

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. The following is a summative report for the 2020-2021 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 historically hosted 1 to 1 Site Supervisor Training with follow-up at the midpoint during the semester. In AY 2021-2022, these training opportunities increased due to the increase in the number of community partners. Site supervisors from various backgrounds and training are being used to supervise students at the increased sites that partner with the department to host practicum and internship students. University supervisors increased site supervisor training which increased the number of visits to the sites and meetings with approved site supervisors.

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 Disposition and site supervisor evaluations collected the previous academic year. The counseling faculty based on the results of the review which included data 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 reviewed school counseling internship and its efficiency in developing counseling students that are job market ready. The Urban School Counseling internship handbook was revised and updated to improve the school counseling internship for both the students and the school site supervisor.
- The SESL Department evaluated how the curriculum fostered counselor identity. Based on department exit interviews, data from department instruments, and feedback from various course instructors, the department voted to change the name of the school counseling program from Urban School Counseling to Professional School Counseling. The program name changes not only bolsters counselor identity in school counseling students, but also indicates the program is more mainstreamed for all PK-12 students, not just urban populations.

- After reviewing information provided on the exit interviews, the SESL Department discussed changing the course prefix more counselor identity to reflect counseling based courses on students' transcripts. The university registrar worked with the department to develop a prefix that would indicate both Counselor Education and that the program was graduate level. COED, short for Counselor Education, was voted to be adopted by the department to replace non-degree assessment courses for CAEP and the university which would stay UED for the Urban Education degree. In addition to the prefix change, the department updated some course names, descriptions, and delivery methods to enhance the overall effectiveness of both the counseling program concentration tracks.
- The SESL Department increased the number of community partners that host mental health counseling practicum and internship students. The number of Memorandums of Agreement grew to over 30 in one year, allowing more opportunities for training for mental health students in a variety of settings throughout the community that could lead to potential employment upon completion of internship and graduation.