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Sam Houston State University (SHSU)
2010 - 2011

Counseling MA (LPC/LMFT)

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GOAL: Effective Community Counselors

Objective **Competency In Core Content Areas And Skills In Counseling.**
 Graduates in the Counseling MA program will be knowledgeable in the core content areas for community counselors.

Indicator **Evaluations**
 1. To continue in the program, faculty must score counseling students on a scale of 0-7, with 5 and above being acceptable and program faculty preferring a score of 6 or 7 on the Counselor Potential Scale.
 2. Ninety percent of the MA graduates will make a passing score on the National Board of Counselor Certification (NBCC) National Counselor Examination for Licensure.

Criterion **Passing Scores**
 1. To continue in the program, faculty must score counseling students on a scale of 0-7, with 5 and above being acceptable and program faculty preferring a score of 6 or 7 on the Counselor Potential Scale.
 2. Ninety percent of the MA graduates will make a passing score on the National Board of Counselor Certification (NBCC) National Counselor Examination for Licensure.

Finding **Passing Scores**
 1. All students in the MA program received scores of 5 or better on all items of the counselor potential scale.
 2. All 13 students taking the NBCC examination of licensure on October 16, 2010 passed. When comparing mean scores of SHSU students with national mean scores, SHSU students scored higher on all of the CACREP areas (Human Growth & Development, Social & Cultural Foundations, Helping Relationships, Group Work, Career & Lifestyle Development, Appraisal, Research & Program Evaluation, and Professional Orientation & Ethics). Areas with lowest mean scores are, Social & Cultural Foundations and Appraisal. (Page down on the NBCC attachment to see MA results)

Actions for Objective:

Action **Strengthening Curriculum**
 Counseling program faculty will review CACREP performance and content standards for COUN 6363 (Appraisal) and COUN 5392 (Social & Cultural Foundations) to determine if courses include student outcome objectives providing learning experiences that include all of the core content areas and skills for community counselors according to CACREP standards.

GOAL: Professional Practice And Training

Objective	<p>Graduate Students Complete An Appropriate Professional Practice And Training Experience.</p> <p>Students will successfully complete an appropriate professional practice and training experience by demonstrating a thorough understanding of the process of counseling.</p>
Indicator	<p>Site Supervisors Evaluation Form.</p> <p>Site supervisors will complete and submit the Site Supervisor Evaluation Form to faculty teaching COUN 6386, Field Practicum (Internship for Counseling students) when student completes the field experience.</p>
Criterion	<p>At Least Meets Expectations.</p> <p>All students enrolled in COUN 6386, Field Practicum will be evaluated by their site supervisor. Items are scored on a scale of 1-6, with 3 and above being acceptable. Program faculty prefer scores of 4-6. The site supervisor will review the completed evaluation form with the student. Both site supervisor and student will sign and submit the evaluation to the faculty member teaching the course. Students will receive a rating of meets or exceeds expectations on all items of the Site Supervisor Evaluation Form.</p>
Finding	<p>Results Of Site Supervisor Evaluation</p> <p>All of the MA students enrolled in COUN 6386 who completed the 120 direct hours and 160 indirect hours requirement received a completed Site Supervision Evaluation and were rated as the 4 or better level by site supervisors. One student did not complete the internship hours at the original site and did not receive a completed evaluation. The site supervisor contacted the faculty teaching COUN 6386 and reported that this particular student did not satisfactorily demonstrate the skills and competencies required to continue the internship at this field placement site.</p>

Actions for Objective:

Action	<p>Remediation Of Student</p> <p>The student enrolled in COUN 6386 (CNE 686) who did not complete the internship at the field site and, therefore, did not receive a Site Supervisor Evaluation Form met with course faculty and counseling program coordinator to determine a remediation plan. The student worked in the Jack Staggs Clinic for the three week transition time between semesters to practice counseling skills under the supervision and direction of counseling faculty. The student demonstrated improvement in counseling skills during the transition period and was assigned to a new field site placement in the following semester (Spring 2011).</p>
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GOAL: Knowledge Of Current Counseling Literature

Objective **Graduate Students Will Demonstrate Knowledge Of Counseling Literature**

Graduate students in the counseling program will demonstrate knowledge of current literature in counseling by preparing literature reviews of selected topics.

Indicator **Literature Review Rubric**

Literature Review Rubric

Criterion **Scoring**

75 points out of 100 points on the rubric.

Finding **Results**

All MA students enrolled in COUN 5379 (CNE 579) scored at 75 points or higher on the Research Project Grading Rubric. Results on the literature review rubric show weakness, once again, in APA 6th edition format.

Actions for Objective:

Action **Remedial Activity**

All MA students entering the counseling program are required to purchase APA 6th edition Publication Manual when enrolled in COUN 5111 (CNE 511) during the first semester in the program. A lesson on APA publication format and requires for written papers according to the 6th edition will be included in the course objectives for COUN 5111.

GOAL: Research Competence

Objective **Graduate Students Will Demonstrate Competency In Research.**

Counseling MA students will demonstrate competency in research; including design, methods, procedures, and evaluation of research in course CNE 579, Research Methods.

Indicator **Research Project Grading Rubric**

Students enrolled in CNE 579, Research Methods will present a scholarly prepared and conducted research project demonstrating graduate level research skills.

Criterion **At Least 75 Points**

Students must score 75 out of 100 points on the Research Project Grading Rubric

Finding **Scoring Results**

All MA students enrolled in COUN 5379 (CNE 579) scored at 75 points or higher on the Research Project Grading Rubric. The major weaknesses of the research projects completed by students enrolled in COUN 5379 (CNE 579) are analysis of results and discussion of results with current literature reviewed.

Actions for Objective:**Action****Research Weakness**

Students will be required to read and critique more research articles with a quantitative research design prior to beginning their research project.

Closing the Loops Summary

To sustain a high pass rate on the NBCC examination, program faculty will assess test results for weaker areas according to the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) content and performance areas to uphold the rigor of the curriculum requirements. Specifically, faculty will revise learning experiences of students enrolled in the Appraisal (COUN 6363) and Social & Cultural Foundations (COUN 5392) courses to ensure that students have the necessary learning experiences leading to increased competency in these two curricula areas. The major areas to address in research and literature reviews are APA format, analysis or results and discussion of results of research projects and current literature. To increase skills with APA guidelines and formatting, students will be required to purchase the APA 6th edition of Publication Manual in the first semester enrolled in the program in course COUN 5111. Students enrolled in research methods (COUN 5379) will read research articles in professional journals using quantitative research design prior to beginning their own quantitative research projects.

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