

# BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES/ COUNSELING (B.A./M.A.)

## **B.A./M.A. Program in Behavioral Science/Counseling and Human Development: Mental Health or School Counseling**

The B.A./M.A. program provides the best preparation for students who wish to pursue clinical mental health or school counseling careers. To accomplish this, the program integrates core theoretical and knowledge areas in psychology and sociology into a Behavioral Science major at the undergraduate level. At the graduate level, the program integrates the core theoretical knowledge and skill areas in professional counselor education needed for practice as a clinical mental health counselor or school counselor. B.A./M.A. coursework integration results in a holistic, streamlined educational program wherein students can meet educational licensure requirements in school counseling or clinical mental health counseling in approximately 6 years.

The program develops counselors who assist others in making differences in their lives. To meet this overall goal, students apply theoretical models to the understanding of human behavior and demonstrate the professional attitudes, behaviors and counseling skills needed to integrate their knowledge and skills with the ethical practice of counseling with diverse populations.

General program goals include:

- Develop within students the knowledge, competencies and attitudes necessary to function as professional counselors.
- Assist students to develop a sense of their identity as counselors and the professional orientation needed to work for the welfare of diverse clients.
- Assist students to understand both the scientific and humanistic perspectives in behavioral science and to apply this knowledge to counseling practice.
- Prepare students for specialized roles as clinical mental health counselors and school counselors.

B.A./M.A. students are dually admitted to the B.A. in Behavioral Science and the M.A. in Counseling & Human Development. In addition to meeting separate admission requirements for the B.A./M.A. program (beyond general admission to the university), students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in their undergraduate coursework, follow all undergraduate and graduate academic policies and procedures, and meet appropriate interpersonal and professional behavior standards to remain in good standing in the program. With the permission of their advisor, B.A./M.A. students take four graduate courses during the last four semesters of their undergraduate degree program: BSC 502: Research Methods and Program Evaluation; BSC 510: Principles/Techniques/Theories of Counseling and Development; BSC 526: Group Process and BSC 560: Introduction to Counseling and the Counseling Profession. Upon completion of the undergraduate requirements for the B.A. portion of the program, students are awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science. An official Change of Status form must be obtained from the Program Director of Social and Behavioral Sciences and filed with the Registrar to change the student status from undergraduate to graduate. Upon completion of all graduation requirements in the Counseling and Human Development program, students are awarded the Master of Arts in Counseling & Human Development (with Clinical Mental Health and/or School Counseling).

## **Admission to the B.A./M.A. program follows three possible tracks:** **Track 1**

Track 1 is for high school seniors through university freshmen students. Prospective students must meet two of the following three criteria:

- Have a minimum high school grade point average of 3.7 or university grade point average of 3.5.
- Have a minimum ACT score of 27 or SAT score of 1200.
- Graduate in the top 10% of their high school class

Prospective students must also meet the following criteria:

- Complete an application form and submit it to the Program Director, Social & Behavioral Sciences.
- Submit a writing sample.
- Participate in an interview with the B.A./M.A. faculty.

Students who do not meet requirements to enter the B.A./M.A. program as freshmen may apply through Track 2.

## **Track 2**

Track 2 is open to students after their freshman year who meet the following criteria:

- Complete 30 semester hours, including transfer credits, with a minimum 3.5 GPA.
- Complete PSYC 120, SOC 101 and one elective in Psychology or Sociology (a total of 9 credits in Social and Behavioral Sciences).
- Submit the B.A./M.A. application, writing sample, and transcript to the Program Director, Social & Behavioral Sciences.
- Participate in an interview with B.A./M.A. faculty.

Students in the B.A./M.A. program must follow all undergraduate and graduate academic policies and procedures including a change of status for the graduate program.

## **Recommended**

- A Global Learning (GL) experience (<http://catalog.walsh.edu/undergraduate/academic-services/#globallearning>)

## **Required**

- General Education Requirements (<http://catalog.walsh.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum/>)
- Internship
- Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA

## **core required courses (15 credits)**

Code	Title	Hours
PSYC 120	T1:FD: Principles of Psych	3
SOC 101	T1:FD:Principles of Sociology	3
BSC 221	Stats for Behavioral Science ((Prerequisite MATH 104))	3
BSC 430	DM:DV:Applied Behav Science Se	3
BSC 440	SL:H3:DV:Applied Behav Sci Int	3-6

**Choose ANY 6 courses listed from the three content areas below (18 credit hours)**

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Psychology</b>		
PSYC 201	Principles of Learning	3
PSYC 251	Physiological Psychology	3
PSYC 309	H1: Crit Iss in Child/Adol Deve	3
PSYC 340	H1: DV: TH1: Addictions	3
PSYC 401	DV: Abnormal Psychology	3
<b>Sociology</b>		
SOC 205	T1: FD: DV: Social/Cult Divers	3
SOC 303	H1: DV: Marriage, Family&Intimac	3
SOC 311	H1: DV: Medical Sociology	3
SOC 314	H1: DV: Sociology of Aging	3
<b>Criminal Justice</b>		
SOC 210	T1: Juvenile Crime/Justice	3
SOC 212	T1: Criminal Justice	3
SOC 305	Criminology	3
SOC 322	Restorative Justice	3

**Core graduate-level courses (all BA/MA students take these four courses; 12 credit hours)**

Code	Title	Hours
BSC 502	Research Methods/Prog Evaluati (Senior Year)	3
or CHD 602	Research Methods/Prog Eval	
BSC 510	Prin/Tech/Theories of Coun/Dev (Junior Year, 1st Term))	3
BSC 526	UG: DV: Group Process (Senior Year, 1st Term)	3
or CHD 626	Group Process	
BSC 560	DV: Intro Counsel/Counsel Prof (Junior Year, 2nd Term))	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>12</b>

*Graduate course descriptions are listed in the Graduate Catalog.*

**Additional courses for the following tracks:**

**School Counseling track ONLY**

Code	Title	Hours
EDUC 107	School and Society: Intro Educ	3
EDUC 206	TH1: SL: DV: Ex&MultiCultGlobSoci	3

**Mental Health track & School Counseling track (DUAL)**

Code	Title	Hours
BSC 503	Assessment in Counseling	3
BSC 512	Lifespan Development	3
EDUC 107	School and Society: Intro Educ	3
EDUC 206	TH1: SL: DV: Ex&MultiCultGlobSoci	3