

# MA, Counseling Course Sequencing Guide

Although your official plan of study does not include the specific terms or order in which you will take courses, we hope this Course Sequencing Guide will help you plan forward with your faculty advisor.

When planning your course sequencing, here are some important reminders:

- **Transfer Credits**
  - You may apply to transfer up to 12 credits by consulting your faculty adviser and completing the appropriate paperwork. It is important to do this prior to starting your plan of study to avoid potential duplications. Additional credits may be accepted if transferring from a CACREP-accredited program and due to military involvement, school counselor permit needs, or former program closure.
  - Transfer credits are not guaranteed, as they depend on factors like state licensure and accreditation.
- **GPA and Performance Requirements**
  - **Minimum GPA:** You need to maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher to meet department standards.
  - **Grade Requirements:** Only three credits of “C” are allowed on your study plan; grades lower than “C” aren’t accepted and could result in dismissal from the program. No grades of “C” will be accepted in your practicum or internship coursework.
  - **Performance Benchmarks:** You’ll need to meet certain knowledge, skills, and disposition benchmarks, along with any necessary retention and remediation requirements.
- **Time to Graduate**
  - You have seven years (or 22 terms) to complete the program from your first term of credit (including any transfer credits).
- **Credit Hours**
  - Generally, you can take up to 12 credit hours per term without special permission. Request for more than 12 credit hours must be discussed with your faculty adviser, are considered on a case-by-case basis, and are not guaranteed.
- **Leaves of Absence**
  - If you’re considering a leave, plan this with your faculty adviser. Once you begin your clinical placement, it is very difficult to take a leave given the needs of the client’s you will be serving.
- **Adviser Approval**
  - Any changes to your plan of study need written approval from your faculty adviser.
- **Setting Your Pace:**
  - Take some time to decide on a pace that works best for you. Here are a few tips:
  - **Consider Your Well-being:** Your mental health and well-being (as well as those who depend on you) are essential for your success in the program.
  - **Budget Your Time:** Estimate around 10 hours per week for each class in which you are enrolled.
  - **Reflect on Your Life Goals:** Think about your overall goals and timelines as you map out each semester.
- **Recommended Course Sequence**
  - To stay on track, it’s best to follow the suggested course sequences below.

- **Credentialing Requirements**
  - Review licensure or certification requirements in the states where you intend to practice. Some states require special electives (e.g., psychopharmacology; human sexuality). Compare their education requirements to your plan of study to ensure you have all the courses you need.
- **Choosing Your Electives**
  - Check your state licensure and certification requirements. Some states require specific electives (e.g., human sexuality, psychopharmacology).
  - You can choose from all COUN 500 and 600 level courses (except COUN 683–687), which are pre-approved for your study plan. If you're interested in COUN 683-687, contact the coordinator of the Violence, Loss, and Trauma Counseling Graduate Certificate program.
  - **School Counseling Students:** For those new to the educational system, consider EDF 610: Trends & Issues in Education. Talk with your adviser about any other elective options you're considering.
- **Practicum and Internship**
  - **Start Today:** Make connections with local mental health agencies and schools in your community to inquire about their practicum and internship opportunities.
  - **Planning Ahead:** Apply for practicum and internship placements and attend clinical placement orientation in the semester before you plan to take these courses.
  - **For internship,** you will need 6 total credit hours (600 total placement hours). We recommend spreading the experience over two terms (3 credits = 300 placement hours each term); however, if you think you can complete all the hours in one term (e.g., normally this requires about 40 hours per week at your placement site) or need a little longer, then please consult with your faculty adviser to plan ahead accordingly.
  - **Contact:** For questions, reach out to Dr. Dooley, our Clinical Placement Coordinator, at [dooley24@marshall.edu](mailto:dooley24@marshall.edu).
- **Course Registration**
  - **Sequence Matters:** Registering for courses out of order could delay your graduation.
  - **Stay on Plan:** Courses outside your plan may not be covered by financial aid.
  - **Section Changes:** Your enrollment might be adjusted to another section of the same course if needed to balance enrollment.
  - **Let us know:** If a course you need is full, let your faculty adviser know, and we might be able to open another section.
- **Forms:**
  - Most graduate forms can be located here: <https://www.marshall.edu/graduate/current-students/forms-and-information/>

Ready to take the next step? Let's keep moving forward, one step at a time!

# Pacing Course Sequences

The MU Counseling Department recommends three distinct paces through the program: 5 terms, 6 terms, and 10 terms. Although there is some flexibility for other paces, this should give you a good idea of when you will take each course. Select your pace below and save this document as your guide for registration. Fill out the specific terms and keep track of your grades in the grade column to help you know what you have completed and what you have left to complete.

The 5-term option is very challenging and best suited for students that come into the program with significant industry experience (e.g., case management), are working in the field, and/or are retaking coursework from an older degree that does not transfer.

The 6-term option is ideal for students that are not working full-time and have limited outside of school responsibilities.

The 10-term option is ideal for students that are working full-time and/or have significant outside of school responsibilities.

Please click on the link below or Ctrl+F Headings to jump to the specific plan of study.

Clinical Mental Health	School Counseling
<a href="#">CMH 5 Term</a>	<a href="#">SC 5 Term</a>
<a href="#">CMH 6 Term</a>	<a href="#">SC 6 Term</a>
<a href="#">CMH 10 Term</a>	<a href="#">SC 10 Term</a>

## MH 5 Term

			Clinical Mental Health POS		
TERM	GRADE	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	PREREQUISITE	HOURS
1		COUN 600	Professional Orientation	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 609	Research in Counseling	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 574	Social & Cultural Issues	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 602	Human Dev & Adjust	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 675	Legal and Ethical Issues	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 607	Counseling Techniques	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 603	Counseling Theories	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 605	Theory & Practice Human Appraisal	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 604	Group Counseling	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
3		COUN 555	Crisis Intervention	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		<b>COUN 608*</b>	Practicum	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
3		COUN 631	Diag. & Treat. Planning	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 575	P&T Addictions	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		<b>COUN 691 (A)*</b>	Mental Health Internship (Part A)	COUN 604, 608, 631	3
4		COUN 632	Intro Marriage/Couple/Family Coun	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		COUN 606	Career & Lifestyle Dev.	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
5		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		<b>COUN 691 (B)*</b>	Mental Health Internship (Part B)	COUN 604, 608, 631	3
4/5			Successfully complete Comprehensive Exam		
			<b>*COUN 608, 691, and 698 require a separate application to be completed the term prior to enrolling.</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>60</b>

## MH 6 Term

			Clinical Mental Health POS		
TERM	GRADE	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	PREREQUISITE	HOURS
1		COUN 600	Professional Orientation	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 609	Research in Counseling	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 574	Social & Cultural Issues	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 602	Human Dev & Adjust	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 675	Legal and Ethical Issues	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 607	Counseling Techniques	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 603	Counseling Theories	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 605	Theory & Practice Human Appraisal	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 604	Group Counseling	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
3		COUN 555	Crisis Intervention	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 575	P&T Addictions	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		<b>COUN 608*</b>	Practicum	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 631	Diag. & Treat. Planning	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		<b>COUN 691 (A)*</b>	Mental Health Internship (Part A)	COUN 604, 608, 631	3
5		COUN 632	Intro Marriage/Couple/Family Coun	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		COUN 606	Career & Lifestyle Dev.	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
6		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		<b>COUN 691 (B)*</b>	Mental Health Internship (Part B)	COUN 604, 608, 631	3
5/6			Successfully complete Comprehensive Exam		
			<b>*COUN 608, 691, and 698 require a separate application to be completed the term prior to enrolling.</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>60</b>

## MH 10 Term

			Clinical Mental Health POS		
TERM	GRADE	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	PREREQUISITE	HOURS
1		COUN 600	Professional Orientation	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 609	Research in Counseling	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 574	Social & Cultural Issues	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 675	Legal and Ethical Issues	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 602	Human Dev & Adjust	Program Admission	3
3		COUN 607	Counseling Techniques	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
4		COUN 603	Counseling Theories	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
4		COUN 555	Crisis Intervention	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
5		COUN 605	Theory & Practice Human Appraisal	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
5		COUN 604	Group Counseling	COUN 603, 607, 675	3

6		COUN 575	P&T Addictions	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		COUN 631	Diag. & Treat. Planning	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
7		COUN 632	Intro Marriage/Couple/Family Coun	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
7		COUN 606	Career & Lifestyle Dev.	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
8		<b>COUN 608*</b>	Practicum	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
8		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
9		<b>COUN 691 (A)*</b>	Mental Health Internship (Part A)	COUN 604, 608, 631	3
9		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
10		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
10		<b>COUN 691 (B)*</b>	Mental Health Internship (Part B)	COUN 604, 608, 631	3
9/10			Successfully complete Comprehensive Exam		
			<b>*COUN 608, 691, and 698 require a separate application to be completed the term prior to enrolling.</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>60</b>

## SC 5 term

			<b>School Counseling POS</b>		
<b>TERM</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE #</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>PREREQUISITE</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
1		COUN 600	Professional Orientation	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 609	Research in Counseling	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 574	Social & Cultural Issues	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 602	Human Dev & Adjust	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 675	Legal and Ethical Issues	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 607	Counseling Techniques	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 603	Counseling Theories	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 606	Career & Lifestyle Dev.	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 605	Theory & Practice Human Appraisal	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 604	Group Counseling	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
3		COUN 673	Counseling Child/Ado/Parents	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
3		COUN 672	Current Practices in SC	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
4		<b>COUN 608*</b>	Practicum	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 631	Diag. & Treat. Planning	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 632	Intro Marriage/Couple/Family Coun	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 575	P&T Addictions	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4			Successfully complete Praxis Exam Prior to Internship		
5		<b>COUN 698 (A)*</b>	School Counseling Internship (Part A)	COUN 604, 608, 631, 672	3
5		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		<b>COUN 698 (B)*</b>	School Counseling Internship (Part B)	COUN 604, 608, 631, 672	3

5			Successfully complete Comprehensive Exam		
			<b><i>*COUN 608, 691, and 698 require a separate application to be completed the term prior to enrolling.</i></b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	60

## SC 6 Term

			School Counseling POS		
TERM	GRADE	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	PREREQUISITE	HOURS
1		COUN 600	Professional Orientation	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 609	Research in Counseling	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 574	Social & Cultural Issues	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 602	Human Dev & Adjust	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 675	Legal and Ethical Issues	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 607	Counseling Techniques	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
2		COUN 603	Counseling Theories	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 605	Theory & Practice Human Appraisal	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 604	Group Counseling	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
3		COUN 606	Career & Lifestyle Dev.	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 672	Current Practices in SC	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
4		<b>COUN 608*</b>	Practicum	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 631	Diag. & Treat. Planning	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4		COUN 673	Counseling Child/Ado/Parents	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
4			Successfully complete Praxis Exam Prior to Internship		
5		<b>COUN 698 (A)*</b>	School Counseling Internship (Part A)	COUN 604, 608, 631, 672	3
5		COUN 632	Intro Marriage/Couple/Family Coun	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		COUN 575	P&T Addictions	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		<b>COUN 698 (B)*</b>	School Counseling Internship (Part B)	COUN 604, 608, 631, 672	3
5/6			Successfully complete Comprehensive Exam		
			<b><i>*COUN 608, 691, and 698 require a separate application to be completed the term prior to enrolling.</i></b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	60

## SC 10 term

			School Counseling POS		
TERM	GRADE	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	PREREQUISITE	HOURS
1		COUN 600	Professional Orientation	Program Admission	3
1		COUN 609	Research in Counseling	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 574	Social & Cultural Issues	Program Admission	3
2		COUN 675	Legal and Ethical Issues	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
3		COUN 602	Human Dev & Adjust	Program Admission	
3		COUN 607	Counseling Techniques	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
4		COUN 603	Counseling Theories	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
4		COUN 605	Theory & Practice Human Appraisal	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
5		COUN 604	Group Counseling	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
5		COUN 606	Career & Lifestyle Dev.	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
6		COUN 631	Diag. & Treat. Planning	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
6		COUN 673	Counseling Child/Ado/Parents	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
7		COUN 672	Current Practices in SC	COUN 600, 609, 574	3
7		COUN 632	Intro Marriage/Couple/Family Coun	COUN 603, 607, 675	
8		<b>COUN 608*</b>	Practicum	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
8		COUN 575	P&T Addictions	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
8			Successfully complete Praxis Exam Prior to Internship		
9		<b>COUN 698 (A)*</b>	School Counseling Internship (Part A)	COUN 604, 608, 631, 672	3
9		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
10		COUN	Advisor Approved Elective	COUN 603, 607, 675	3
10		<b>COUN 698 (B)*</b>	School Counseling Internship (Part B)	COUN 604, 608, 631, 672	3
9/10			Successfully complete Comprehensive Exam		
			<b>*COUN 608, 691, and 698 require a separate application to be completed the term prior to enrolling.</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>60</b>