

## About our Program

The mission of the Masters of Arts program in Counseling Psychology (MACP) at TAMIU is to prepare you to become a professional counselor or psychology associate. As a student in our program you will learn how to utilize preventive strategies to promote mental health as well as creatively identify, address and serve the counseling needs of the communities and individuals in multicultural contexts, such as the growing populations along the border of the United States and Mexico. We train students to value all cultures and thus you will learn to respond sensitively to the special issues of life in border communities. After completion of the program, you will be eligible to take the Texas Exam as Licensed Professional Counselor Intern or the Psychology Associate Exam.

While students of the MACP program typically live and work in the border region, students throughout the world are welcome within our program and our "international" university. U.S. News and World Report ranked TAMIU a Tier II higher education institution in 2002. This has spurred interest from out-of-state applicants. Many of our students are adults returning for an advanced degree after working in community agencies. Other students tend to be younger and may come directly from undergraduate degrees. Some students are enrolled full-time and others part-time. If you are a full-time student, you can complete the program in two

years; if you attend part-time it may take three to four years to complete the program. Either way, you would join a very multicultural mix of students in the MACP program. Most of our students are Mexican-American, but others have come from as far as Africa and Hong Kong. You would join about 25 students who are enrolled in the program each year.

TAMIU sponsors the Community Stress Center where advanced graduate students can complete their practicum or internship hours. Students receive supervision by program faculty in bilingual brief counseling, assessment, career counseling and psycho-educational groups. Services are provided free to the community in the beautiful and Historic Casa Ortiz near the Plaza in downtown Laredo.

## Why Should You Come Here?

The MACP program at TAMIU offers a wonderful opportunity to work with Mexican-Americans. As Hispanics are one of the fastest growing ethnic groups in the United States, your experience in our bicultural community will assist you wherever you want to practice in the United States. You also have an exciting opportunity to become bilingual or polish your Spanish language skills. Also, living on the border allows you to visit Mexico and even take a course or two there.

We typically admit 12 to 15 new MACP students per year, which allows us to effectively mentor our students and help



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them plan their future careers as professional counselors. A bilingual certification within the MACP plan is being discussed and may be offered in the near future. This certification would certainly make our graduates highly attractive in today's increasingly diverse communities.

## About Our Faculty

Psychology faculty members have doctoral degrees and emphasize the wide range of subjects within the discipline. You will find our faculty members open and available and eager to help you explore the fascinating world of human behavior, motivation, development and cognition and memory. Call our department office and ask to speak with one of our faculty members. You will be welcomed.

# Counseling Psychology

## Careers

As a graduate of the MACP program you also have many opportunities to work in a variety of exciting settings. With a MACP from TAMIU you are prepared to take the exam to become a Licensed Professional Counselor Intern, and after your post-degree internship hours, to become a Licensed Professional Counselor. You can also take the exam to be a Licensed Psychology Associate. The MACP also prepares you for doctoral programs in psychology such as the Ph.D. or Psy.D. degrees.

You can work in business settings as a consultant; you can have your own practice; you can work in hospitals; pain management centers; weight loss centers and schools or for local, state and federal agencies such as departments of Mental Health, Rehabilitation, Trauma Response and Vocational Adjustment. Within universities, you can be employed in departments of Career Services and also Student Life, including residential facilities.

Graduates of our program also have the opportunity to teach at community colleges and some university campuses. The state of Texas has listed counselors as among the top 25 most needed occupations in the state. You can stay in Texas and work or move and work! Opportunities abound for you in this field!

## Graduate Assistantships

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available each year to students. Interested parties may contact the Office of Graduate Studies at 956.326.3027.



## How Do I Apply?

- Complete and submit University graduate application and submit undergraduate transcripts to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is required.
- All applications can be downloaded from [www.tamtu.edu/gradschool/admissions](http://www.tamtu.edu/gradschool/admissions) or visit [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org)
- Have official GRE test scores sent directly from ETS.
- Write a student narrative describing particular academic and career goals and objectives. Narratives must contain a minimum of 300 words.
- International students must also submit adequate TOEFL scores and financial documentation.
- Review additional program requirements in the graduate application.

Spring application deadline is Nov. 30 (domestic); Fall and Summer application deadline is April 30 (domestic); the Spring application deadline for International students is Oct. 1.

For more detailed information including program costs and courses, please visit or call:

Website: [www.tamtu.edu/catalog/current/ma-coun-psych-thesis.shtml](http://www.tamtu.edu/catalog/current/ma-coun-psych-thesis.shtml)  
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