

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 historically hosted 1 to 1 Site Supervisor Training. In AY 2023-2024, these training opportunities will increase in frequency to an online presentation with continuing education credits through CREDITLY. Similarly, site supervisor training will be held if site contact the university supervisor for additional support.

- The SESL Department organized the Focus Group Discussion with 9 recent master's graduates and 6 site supervisors to get their feedback on how well the students are preparing for practice and collect their recommendations for changes to the master's programs. The feedback from the discussion was reported to faculty and added to the university's CAEP 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 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 and educators alike how to understand the constructs of crisis and trauma and facilitate assistance in the wake of many current events in the nation today.
- The Department was efforts to increase counselor identity by encompassing student membership into introductory and exit courses with the counseling programs. Students in beginning courses are required to join the Virginia Counseling Association and students in practicum are required to the American Counseling Association. These course requirements promote counseling identity throughout a students' matriculation in the counseling programs.