

PASTORAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING (M.A.)

Resources

Licensing

A major goal of the program is to prepare students to successfully gain licensure and to have an effective career as a professional counselor. Licensure is a process that is governed by individual states. Therefore, each state's requirements are slightly different. Students are advised to become familiar with the specific requirements for licensure in their state.

Fordham pastoral counseling is a licensure qualifying program for New York, which means that all course requirements for licensure in New York will be met by the program requirements. The full application and post-education requirements for state licensure can be accessed at op.nysed.gov.

The following information describes the education requirements for New York state and the Fordham course equivalent.

- Human Growth and Development: PCGR 6310 Human Growth and Development
- Social & Cultural Foundations: PCGR 6382 Social and Cultural Foundations of Pastoral Counseling
- Counseling Theory & Practice: PCGR 6386 Pastoral Counseling Theory
- Psychopathology: PCGR 6390 Psychopathology and Diagnosis
- Group Dynamics: PCGR 7422 Group Process: Theory and Techniques
- Lifestyle & Career Development: PCGR 6510 Advanced Life Span Issues and Career Counseling
- Assessment & Appraisal of Individuals, Couples, & Families: PCGR 7330 Assessment and Appraisal of Individuals, Couples, and Families
- Research and Program Evaluation: PCGR 7410 Research Methods in Pastoral Counseling
- Professional Orientation & Ethics: PCGR 6384 Professional Ethics in Pastoral Counseling
- Clinical Instruction: PCGR 6440 Pastoral Counseling Skills
- 1 year supervised internship with 600 hours: PCGR 7471 Clinical Instruction and Integration Process I/PCGR 7472 Clinical Instruction and Integration Process II

The NBCC is a professional organization that organizes the licensing tests. There are two national tests: the NMHCE and the NCE. In New York state, the NMHCE is the required test and cannot be registered for or taken until your application for licensure has been accepted by the state. There are various study programs offered to help students prepare for taking and passing the tests. Alumni have indicated that taking such programs have been helpful in successfully passing the NMHCE. Please see the NBCC website for more information (NBCC.org).

Professional Organizations

Career development need not wait until after graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to join professional organizations that they feel are in-line with their professional goals. Professional organizations can provide community, support, and training to new and seasoned

counselors alike. Some organizations that students may be interested in include:

- American Counseling Association (ACA)
- New York Mental Health Counselors Association (NYMHCA)
- American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC)
- Association for Spiritual and Religious Values in Counseling (ASERVIC)

Please reach out to your academic adviser if you would like to know more about any of the above organizations.

Appendices

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Appendix III

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