UPPER IOWA UNIVERSITY

Counseling Program

Online Master's in Counseling Program (MSC)

Admissions Booklet

Revised November 2026

Online Master of Science in Counseling (MSC)

The master's in counseling degree is a primarily a semester-long program. Courses are offered in the Fall and Spring Semesters (16-weeks each) and the Summer Semester (14-weeks). In addition, there may be courses offered in an 8-week session of the Summer Semester. The online M.S. in Counseling is aligned to meet the National Standards. All degree programs at Upper Iowa University (UIU) are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

The master's in counseling degree students will gain an in-depth understanding of the following:

- The counseling process in a multicultural society.
- Professional orientation and ethical practice.
- The cultural context of relationships, issues and trends in a multicultural society.
- The nature and needs of persons at all developmental levels and in multicultural contexts.
- Career development and related life factors.
- Group purpose, development, dynamics, theories, methods, skills and other group approaches in a multicultural society through both theoretical information and experiential exercises.
- Individual and group approaches to assessment and evaluation in a multicultural society.
- Research methods, statistical analysis, needs assessment, and program evaluation.

The master's degree program prepares professional counselors for a unique profession which emphasizes prevention of emotional and mental disorders, early intervention when problems are identified, and empowerment of clients. Professional counselors have adopted a developmental wellness model of helping people which acknowledges that mental health exists on a continuum and the counselor's role is to assist the client in moving as far as possible toward positive mental health. Professional counselors view human emotional and mental problems as normal to existence and developmental in nature.

Graduates of the M.S. in Counseling degree program are usually employed as professional counselors in a variety of settings including community mental health agencies, substance abuse treatment programs, schools, colleges, universities, rehabilitation agencies, mental and physiological health hospitals, residential treatment programs, employee assistance programs, social service agencies, and pastoral settings.

Why Master of Science in Counseling at UIU?

- **Learning Experience:** 100% online courses are offered via Zoom in the evening times to accommodate working families and adult learners, and to build a strong sense of an academic community where the students get to know their fellow peers and professors.
- **Completion Time:** Most students complete this degree in 2 ½ -3 years.
- **Schedule:** The master's in counseling degree is a primarily a semester-long program. Courses are offered in the Fall and Spring Semesters (16-weeks each) and the Summer Semester (14-weeks). In addition, there may be courses offered in an 8-week session of the Summer Semester. Download the Course Sequence by visiting the Counseling program's webpage at: www.uiu.edu/msc . Under the "Master of Science in Counseling Program Details" section, select "Download Course Sequence" .

- **Learn from expert faculty** who have real-world experience; enjoy the support of helpful, caring staff who are there for you from start to finish.
- **Field experiences** take place in the area where the trainee counselor lives.
- **Course curriculum** is aligned to meet the National Standards.

Degree Requirements

The program leading to the M.S. counseling degree consists of a minimum of 60 semester hours. Programs of study include a core of courses essential to all counselors, emphasis area courses in school counseling or clinical mental health counseling, and field experiences. M.S. counseling students must pass a final comprehensive examination. Field experiences include a 100-hour practicum and 600-hour (minimum) internship in which students practice the skills they have developed under the supervision of faculty. Students may also complete the degree program on a part-time basis. If you need more information, please contact the Ms. Kristine Krivachek, Sr. Enrollment Coordinator, via phone at: 563-425-5783 or via email at: krivachekk@uiu.edu.

Requirements for the Master of Science (M.S.) Degree

Two concentrations are available in the master's degree program in Counseling: *Clinical Mental Health Counseling*, and *School Counseling*. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling concentration prepares graduates to serve as counselors in a variety of community mental health settings including counseling agencies, business and industry, employee assistance programs, substance abuse treatment programs, hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, court systems, and other settings in which counseling or other mental health services are offered. The School Counseling concentration prepares graduates to serve as counselors in public, charter, parochial, and private schools (K through 12th grade).

Admissions

Prospective master's students must meet the admission requirements established by Upper Iowa University. To be considered for admission to the program, an applicant must have an undergraduate grade-point average of at least 2.75. Presentation of the minimum undergraduate grade-point average does not guarantee admission. Admission decisions are based on all criteria considered in relationship to the need of the program and number of students who can be reasonably accommodated.

Program of Study

Students in the program complete the Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Counseling.
The minimum total credit hours required for the M.S. in counseling program is 60. The master's degree in Counseling program is aligned to meet the National Standards. The program includes 36 counseling core credits, six counseling emphasis area credits, six counseling elective credits, three credits in research, and nine credits in field work, which will be explained in more detail below. Should you have any questions about the program of study and the courses offered in the Counseling program, please do not hesitate to contact Ms.

Kristine Krivachek, Sr. Enrollment Coordinator, via phone at: 563-425-5783 or via email at: krivachekk@uiu.edu,

Standards for Academic Standing

Students admitted to the M.S. degree program in Counseling must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 with 6 or fewer completed credit hours and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 with 7 or more completed credit hours. For additional information please visit UIU's Academic Catalog webpage at: https://uiu.edu/academics/catalog/

In addition to UIU Academic Standards requirements, students in the master's degree Counseling program who earn a grade below **B-** in courses required for their degree program, will need to retake the course(s) before been eligible to register for another course. In addition, for the skills courses CNSL 554 (Intro to Couns. Tech.), CNSL 570 (Adv. Couns. Tech.), CNSL 552 (Group Work), CNSL 590 (Practicum in Counseling), CNSL 597 & CNSL 598 (Internship in Counseling I and II), if a student earns a grade **below a B**, then the student must retake the course. In the event a student retakes the course(es) and receives again a failing grade, the student will be dismissed from the Counseling degree program.

Transfer of Credit

A student, with approval from the major professor and the Counseling program, may transfer twelve credits of graduate credit in which grades of B or better were earned that were taken in residence at another university. Only non-skills courses can be transferred (i.e., Theories of Counseling, Lifespan, Human Growth and Development, Research & Program Evaluation, Ethical, Legal & Professional Issues in Counseling or upon the faculty advisor's discretion an elective course). These transfer hours may be included in the program of study. Transfer credits, as well as all credits earned toward the degree, must have been taken within the five-years prior to graduation. Credit for individual courses taken more than five- years before the completion of the degree may be validated by the student's major professor upon demonstration that the student has current knowledge covered in the course.

Comprehensive Examination

Master's students must pass a comprehensive examination (CE), which must be taken near the end of the student's degree program. The examination covers all of the core areas of the student's field of study.

Concentrations

Within the master's programs, students may emphasize, through specialized coursework and internship, in two areas: clinical mental health counseling and/or school counseling.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

The clinical mental health counseling concentration prepares graduates to serve as counselors in a variety of community mental health settings including counseling agencies, business and industry, employee assistance programs, substance abuse treatment programs, hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, court systems, and other settings in which counseling or other mental health services are offered.

School Counseling

The school counseling concentration prepares graduates to serve as counselors in public, charter, parochial, and private schools (pre-K through 12th grade).
Students emphasizing school counseling in the master's degree program complete the requirements to add counseling to their current State of residence teaching certificates (if they possess this certification) or to qualify for initial certification as a school counselor.

Upon graduation, master's degree students are ready to begin their two or three years (depending on the State that the student will practice) of post-master's degree supervised experience required to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

Master's Program Assessments

Timeline

Once accepted into the counseling master's program, candidates:

- Attend the mandatory online Orientation session
- Schedule a meeting with a faculty advisor to plan a Program of Study (The program of study form must be completed by the end of CNSL 570, Advanced Counseling Techniques.) At this meeting, the student compiles the following information to be included in the report:
    - List of courses already completed
    - List of courses in which currently enrolled
    - List of courses left to take, as indicated on program of study

To successfully complete the program, the following prerequisite skills courses require a grade of "B" or better:

- CNSL 554: Introduction to Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
- CNSL 552: Group Work (3 credits)
- CNSL 570: Advanced Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
- CNSL 590: Practicum in Counseling (100 hours required) (3 credits)
- CNSL 597: Internship in Counseling I (300 hours required) (3 credits)
- CNSL 598: Internship in Counseling II (300 hours required) (3 credits)

Note: In the event that the student receives a "*B-*" grade in one of the above skills courses, the student will be required to retake the course. If a second grade of B- or lower is made in the same clinical course, the student will be dismissed from the academic program.

During the term you are enrolled in CSNL 590: Practicum in Counseling, the course instructor and/or core faculty members will complete a copy of the Professional and Interpersonal Characteristics Scale (PICS) form for each student enrolled in the course. More details about the PICS will be provided during the online Orientation session, as well as in the Counseling Graduate Program Student Handbook.

During the term you are enrolled in CNSL 590: Practicum in Counseling

- Schedule a meeting with the faculty advisor to complete the Application for Candidacy form
- Faculty advisor completes and submits the Application for Candidacy form
  After the student successfully completes CNSL 590 Practicum and CNSL 597 first term of Internship in Counseling I, the general qualifying exam form is completed by the faculty advisor and submitted to the Admission's Office.

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE)

M.S. degree students must successfully pass a comprehensive exam before being awarded the degree. Student can take the exam the term (fall, spring or summer) before their last term or during their last term in the program. Additionally, the eight core courses listed below must be completed before taking comps. In the event a core course covering one of the areas listed below will not be taken until the student's last term, the exam should not be taken until that time.

The passing score for the master's Comprehensive Examination is a score of 65% or better.
Before being eligible to sit for the CPCE, master's students must be sure that they have met with their major professor and have been cleared to take the exam. The deadline for exam registration and overall procedures will be posted on the program's online mailing list in advance.

The test consists of 160 multiple choice questions, with 20 items per national standards area. Of the 20 items per section, 17 will be scored items and the remaining three will be pretest items that are not identified to the student. These 24 unscored items are used to gather statistical information on item performance for use in future examinations. The questions are taken from the following areas:

- Human Growth and Development
- Social and Cultural Foundations (Multicultural Counseling)
- Helping Relationships (Counseling Techniques)
- Group Work
- Career and Lifestyle Development
- Appraisal (Assessment in Counseling)
- Research and Program Evaluation
- Professional Orientation and Ethics

The CPCE exam is offered electronically through Pearson VUE. Students must complete the initial registration and take the exam during their Practicum field experience course (CNSL 590), no later than the eighth week.Students will register for the CPCE through Pearson VUE. Payments for the CPCE is done directly to Pearson VUE via credit or debit card.

The candidate can choose to be examined through the following two formats; 1) CPCE-CBT: in-person administration by computer-based testing (CBT), at a Pearson VUE test center or 2) CPCE-OnVUE: internet-based (online) administration through Pearson VUE's OnVue platform.

Important Note: In the event that the student does not score a 65% or better on the Comprehensive Exam, immediately after the results are in (approx. after two-weeks), a second opportunity will be presented to the student by offering the option for an in-house examination by the counselling program which will include content relevant to the above-mentioned eight counseling core areas. Additional details students are given during their Practicum in Counseling course. In the event that a student fails the second opportunity of the in-house examination, the student will continue been examined within a two-weeks increment until they successfully pass it.

Once the candidate has successfully passed the Comprehensive Exam:

It is recommended that they compare a copy of their most recent transcript to ensure that everything is accurate. If there are any discrepancies between what is listed and what was actually taken, contact students are encouraged to contact their major professor.

Apply for Graduation by filling out the necessary paperwork through the *myUIU* student portal.

Pay the graduation fee online and inquire, if applicable, about any outstanding debts that would prevent the student from graduating.

Mentoring/Advising Information

Incoming master's students will be assigned to a faculty member as a mentor/advisor for the remainder of the student's tenure in the program.

Master's students are able to view their course of study sequence by visiting the Counseling program's webpage (www.uiu.edu/msc) and refer to the appropriate section. If questions arise, students are encouraged to contact their major professor. This plan can be modified as needed, but any changes should be reviewed and approved by the faculty advisor.

Students may register for courses each term without the need to consult with their major professor. Of course, if questions arise the student is encouraged to contact their faculty advisors.

Students must ensure they have completed all pre-requisites for courses before they enroll each term. In the event students register for courses for which they are not qualified, they will be required to drop such courses the first time the course meets. Pre-requisite requirements will be vigorously enforced by professors so that the quality of instruction will not be compromised.

Courses in the counseling program fill-up early each term and seats are available only on a first come basis. The only circumstance in which professors will agree to admit students to closed classes is when a student's imminent graduation would be delayed if they were not admitted to the class. It is the student's

responsibility to explain the necessity of taking the course in order to be considered for admission to a closed class.

Core UIU Counseling program professors have the authority to determine whether a student will be admitted to closed classes that they are teaching. Students should contact the professor directly if they wish to enroll in a closed class. In the event an adjunct professor is teaching a closed counseling class, request for admission to that class should be directed to the Director of the Counseling Graduate Program.

Students who wish to enroll in more than 9 credit hours in the Fall, Spring semesters and Summer semester more than 6 credits, will need to request permission from their Counseling program faculty adviser.

Master of Science in Counseling (M.S.)

Note: Make sure to consult with the faculty advisor as it pertains to the program courses because each state has different licensure requirement regulations.

Program Courses

Counseling Core (48 Credits)
CNSL 509: Theories of Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 571: Crisis Intervention Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 584: Substance Abuse Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 510: Ethical and Professional Issues in Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 515: Lifespan Human Growth and Development (3 credits)
CNSL 520: Research & Program Evaluation (3 credits)
CNSL 540: Multicultural Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 543: Career Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 550: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning in Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 552: Group Work (3 credits)
CNSL 554: Introduction to Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
CNSL 570: Advanced Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
CNSL 573: Assessment in Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 590: Practicum in Counseling (100 hours required) (3 credits)
CNSL 597: Internship in Counseling I (300 hours required)
CNSL 598: Internship in Counseling II (300 hours required)

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Emphasis (9 Credits)
CNSL 581: Clinical Mental Health Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 580: Couples, Marriage and Family Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 586: Advanced Diagnosis & Treatment Planning in Counseling (3 credits)

-OR-

School Counseling Emphasis (9 Credits)
CNSL 583: School Counseling (3 credits)
CNSL 582: Counseling Children and Adolescents (3 credits)

CNSL 585: School Counselors as Leaders in Re-Imagining Student Discipline Practices (3 credits)

**Note: SPED 304 - Exceptional Persons or an equivalent course is required for the school counseling emphasis to be licensed in the state of Iowa.

Electives (3 credits in CMHC OR 3 credits in SC emphasis)
CNSL 574: Introduction to Play Therapy (3 credits)
CNSL 576: Psychopharmacology (3 credits)
CNSL 582: Counseling Children & Adolescents [Only for CMHC Emphasis] (3 credits)
CNSL 592: Counseling Sexology
CNSL 593: Developing, Organizing and Managing School Counseling Services/Programs [Only for SC Emphasis in the state of Iowa] (3 credits)

MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS = 60

To successfully complete the program, the following prerequisite skills courses require a grade of "B" or better:
CNSL 554: Introduction to Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
CNSL 570: Advanced Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
CNSL 552: Group Work (3 credits)
CNSL 590: Practicum in Counseling (100 hours required) (3 credits)
CNSL 597: Internship in Counseling I (300 hours required)
CNSL 598: Internship in Counseling II (300 hours required)

Note: In the event that the student receives a "***B-***" grade in one of the above courses, the student will be required to retake the course.

Experiential Requirements for Degree Completion

Practicum and Internship

Field experiences are part of all of the counseling programs with practicum and internship (P/I) marking the synthesis and culmination of the academic preparation to become a professional counselor. A total of 700 hours will be spent in the practicum (100 hours) and (600 hours - minimum) internship, over a period of at least one year (i.e., three semesters). These experiences provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate and improve knowledge and skills learned in the classroom setting.

While the faculty of record for Practicum/Internship, will help students to recommend the proper placement, the student is primarily responsible for investigating, pursuing, and securing his or her practicum and internship site. When selecting a site, students should aim for a site placement that represents a "good fit" with their personal and professional needs, values, interests, program requirements, and licensure and/or certification requirements.

Before a student contacts a potential field placement site they should review the counseling programs pre-requisites and expectations for the 700 hour field experience located in the Counseling Graduate Student

Handbook and Practicum and Internship Manual; review the P/I site directory; and schedule a meeting with the faculty of record for P/I to discuss the site of interest and develop a plan to secure a placement. Once a site is secured, the student must complete an application for practicum and internship and return by the due date.

Prior to Practicum/Internship Course

- Review the program's prerequisites and expectations for the 700-hour field experience located in the Counseling Graduate Student Handbook and Practicum and Internship Manual.
- Before contacting potential practicum and internship (P/I) sites, you should:
    - Schedule a meeting with the faculty of record for Practicum and Internship to discuss the site of interest and develop a plan to secure a placement.
- Students are responsible for investigating, pursuing, and securing their practicum and internship site.
- Once a site is secured, students must complete an Application for Practicum and Internship.
- Students are required to purchase a professional liability insurance policy. A professional liability insurance policy is available, at a student discount rate for master's level students, from the American Counseling Association (ACA) Insurance Trust or the American School Counseling Association (ASCA). Information for liability insurance can be found by visiting the ACA web site or ASCA website, respectively.
- Students are responsible for completion and submission of all required documents for Practicum, including successfully passing a criminal background check through CastleBranch prior to the semester the student is eligible to begin their Practicum field experience, and Internship to the faculty of record for Practicum and Internship.

Note: Students enrolled in the school counseling emphasis should be aware that schools during the summer period are closed. Therefore, they will not be able to accrue any practicum or internship hours during the summer semester period.

Master's P&I Forms

- Master's P/I Manual
- Master's P/I Application
- Master's Logs and Cover sheets
    - Master's Practicum/Internship Clinical Mental Health Weekly Log Sheet
    - Master's Practicum/Internship School Counseling Weekly Log Sheet
    - Practicum cover sheet
    - Internship I cover sheet
    - Internship II cover sheet
    - Supervision Attendance log

- Evaluation Forms
  - Onsite Supervisor Evaluation
  - University Individual Supervisor Evaluation
  - Group Supervisor Evaluation
  - Student Evaluation of Supervisors
  - Field Site Evaluation
  - Supervision Agreement Form

How to Apply to the Counseling Program

Master of Science in Counseling (MSC)

The Counseling program's web page uiu/MSC should be used as a basic outline for submitting application documents and should not be considered a legal document.

Please contact Mrs. Kristine Krivachek, Sr. Enrollment Coordinator, via phone at: 563-425-5783 or via email at: krivachekk@uiu.edu, for more in-depth and up-to-date information to meet all program admission requirements. The admission's office can also be reached via the main toll-free line: 1-800-553-4150 .

Application Information

**Application material can be mailed or emailed at the addresses provided below (we encourage applicants to e-mail their documents for faster processing):

Physical Address:
Upper Iowa University
PO Box 1857
Fayette, IA 52142

Email Address:
documents@uiu.edu

The above email address can be used for official transcripts from a secure transcript company (like eScript, Script-Safe, etc.) and/or for letters of recommendation, personal essay statement, etc.

All graduate candidates are to complete the UIU online application found at: www.uiu.edu/apply. Please follow the instruction to successfully complete the application.

1. Access the online application found at www.uiu.edu/apply
2. Complete the online application.
3. Write a personal statement - e-mail it at: documents@uiu.edu. Guidelines are below.
4. Send official Transcripts from ALL previously attended institutions.

***Internation Students - Important Note:** Because the Counseling program is fully online and not campus based, international students who wish to submit an application for consideration of admission in the master's degree counseling program, should be aware in advance that they will **NOT** be eligible for an F-1 International Student Visa, per USCIS laws and regulations.

Personal Statement Guidelines

The personal statement is a thoughtful 1-2 pages, 12-pt font, double-spaced essay that addresses the following elements [***Important Note**: Candidates must write the Personal Statement without the use of AI, as the program evaluates each applicant's writing proficiency. Applicants suspected of using AI will be disqualified and required to reapply]:

- A summary of your educational and work experiences and how they have contributed to your readiness for counselor education.
- Your reason you are pursuing a master's degree in counseling.
- What prompted you to do so at this point in your life.
- What experiences have shaped your beliefs about diversity, multiculturalism, social justice, and people's capacity for change.
- Your professional goals and how a UIU master's degree in counseling can help you accomplish your professional goals.

Only those applications that are complete and include all the required documentation will be considered for review. If the applicant does not complete the application process by the deadline, the applicant can contact the Registrar's office and indicate whether they wish to be considered for the next application deadline.

Criminal Background Check

Applicants are required to complete an online criminal background check prior to being fully admitted to the Counseling program. The associated fee for the online criminal background check is approximately $45.00. Information regarding the background check will be provided to applicants after they have completed all required application steps, including submission of official transcripts and a personal statement, and after the Counseling faculty have approved them to proceed to the final step of the admission process (i.e., the online criminal background check before official admission into the program). The Enrollment Coordinator will provide candidates with the necessary information and a link to complete the online criminal background check. Candidates are encouraged to complete the background check at their earliest convenience, as the results may take up to three weeks to be received by the institution.

Final Steps

Once an application and the required materials (i.e., official transcripts, personal statement, criminal background check) are received and reviewed by the counseling program faculty, applicants will be notified via electronic communication (i.e., email) in relation to their admission status in approximately two to three weeks. Once a student has received an official admissions offer into the counseling, they are ***required* to attend the online new student orientation, which takes place a week prior to the beginning of the new semester**. If the students do not attend the orientation meeting or do not contact us, their admission will be forfeited, and they will be required to reapply to the Counseling Graduate Program (consideration will be given if it was an unforeseen emergency incident).

Optional – Enrollment as a Non-Degree Student

Individuals may be admitted into UIU's Online Master's in Counseling program as a non-degree graduate seeking student. Non-degree seeking students can take the six (6) foundational, non-skills courses, listed below, based on which semester they will be enrolling (i.e., fall, spring or summer) [Note: Not all courses are offered in a given semester].

- Theories of Counseling
- Lifespan, Human Growth and Development
- Research & Program Evaluation
- Ethical, Legal & Professional Issues in Counseling
- Career Counseling
- Multicultural Counseling

Enrollment and/or completion of any of the six (6) counseling courses listed above will not ensure admittance to the counseling graduate program. All other courses in the counseling graduate program may not be taken until the applicant is admitted as a master's degree counseling student.

Deadlines

All application materials and activities for consideration for admission into the Master's in Counseling program, must be completed by the following deadlines:

Fall: July 31st

Spring: November 30th

Summer: April 15th

Should you have any further questions regarding the admissions process and requirements, please contact Ms. Kristine Krivachek, Sr. Enrollment Coordinator, via phone at: 563-425-5783 or via email at: krivachekk@uiu.edu . The admission's office can also be reached via the main toll-free line: 1-800-553-4150

Thank you for your interest in our Master's in Counseling Program and we are looking forward to having you as a counselor-in-training student in our program!

Contact Information

Admissions Office
Mrs. Kristine Krivachek, Sr. Enrollment Coordinator
Email: krivachekk@uiu.edu
Telephone no.: 563-425-5783
Main toll-free line: 1-800-553-4150

Counseling program's main e-mail: counselingprogram@uiu.edu

Core Faculty Profiles



Dr. Panagiotis Markopoulos, Ph.D.
Program Director / Associate Professor of Counseling
Master of Science in Counseling Program
Office no.: 563-600-3105
markopoulosp23@uiu.edu

Dr. Panagiotis Markopoulos is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Master's in Counseling Program at Upper Iowa University, School of Arts and Sciences. He holds a doctorate (Ph.D.) in Counselor Education & Supervision from the University of New Orleans, a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Eastern Kentucky University, a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Western Kentucky University, and a master's degree in Social Theology from the National and Capodistrian University of Athens, Greece. Prior to coming to UIU, he served as a faculty and Clinical Counseling Lab Director at the University of New Orleans.

Dr. Markopoulos was born and raised in Athens Greece until his early adulthood when he relocated to the United States to expand his educational horizons. His research interests primarily include exploring the use of virtual reality (VR) technology in treatment of children who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Dr. Markopoulos is actively involved internationally and nationally in various leadership counseling organizations related roles including the American Counseling Association, Association for Counselor Education & Supervision, Southern Association for Counselor Education & Supervision, International Association for Marriage and Family Counselors and Association for Humanistic Counseling. Additionally, he has received numerous recognitions and awards as it pertains to his research on using VR for clinical use in the treatment of children with ASD. Dr. Markopoulos is an active guest speaker and presenter in state, national, and international conferences.



Dr. Kathleen Jones-Trebatoski, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Counseling
Master of Science in Counseling Program
jonestrebatoskik44@uiu.edu

Dr. Kathleen Jones-Trebatoski is an Assistant Professor and has over 30 years' experience in the area of mental health counseling, university lecturing at the Master's and Doctoral level, and community services. As a Licensed Professional Counselor-Supervisor, she oversees a thriving private practice, including supervision of Interns and community consultation. While directing this effort, she is personally responsible for a number of mentorships on national, regional, and local levels.

In addition, Dr. Jones-Trebatoski manages both Pro Bono counseling sessions and workshops in her community churches. She had provided free group workshops in her community after Hurricane Harvey. Her area of expertise is a focus on wellness and stress management. She is currently working on developing a nature wellness clinic. She had also introduced Animal Assisted Therapy, a free community youth counseling program that involved the use of certified animals into the counseling process.

She also served as an advocate within her community. These include Parent and Professional Training Regional Workshop in Corpus Christi (2010): Presented by Coastal Bend Autism Advocacy, Inc. She had served as a member for on Human Right's Boards for individual with intellectual disabilities for 15 years. She was one of the founding board members in her community for the Coastal Bend Public Forum on Domestic Violence, at times acting as the liaison to community mental health practitioners.

Dr. Jones-Trebatoski is also involved in professional organizations. She has served on the numerous organizational committees: European Branch of ACA; American Counseling Association, Texas Counseling Association, Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, and the Gulf Coast Counseling Association. She had served 3 years as a Chi Sigma Iota Board member. She has been nominated and won various counseling awards at the national and international level.

Dr. Jones-Trebatoski received her doctorate degree from TAMU-Corpus Christi. Her credentials include: National Board for Certified Counselors, Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors, National Certification of Marriage Therapists, and American Society of Clinical Hypnosis.



Prof. Scotti Hagensick, M.A.
Lecturer of Counseling
Master of Science in Counseling Program
Hagensicks63@uiu.edu

Professor Scotti Hagensick is a Lecturer of Counseling and a licensed Professional School Counselor in the state of Iowa and has been serving K-12 students for 10 years. She has also served as an Adjunct Instructor within Upper Iowa University's Counseling Program since 2022. Scotti has held counseling positions at the elementary, middle, and high school level. In 2021, her elementary building's school counseling program was

awarded the RAMP designation from the American School Counselor Association (ASCA). In addition to her work with students, Scotti has also served as a School Improvement Consultant within the Iowa AEA system.

Prof. Hagensick earned both her Bachelor of Arts degree and her Master of Arts degree in Counseling from the University of Northern Iowa. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision at Liberty University.

Prof. Hagensick is passionate about delivering comprehensive school counseling programs with an emphasis on data-informed practices and multi-tiered, multi-domain applications. She has provided trainings in Powerful Tools for Caregivers of Children with Special Health and Behavioral Needs, ACEs, supported schools in the development of ESSA improvement plans and served on the Iowa School Counselor Association (ISCA) board.