The written documentation gathered includes grades, coursework, semester reports, and information from the student's advisor, instructors, site supervisors, and other school personnel who have had contact with the student.

Step 2: The faculty advisor then meets with the student, summarizes the documentation gathered, and discusses the problem with the student.

Step 3: When appropriate, a written remediation plan will be approved by the advisor and two other program faculty members. This plan will clearly state:

- a. specific areas needing improvement
- b. specific changes that are expected
- c. the steps needed to make the outlined changes
- d. the time frame in which the changes must be made
- e. that failure to remediate may result in termination from the program
- f. the appeals process

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. Program graduates will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the knowledge, research, and theories appropriate to the M.Ed. in School Counseling.
2. Program graduates will demonstrate content knowledge necessary to perform as a school counselor.
3. Program graduates will perform successfully as a pre-professional school counselor.

Examples of Outcome Assessments

1. Candidates will successfully pass the Comprehensive Professional Counseling Examination.
2. Candidates' Comprehensive Developmental School Counseling Program Portfolio will be evaluated by faculty using established criteria.
3. Candidates will be evaluated by faculty using established criteria in the M.Ed. school counseling internship.

Requirements for M.Ed. Degree with a Major in School Counseling

Core Courses		9
LEAD 7210	Ethics and Law	1
SCHC 7800	Orientation to Counseling as a Profession	2
RSCH 7100	Research Methodology in Education	3
PSYC 7020	Conditions of Learning	3
Concentration		39
PSYC 7030	Measurement and Evaluation	3
SCHC 7400	Counseling Theory and Practice ¹	3
SCHC 7420	Counseling Children and Adolescents ¹	3
SCHC 7450	Group Counseling ¹	3
SCHC 7820	Career Counseling ¹	3
SCHC 7900	Pre-Practicum ¹	3
PSYC 8250	Developmental Psychology	3
SCHC 7470	Counseling Culturally Diverse Populations ¹	3
SCHC 7820	Career Counseling	3
Total Hours Required for the Degree		48

¹ **Cross-listed with PSYC courses**

Competency Requirements

Competency requirements in curriculum and computer usage must be demonstrated. Those not meeting the competency requirements by demonstrating skill level or completed course work will take course(s) in the following areas:

Education: Special Education (SPEC 3000) and Curriculum (CIED 7060).