

Department Overview

The counseling faculty of the Department of Secondary Education and School Leadership meet annually to review, amend, and approve each counseling track program objectives within the context of data gathered from the previous academic year. The counseling faculty review and approve recommendations for programmatic changes to be initiated in the next academic year. Following is a summative report for the 2022-2023 academic reporting year.

Service

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) requires that departments provide appropriate continuing education regarding supervision and practicum/internship expectations among professionals in the field who provide practicum/internship supervision for NSU students. The Department of Counseling has hosted 1 to 1 Site Supervisor Training with follow-up at the midpoint during semesters of the academic year of 2022-2023. In AY 2023-2024, these training opportunities will increase in frequency due to an online presentation with continuing education credits through CREDITLY. University supervisors will monitor effectiveness of site supervisor training in the students' documentation and site supervisor evaluation feedback instrument. If needed counseling faculty and university supervisors will provide additional support for the site supervisor and the site. In addition, site supervisor training will be held on an as needed or one to one basis if sites contact the university supervisor for additional support.

Program Evaluation

The counseling faculty of the Department of Secondary Education and School Leadership meet review and evaluate the current counseling track program objectives within the context of data gathered from departmental instruments Counselor Education Benchmark (CEBD) and site supervisor evaluations collected the previous academic year of 2022-2023. The counseling faculty based on the results of the review which included data from the CEBD, site supervisors' evaluations, and core faculty and non-core faculty input; the following recommendations were approved for programmatic changes to be initiated in the next academic year.

- The SESL Department organized the Focus Group Discussion with eight (8) recent master's graduates and five (5) site supervisors to get their feedback on how well the students are preparing for practice and collect their recommendations for changes to the counselor education programs. The feedback from the discussions was reported to faculty, discourse on the highlighted items was a local point in department meetings, and subsequent changes were added to the university's CACREP Vital Statistics Report.
- The Department coordinated efforts to include students from both the Mental Health and Professional School Counseling programs to participate in state presentations at the 2022 Virginia Counseling Association Conference held in Williamsburg, Virginia. The students presented on issues from military deployment and the family to substance abuse and trauma-informed care to counseling education departments working with students affected by autism.

- The Department revised the curriculum to incorporate a crisis and trauma course across the degree concentration tracks. The newly revised UED 720 Crisis and Intervention course (formerly COED 720) will include multicultural and multigenerational perceptions coupled with community resources to effectively teach counseling students how to understand the constructs of crisis and trauma and facilitate assistance in the wake of many current events in the nation today such as school shootings.
- The Department has increased efforts to promote counselor identity by encompassing student membership into introductory and exit courses with the counseling education programs. Students in beginning courses (COED 621 and COED 631C) are required to join the Virginia Counseling Association and students in practicum (COED 710C) and internships (UED 793, UED 793C, UED 794, and UED 794C) are required to join the American Counseling Association for mental health students or American School Counseling Association for professional school counseling. These course requirements promote counseling identity throughout a students' matriculation in the counseling programs.
- The name Counselor Education and Leadership that was voted as the new department name was sent back SESL Department discussed renaming the department for more counselor identity to reflect the makeup of the department and for employment marking purposes. The SESL Department voted on Counseling Education and Global Leadership to include the non-counseling program in the department. The next step in changing the department name is to send it to the Provost in Academic Affairs who will present the proposal to the NSU Board of Visitors for approval.