

Associate of Divinity, Major in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Specialization in Faith-Based Mental Health Counseling and Services

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 60 hours (including 15 credit specialization hours)

Program Description

The Associate of Divinity, Major in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program with a Specialization in Faith-Based Mental Health Counseling and Services at HBI University is designed to prepare students for careers in faith-based counseling, crisis intervention, and mental health support. This program integrates biblical principles with clinical mental health theories to equip students with the knowledge and skills to serve individuals, families, and communities in both ministry and clinical settings.

Students will explore topics such as pastoral counseling, trauma-informed care, ethical decision-making, and psychological assessment from a faith-based perspective. The curriculum emphasizes emotional, spiritual, and psychological well-being while training students to provide compassionate and professional support in churches, community organizations, and faith-based mental health clinics.

Graduates will be equipped to work in roles such as faith-based mental health counselors, crisis intervention specialists, and community mental health advocates, bridging the gap between theology and mental health services.

This program is ideal for individuals who feel called to support mental wellness through faith-centered counseling and holistic healing approaches.

General Education Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
GEN 101	English Composition I	3
GEN 102	English Composition II	3
GEN 103	College Algebra	3
GEN 104	Introduction to Psychology	3
GEN 105	Introduction to Sociology	3

Core Clinical Mental Health Counseling Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CMH 201	Foundations of Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CMH 202	Counseling Theories and Techniques	3
CMH 203	Theological Perspectives on Mental Health	3
CMH 204	Crisis Intervention and Trauma Counseling	3
CMH 205	Ethics in Counseling and Mental Health	3
CMH 206	Psychopathology and Treatment Planning	3
CMH 207	Psychology of Grief and Loss	3
CMH 208	Family and Marriage Therapy	3
CMH 209	Spiritual Formation and Emotional Health	3
CMH 210	Counseling Techniques for Diverse Populations	3

Elective Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CMH 301	Substance Abuse and Faith-Based Recovery	3
CMH 302	Mental Health and Ministry Leadership	3
CMH 303	Counseling Youth and Young Adults	3

CMH 304	Trauma-Informed Counseling Practices	3
CMH 305	Faith-Based Crisis Counseling in Clinical Settings	3

Specialization in Faith-Based Mental Health Counseling and Services (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FCM 401	Biblical Foundations of Mental Health Counseling	3
FCM 402	Spiritual Care in Mental Health Settings	3
FCM 403	Prayer, Healing, and Holistic Well-Being	3
FCM 404	Trauma-Informed Faith-Based Counseling	3
FCM 405	Ethical and Cultural Competency in Faith-Based Therapy	3

Capstone Project (3 Credit Hours)

The Capstone in Faith-Based Mental Health Counseling and Services allows students to apply clinical and pastoral counseling skills to real-world scenarios. Students may:

- Complete an internship in a faith-based mental health or counseling center.
- Develop a mental health support initiative for churches and ministries.
- Conduct research on the integration of theology and clinical mental health practices.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will:

- Demonstrate competency in clinical mental health counseling within a faith-based context.
- Apply counseling theories and spiritual principles to client care.
- Provide ethical, trauma-informed, and culturally competent counseling.
- Support individuals and families in emotional and mental health recovery.
- Integrate Christian faith with evidence-based counseling methodologies.

Career Outcomes and Potential Pay Scale

Career Path	Average Salary (Annual)
Faith-Based Mental Health Counselor	\$40,000 - \$65,000
Pastoral Care and Counseling Coordinator	\$42,000 - \$68,000
Crisis Intervention Specialist	\$45,000 - \$70,000
Community Mental Health Advocate	\$43,000 - \$68,000
Christian Clinical Therapist	\$48,000 - \$75,000