



UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

CMHC Annual Assessment Report

The Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) program at the University of St Thomas - Houston utilizes data from many sources in order to evaluate the effectiveness and quality of the program. This report is a summary of the findings of this review process, and the modifications and substantial changes planned for the CMHC program in response to the data.

Summary of Program Analysis Data Collected

Applicants and Accepted Students

The CMHC program recognizes that diversity in a student body and faculty is beneficial to the program. The program faculty seek to attract, admit, retain, and graduate a diverse student body. The data below analyzes the 76 applicants to the UST CMHC program for the fall 2022 semester (Cohort I), current cohorts enrolled in coursework (Cohort H and I), and May 2023 graduates (Cohort H) of the program. Of the fall 2022 applicants, 43 (56%) were accepted and enrolled into the program, 20 (26.3%) were accepted but declined for financial, or other concerns, 6 (7.8%) were denied acceptance to the program, 3 (3.9%) deferred acceptance to the fall 2024 cohort, and 4 (5.2%) did not complete the application process. Based upon demographic characteristics identified by applicants when applying to the program, the CMHC program boasts a high level of diversity in the areas of gender and race for both applicants and admitted students.

	Applicants Cohort I	Enrolled Students		Graduates Cohort H*
		Cohort I	Cohort H	
Total Count	76	43	37	29
Gender				
Male	9	4	3	3
Female	67	39	34	26
Race/Ethnicity				
Asian	4	4	2	2
Black or African American	14	4	4	4
White	34	19	13	10
Other or Multiracial	4	3	1	1
Hispanic	20	13	17	12

*Graduating students include Cohort H and part-time Cohort G students

Student Learning Outcomes

The CMHC program has identified 19 specific coursework assessments utilized to assess the progression of individual students and the overall performance of the program. In the 2022-2023 academic year, 80% or more of students met or exceeded the expectations of the program on all 16 of these coursework standards. The lowest scoring areas were CMHC 5310 Counseling Theories, CMHC 5305 Helping Relationships, and CMHC 5315 Ethical & Legal Issues.

Course Number	Course Name	# of Students	# Passed Assignment (80% or higher)	Total Pass Rate
Fall 2022				
5300	Intro to CMHC	43	41	95.3%
5305	Helping Relationships	41	35	85.3%
5310	Counseling Theories	43	38	88.3%
5315	Ethical & Legal Issues	40	35	87.5%
5335	Appraisal and Assessment	37	35	94.5%
6300	Human Diversity	35	34	97%
6310	Couples and Families	37	36	97%
6345	Internship II	36	35	97%
Spring 2023				
5320	Human Development	37	27	100%
5325	Psychopathology	35	25	97%
5330	Research Foundations	34	26	94%
6315	Group Counseling	34	24	97%
6320	Addictions and Recovery	33	24	94%
6325	Career Counseling	36	26	94%
6335	Practicum	34	32	94%
6350	Internship III	36	34	94%
Summer 2023				
6305	Religious & Spiritual Issues	34	34	100%
6340	Internship I	31	31	100%
6355	Counseling & Social Justice	35	35	100%

Student Professional Dispositions Assessment

The faculty of the CMHC program assess students in the areas of professional competence, interpersonal fitness, integrity, maturity, and professional responsibility through the use of the Professional Performance Fitness Evaluation (PPFE) several times throughout the training program. Each student is rated by their instructor in each of the five areas of professional dispositions on a scale of 1-3 with 3 exceeding criteria for program level. Students are assessed using the PPFE during their Helping Relationships, Practicum I, and Internship I-III semesters. Student clinical competency and interpersonal fitness scores decreased slightly during this time frame.

In fall 2022, 77 student PPFEs across the Helping Relationships and Internship III courses were collected and 90% of students scored a 2 (meets criteria for program level) or a 3 (exceeds criteria for program level). During the spring of 2023, 70 PPFE forms were collected. Of those collected, 94% of students scored a 2 (meets criteria for program level) or a 3 (exceeds criteria for program level). During the summer of 2023, 31 PPFE forms were collected. Of those collected, 100% of students scored a 2 (meets criteria for program level) or a 3 (exceeds criteria for program level) on their PPFE ratings. After reviewing all PPFE evaluations for clinical competence ratings, 93% of the ratings for competency (n = 178) exceeded the program level and meet the criteria for program level.

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam Outcomes

Students must take the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) in order to graduate from the CMHC program. Of the 30 students who sat for the spring 2023 CPCE administration, all passed the exam within 1 SD of the national average. No CPCE exam retakes were required.

Academic Year	Students Taking the CPCE	Average Score	National Average
2017-2018	18	97.05	87.87
2018-2019	24	84.1	85.5
2019-2020	25	79.3	83.3
2020-2021	23	84.7	84.73
2022-2023	30	94.65	84.42

National Counselor Exam Outcomes

Students take the National Counselor Exam (NCE) during their final spring semester before graduation. The NCE is one of two allowable exams required to apply for professional counselor licensure in Texas.

Academic Term/Year	Students Taking the NCE	Passed NCE	Total Pass Rate
Fall 2017	18	18	100%
Spring 2018	17	15	88%
Spring 2019	22	21	95.5%
Spring 2020	15	15	100%
Spring 2021	18	17	94%
Spring 2023	28	22	79%

Degree Completion Analysis

Students enrolled full-time in the M.S. program complete their coursework in two calendar years (six consecutive semesters); students enrolled half-time complete their coursework in four calendar years (twelve consecutive semesters). A majority of students complete the program full-time.

Cohort	Degree Program Began	Degree Completion Deadline	Began and Completed Degree	Two-year Completion Rate
C	Fall 2016	August 2018	29/17	59%
D	Fall 2017	August 2019	34/24	71%
E	Fall 2018	August 2020	25/19	76%
F	Fall 2019	August 2021	32/21	66%
H	Fall 2021	August 2023	41/29	71%

Recent Graduate Survey

Due to an unplanned departure of the CMHC Chair and Director, the alumni survey was not administered for the 2022-2023 academic school year.

Employer Survey

Due to an unplanned departure of the CMHC Chair and Director, the employer survey was not administered for the 2022-2023 academic school year.

Modification and Substantial Changes to the CMHC Program

Program evaluation is a continual process for the University of St Thomas CMHC program. A review of student assessment data along with feedback from key CMHC stakeholders resulted in program modifications for the next academic year.

Individual Course Modifications to Improve Student Performance

Faculty strive to offer the best training and learning experience for all students in the CMHC program. In each course, faculty make ongoing modifications to improve student learning and skill development.

During this academic year the CMHC department moved to an online system, Taskstream, to assess student learning and skill development. This will allow the program to begin a granular assessment of the data and modify student learning and curriculum changes to meet student needs.

Candidacy Modifications

No candidacy modifications were made this academic year.