Master’s Degrees in Counseling

Considering earning a master’s degree to boost your career prospects or professional marketability? Looking to change your career path and think counseling might be for you?

St. Bonaventure’s counseling graduate programs are just what you’re looking for – if what you’re looking for is a highly effective program offered in several convenient formats and the opportunity to learn with like-minded students who just might become life-long friends and professional contacts.

St. Bonaventure offers four graduate counselor education programs:
- MSED/MS in Community Mental Health Counseling
- MSED in School Counseling
- MSED in Rehabilitation Counseling
- Advanced Certificate of Study in School Counseling
Why Counseling?

Counseling is a rewarding career that allows you to make a difference in the lives of those around you – but counseling high school students is different than disabilities counseling or substance abuse counseling. Through classes and advising, St. Bonaventure helps you discern the track that’s right for you – and provides the best education possible to help you reach the end of it. All of our programs are state-registered, so upon graduation you’ll be prepared to begin your professional work and pursue relevant licensures and specialties. Our CACREP accreditation also ensures maximum portability to other states.

Community Mental Health

This degree track is for anyone who dreams of serving as a counselor in a community-based setting such as mental health clinics, hospitals, social services agencies, colleges and corrections. St. Bonaventure University’s MSED prepares you with research-based instruction, advising and practicum placements so you’ll be ready to serve in the many organizations that employ mental health professionals. The MS option is designed for students considering eventual study at the doctoral level.

While you’re gaining this strong general foundation, program electives allow you to pursue special interests, such as substance abuse counseling (courses can be used toward the CASAC credential), grief therapy, child abuse and crisis counseling.

Rehabilitation Counseling

This degree program is for students who want to help persons with physical, mental, emotional or social disabilities, at any stage in their lives. Rehabilitation counselors may work with veterans, for example, as they deal with physical injury and PTSD. They might work with the elderly or with those who’ve suffered traumatic injury. In a variety of settings, rehabilitation counselors assist individuals in maximizing their full life potential, vocationally, socially and psychologically.

School Counseling

This degree track is for anyone with a goal of serving as a guidance counselor in a K-12 setting. Through coursework and practicum placements, you’ll learn about (and be prepared for) the full range of issues and duties school counselors face – career and academic counseling, family dynamics, psychological testing, adolescent development, etc. St. Bonaventure University’s counseling program has a long, substantial history and is a leading provider of school counselors throughout Western New York and the Southern Tier.
Advanced Certificate Of Study In School Counseling

If you've already earned a 36 - 48 credit master's degree in school counseling and need additional coursework for permanent N.Y. certification, St. Bonaventure can help. Our faculty will work with you on a personalized basis (pointing you toward state offices as needed) to set up an appropriate course sequence.

Convenient Learning Formats!

You’ll love the flexible scheduling options available to you as a St. Bonaventure University counseling graduate student.

1. **Weeknights at Our Main Campus**
   Take classes in the evenings at the main St. Bonaventure campus in Olean, NY. Classes meet Monday through Thursday with each three – credit class meeting once per week.

2. **Weekends at Our Buffalo Center Campus**
   Take classes at our Buffalo Center (on the Hilbert College campus) in Hamburg, NY on Friday evenings and Saturdays. The Buffalo Center offers dedicated St. Bonaventure University staff and the same excellent faculty that teach on our Olean campus.

3. **Online**
   Many of our elective courses can be taken as online classes and many of our courses have online components. Online courses and schedules add an extra element of flexibility that we know is vital for our students.

Counselors With A Purpose

Integrated throughout the academic courses are experiential learning opportunities. We want to make sure you get hands-on, real-world experience that gives you an advantage when you begin to apply for professional positions.

Most of your professors will be full-time St. Bonaventure faculty, professionals with varied experiences and significant teaching experiences. Carefully chosen part-time faculty – experienced counselors working in specialized fields and settings – supplement their efforts. All of our professors embrace and convey our Franciscan traditions of peace, respect, individual dignity and social justice.

More Than Academics

Earning a master's degree is hard work – really hard work. But we know you can do it! And, to help you along the way, we make a few small promises that can make a big difference:

- Small classes = great friendships and professional contacts
- Free pizza and soda on Friday nights before class for Buffalo Center students
- Easy parking
- No GRE or MAT required
- Financial aid available