



Faculty of Education

M.ED. (COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY) PROGRAM INFORMATION

Master of Education Program

University of Lethbridge

(Next cohort intake: July, 2013)

Statement of Purpose

The Master of Education (Counselling Psychology) program provides training for people who want to develop professional skills and attain certification in counselling psychology as a **Canadian Certified Counsellor or Registered Psychologist**. The emphasis of the program is on the provision of training for those people who aspire to work within educational, community or private practice settings. The degree awarded is the Master of Education (M.Ed.).

Canadian Certified Counsellor: graduates may be eligible for certification as a Canadian Certified Counsellor under the guidelines of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA; formerly CCA). CCPA certification attests to the level of professional counselling competence and is considered the minimum professional standard in Canada. Please refer to the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) website for further information: <http://www.ccacc.ca>

Registered Psychologist: students receive the graduate course work leading to registration as a psychologist within the province of Alberta. However, applicants should be aware that the College of Alberta Psychologists (CAP) regulates the process of registering. The CAP has additional requirements beyond what is provided within the M.Ed. program at the University of Lethbridge, including undergraduate psychology courses, supervised clinical hours, and oral and written examinations. Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet the requirements for registering as established by the College of Alberta Psychologists. Please refer to the College of Alberta Psychologists (CAP) website for detailed information: <http://www.cap.ab.ca>

The Counselling Psychology program operates on a cohort model. A cohort is a group of students who are admitted at the same time, and proceed at the same pace through the program. Courses are sequenced in such a way that students **MUST** follow the cohort schedule to be assured of being able to complete the requirements for their program.

Requirements for Degree

The Master of Education (Counselling Psychology) program consists of two major components: required courses and culminating activities. The two components are outlined below.

1. Required Courses

The following courses are required by all students:

- Education 5400 – Research Methods in Counselling Psychology
- Education 5621 – Counselling Psychology: Ethics and Professional Practice
- Education 5622 – Counselling Psychology: Gender/Cultural Issues
- Education 5623 – Counselling Psychology: Learning Processes
- Education 5704 – Counselling Psychology: Skills
- Education 5705 – Counselling Psychology: Theory
- Education 5706 – Counselling Psychology: Interventions
- Education 5707 – Counselling Psychology: Assessment

Education 5708 – Counselling Psychology: Career Counselling
Education 5709 – Counselling Psychology: Practicum I
Education 5711 – Counselling Psychology: Practicum II

2. Culminating Activities (NOTE: Students must choose **ONE OF** Option A, Option B or Option C in addition to the “required” courses):

Option A

Capstone course (1 course–credit equivalent); **OR**

Option B

Project (2 course–credit equivalents); **OR**

- A project option would result in a 13–course credit program, instead of the current 12–course credit program.

Option C

Thesis (4 course–credit equivalents) Please refer to the following thesis option description:

Students may apply to take a thesis option. The following applies to students interested in a thesis:

- A thesis option would result in a 15–course credit program, instead of the current 12–course credit program.
- Students cannot apply for the thesis route until they have completed at least 3 courses within their program, one of which must be Education 5400.
- The thesis option is subject to availability of appropriate supervision. Students must obtain written consent from a supervisor prior to submitting a request for final approval to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, Faculty of Education.
- Final approval for permission to pursue a thesis route is obtained through the Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Faculty of Education.

Note: Students who elect and are approved to complete courses over and above the 12 courses required for the M.Ed. program will be assessed a program fee and tuition fee for each additional course.

Admission Requirements

The general requirements specified in the Master of Education (General) program also apply to the Master of Education (Counselling Psychology) program; however, students are admitted to the Counselling Psychology program on a competitive selection basis. The following criteria are used in the selection process:

1. Grade point average (3.00 on the most recent 20 university–graded courses),
2. Relevancy of undergraduate degree (preference for degrees in Education or Psychology, followed by degrees in Social Work or Nursing),
3. Breadth of undergraduate courses in counselling, educational psychology, or psychology. Particular emphasis is paid to courses in human development, personality, psychology of learning and counselling skills.
4. Relevant work and/or volunteer experience. Preference is given to applicants who have two or more years of teaching and/or counselling experience.
5. Volunteer experience in counselling settings is also desirable.
6. Results of interview. For each cohort, a short–list of applicants who meet the above criteria will be developed. Each of the short–listed candidates will be

interviewed by the Counselling Psychology Selection Committee, who will make a recommendation for admission to the Graduate Programs in Education Committee.

Application

Application deadline: November 1. **Deadline extended to December 1, 2012.**

Applications must be submitted on the [Application for Admission – Master of Education Degree Programs](#) form.

Application Procedure

Along with the application form, candidates are required to submit the following:

- Academic transcripts (including proof of graduation for the baccalaureate degree and transcripts of all post-baccalaureate work, if any). Transcripts must be sent directly from the issuing institution to the Registrar's Office and Student Services (ROSS).
- Three completed letters of reference are submitted directly by the referee to ROSS: one referee under whom the applicant has studied at the university level; two referees with whom the applicant has worked professionally.
- Letter of intent indicating the candidate's reason for applying.
- Curriculum vitae (c.v.). The c.v. includes academic background, work/volunteer experience, awards, scholarships, and publications.
- The [Verification of Work/Volunteer Experience Form](#) confirms hours of paid or volunteer experience. This form should be completed by the employer or someone in an equivalent supervisory capacity (such as human resources/payroll office). As this letter only lists hours accumulated, it is separate and distinct from the letters of reference.

All documentation must be received by the Office of the Registrar on or before the November 1 deadline. Documentation received following the deadline will not be considered by the Committee.

Admission Decisions

Admission is determined by the Graduate Programs in Education Committee, on recommendation from the Counselling Psychology Selection Committee. Members of the committee base admission decisions on all the available information submitted by or on behalf of the applicant.

Program Approval

Upon acceptance into the Master of Education (Counselling Psychology) program, the student will be provided with a cohort course delivery schedule. It is the responsibility of each student to register for the appropriate courses, and in the sequence provided in the delivery schedule. Because the program is delivered in a cohort format, students who do not register for courses in the times they are scheduled for their cohort cannot be guaranteed the opportunity for completing their programs. Choices of options, and decisions regarding capstone, project, or thesis work must be approved by the Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research.

Credit for Previous Work

A maximum of two semester courses beyond those required for admission, which have not already been credited toward a completed university credential, **may** be accepted for transfer

into the Master of Education (Counselling Psychology) program. The following courses ARE NOT eligible for transfer credit from another institution:

Education 5621 – Counselling Psychology: Ethics and Professional Practice
Education 5706 – Counselling Psychology: Interventions
Education 5707 – Counselling Psychology: Assessment
Education 5708 – Counselling Psychology: Career Counselling
Education 5709 – Counselling Psychology: Practicum I
Education 5711 – Counselling Psychology: Practicum II



TENTATIVE COURSE ROTATION
Counselling Psychology 2013
 Master of Education Program
 University of Lethbridge

	SUMMER			FALL	SPRING
	Session I: May/June 2013	Session II: July 2013	Session III: August 2013	Sept - Dec 2013	Jan - April 2014
YEAR 1		ED 5704 - Skills		ED 5400 - Research Methods in Counselling Psychology ED 5705 - Theory ED 5708 - Career Counselling	ED 5706 - Interventions ED 5707 - Assessment ED 5621 - Ethics and Professional Practice ED 5623 - Learning Processes <i>(Begin preparations for Project or Thesis Culminating Activity)</i>
	Session I: May/June 2014	Session II: July 2014	Session III: August 2014	Sept - Dec 2014	Jan - April 2015
YEAR 2		ED 5622 - Gender & Cultural Issues		ED 5709 - Practicum I Project OR Thesis	ED 5711 - Practicum II Capstone OR Project OR Thesis Program Complete

Note: Courses will be offered on-campus during the day.