

# **UPPER IOWA UNIVERSITY**

## ***Counseling Program***



## **Online Master's in Counseling Program (MSC)**

### **Admissions Booklet**



## Online Master of Science in Counseling (MSC)

The online M.Sc. in Counseling is aligned to meet the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) Standards. All degree programs at Upper Iowa University (UIU) are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

The master's in counseling degree is a semester-length program (i.e., Fall and Spring 16-weeks, and Summer 14-weeks), in which the 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.Sc. 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.

## Degree Requirements

The program leading to the M.Sc. 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.Sc. 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 Ms. Theresa Lemke, Director of Admissions at: 1-800-553-4150 ext. 4201 or at: [lemket@uiu.edu](mailto:lemket@uiu.edu)

## Requirements for the Master of Science (M.Sc.) 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 (pre-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. Applicants who present undergraduate grade-point averages that are lower than those listed above may be considered for admission, pending the evaluation of other indicators (i.e., previous educational and/or work experience, personal essay statement, letters of recommendation and group interview).

## Program of Study

Students in the program complete the Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Counseling. The minimum total credit hours required for the M.Sc. in counseling program is 60. The master's degree in Counseling program is aligned to meet the CACREP 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. Theresa Lemke, Director of Admissions at: 1-800-553-4150 ext. 4201 or at: [lemket@uiu.edu](mailto:lemket@uiu.edu)

## Standards for Academic Standing

Students admitted to the M.Sc. 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 must complete each of the following prerequisite clinical courses with a grade B or better: CNSL 550 (Diagnosis and Treatment Planning), CNSL 554 (Introduction to Counseling Techniques), CNSL 552 (Group Work), CNSL 570 (Advanced Counseling Techniques), CNSL 590 (Practicum in Counseling), and CNSL 597/598 (Internship in Counseling I & II). In the event that the student receives a "B-" grade in one of the above clinical skills courses, the student will be required to retake the course.

## 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-clinical 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 clinical courses require a grade of "B" or better:*

- CNSL 550: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning (3 credits)
- 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 CNSL 554: Introduction to Counseling Techniques, CNSL 570: Advanced Counseling Techniques, and CNSL 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.



## Master's Comprehensive Examination

M.Sc. in Counseling degree students must successfully pass the computer-based Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) before being awarded the degree. Students are encouraged to take the exam the term (fall, spring, or summer) before their last term. Students also may take the exam their last term in the program. 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 CPCE can only be delivered at an approved Pearson VUE facility. The exam fee is \$150.00 and is in addition to any tuition costs.

The test consists of 160 multiple choice questions, 140 of which are the actual test questions, and 20 are questions which are being tested for future exam use. 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 passing score for the master's Comprehensive Examination is a score of 60% or better.

Before taking the master's Comprehensive Exam, master's students must be sure that they have met with their major professor and completed/filed an Application for Candidacy. The candidacy form must be filed the term after they complete Practicum in Counseling.

The examination date (as well as the deadline for exam registration) and overall procedures will be posted on the program's email list in advance. To register to take the Comprehensive Examination, master's degree students should register online at Pearson VUE's website (<https://home.pearsonvue.com/>) by the deadline date, which will be determined before the student begins their Internship semester.

**Note 1:** Students who are not listed on the program exam roster will not be eligible to take the comprehensive exam. Read the Counseling Graduate Program Student Handbook for additional information, requirements and procedure for scheduling to take the comprehensive examination.

**Note 2:** In the event that the student does not score a 60% or better on the CPCE, immediately after the results are in, a second opportunity will be presented to the student by offering the option for an oral exam which will include content relevant to the above-mentioned eight counseling core areas. The committee for the oral exam will include three faculty from the counseling program, which one of them will be the student's faculty advisor. After the student complete the oral exam, the faculty will meet and within approximately a week or two will meet again with the student to report the results (i.e., pass or fail). In the event that a student fails the second opportunity of an oral exam, he or she will be dismissed from the program and will not receive a degree.



### **Once candidate has successfully passed the Comprehensive Exam:**

It is recommended that you compare a copy of your most recent transcript with a copy of the Candidacy form. If there are any discrepancies between what is listed and what was actually taken, contact your faculty advisor to change your Candidacy form.

Apply for Graduation by filling out the necessary paperwork in the myUIU portal via the Registrar's Office.

Pay your graduation fee online at the Registrar's Office and inquire about any outstanding debts that would prevent you from graduating.

## **Advising Information**

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

Master's students will complete a Program of Study (POS) form for completing their degree, (which includes a schedule for registering for courses throughout the degree program), when they meet with their faculty advisor. 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 after consulting with their faculty advisor. Faculty advisors may be also contacted for registration advice if problems arise.

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 he or she 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 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 12 credit hours in the Fall/Spring/Summer semester will need to request permission from the School of Arts & Sciences. The form, "Request to Override Credit Hour Limits", may be obtained the assigned to the student faculty advisor and will be processed within the School of Arts & Sciences.



## **Master of Science in Counseling (M.Sc.)**

**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

#### **Electives (3 credits in CMHC OR 3 credits in SC emphasis)**

- CNSL 574: Introduction to Play Therapy (3 credits)
- CNSL 591: Supervision in Counseling (3 credits)
- CNSL 576: Psychopharmacology (3 credits)
- CNSL 577: Consultation in Counselor Education (3 credits)
- EDU 536 (Required only for SC emphasis in the state of Iowa): Classroom Curriculum Design
- SPED 304 (Required only for SC emphasis in the state of Iowa for non-teachers): Exceptional Persons

*MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS = 60*



**To successfully complete the program, the following prerequisite clinical 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 550: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning 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)

**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 find 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 he or she should review the counseling programs prerequisites 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. Information for liability insurance can be found by visiting the [ACA web site](#).
- Students are responsible for completion and submission of all required documents for Practicum and Internship to the faculty of record for Practicum and Internship.

## P&I Application Due Dates

- If a student plans to enroll in practicum/internship for the fall semester the application deadlines is June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- If a student plans to enroll in practicum/internship for the spring semester the application deadlines is November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- If a student plans to enroll in practicum/internship for the summer semester the application deadlines is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**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 the counseling program admission's counselor, Ms. Theresa Lemke, Director of Admissions at: 1-800-553-4150 ext. 4201 or at: [lemket@uiu.edu](mailto:lemket@uiu.edu) , for more in-depth and up-to-date information to meet all program admission requirements.

## 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:

[iecoperations@uiu.edu](mailto:iecoperations@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](http://www.uiu.edu/apply). Please follow the instruction to successfully complete the application.

1. Access the online application found at [www.uiu.edu/apply](http://www.uiu.edu/apply)
2. Complete the online application.
3. Write a personal statement e-mail it at the e-mail address provided above ([iecoperations@uiu.edu](mailto:iecoperations@uiu.edu)). Guidelines are below.
4. Send official Transcripts from ALL previously attended institutions.
5. Two letters of recommendation. Two professional references who can attest to your personal and professional qualities and your readiness for graduate study. They must be willing to supply letters of professional reference on your behalf. These individuals can mail or e-mail their letters to the e-mail address provided above.



Ideal references can speak to your:

- Academic ability and/or potential for graduate study
- Experience in the helping professions (volunteer/employment)
- Character
- Encounters with individuals whose background or cultures differed from yours

References may include employers or internship/volunteer supervisors, faculty, mentors or community members (e.g., religious or community leaders). Please do not include family members, personal therapists/counselors, current or former supervisees or clients.

**\*Important note:** Because the 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 policies and standards.

## Personal Statement Guidelines

The personal statement is a thoughtful 1-2 pages, 12-pt font, double-spaced essay that addresses the following elements:

- 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 or not you wish to be considered for the next application deadline.

## Online Criminal Background Check

Applicants are required to undergo online criminal background check before being fully admitted to the program. A second criminal background check will be required before practicum. The associated fee with the online background check is \$29.95 (except in Tennessee where the fee is \$49.40). Once you have applied in the program you will receive an automated e-mail from CastleBranch to proceed with the online background check. The information that we will receive (usually within 48 hours), will be kept confidential according to FERPA and HIPAA laws and regulations and only the counseling program and admissions office has access to it.

## *Final Steps*

Once an application and the required materials (i.e., personal statement, official transcripts, and three letters of recommendation) are received and reviewed by the counseling faculty, applicants selected to proceed in the application process will receive information regarding the dates and times for the group screening interviews. Screening Interviews will be conducted online through a videoconferencing platform in small groups and last approximately 45-60 minutes.



Following the screening interviews the counseling program faculty will conduct a final review of applications and supporting materials and select applicants for admission. Applicants will be notified by email of their admissions status within one to two weeks.

## **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 four (4) foundation, non-clinical courses, listed below.

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

Enrollment and/or completion of the four (4) 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: August 14<sup>th</sup>

Spring: December 11<sup>th</sup>

Summer: April 30<sup>th</sup>

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Theresa Lemke, Director of Admissions at: 1-800-553-4150 ext. 4201 or at: [lemket@uiu.edu](mailto:lemket@uiu.edu)

Thank you for your interest in our M.Sc. in Counseling Program and we are looking forward to having you as a counselor-in-training student!



## Contact Information

**Director of Admissions:** Ms. Theresa Lemke

Email: [lemket@uiiu.edu](mailto:lemket@uiiu.edu)

Telephone no.: 1-800-553-4150 ext. 4201

**Counseling program e-mail:** [cnsled@uiiu.edu](mailto:cnsled@uiiu.edu)

## Core-Faculty



Dr. Panagiotis Markopoulos, Ph.D.

Program Director

School Arts & Sciences

504-930-8821

[markopoulosp23@uiiu.edu](mailto:markopoulosp23@uiiu.edu)

Dr. Panagiotis Markopoulos is the Director of the M.Sc. 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. Kimberly King, Ph.D.  
School of Arts & Sciences  
Lecturer of Counseling  
[kingk@uiu.edu](mailto:kingk@uiu.edu)

Dr. Kimberly King has taught at Upper Iowa University since 1996 in the areas of counseling, psychology, and education. She was a school psychologist for 23 years providing assessment and counseling to children with behavioral, mental health, and academic needs. She has also worked extensively with refugee populations and children whose primary language is non-English. Her primary interests are in the areas of Positive Psychology, ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and resiliency. Dr. King is skilled in assessment and intervention design for children with challenging behavior. She has provided training in positive psychology, mental health in the schools, coaching, Fierce Conversations, crisis intervention, and conflict resolution. Dr. King received her doctorate from the University of Iowa in Education, an Ed.S. in School Psychology from the University of Northern Iowa, a Master's in Educational Psychology from the University of Northern Iowa and a Bachelor's in Psychology from the University of Northern Iowa.