Pastoral Care Focus Area Procedures for Master of Pastoral Studies Students

Counseling Courses

Online students will need to find a CACREP-accredited local or online university at which to take 2 counseling courses equivalent to those required of on-campus students:

- CNSL Counseling Theories
- CNSL Introduction to Clinical Mental Health Counseling

The courses you take should, in general, cover the same topics and processes as the Loyola University courses Counseling Theories and Introduction to Clinical Mental Health Counseling. You may be able to take online classes in the summer in Loyola's Counseling Department with advisor approval. Once you have found equivalent courses and before you have registered for them, please send the catalog descriptions of the courses you plan to take and transfer into your MPS program to your advisor and cc Judy Lavergne jflaverg@loyno.edu to make sure that they will apply.

If you have taken Counseling courses at an institution other than Loyola, request that a transcript be sent to Loyola University New Orleans.

Clinical Pastoral Education

Students in the Pastoral Care focus area complete 1 unit of CPE (this unit of CPE through the institution outside Loyola will involve 400 hours of class time, practicum work, group verbatim reflections, and supervisory meetings) in lieu of the capstone course. The CPE unit must be completed at a site accredited by the ACPE; see the directory of sites at www.acpe.edu. If your hospital is an accredited site, the CPE unit there may be applied to your MPS degree. Please contact your advisor for information on how to register for the Loyola Practicum course credit before beginning the CPE unit.

Practicum Course

Schedule to take LIM-G897 Practicum during the semester in which you will complete your 1 unit of CPE. Through the Practicum course, Loyola faculty will meet regularly with students to engage in theological reflection on their CPE experience. To schedule this course, contact your advisor and let your advisor know in which semester your CPE is scheduled. You will be assigned an instructor who will engage with you in reflecting on your CPE experience in the Practicum course.

When you complete the CPE unit, you will submit your final self-evaluation, based upon your CPE goals, your supervisor's evaluation, and a letter or copy of their certificate indicating that you successfully completed one unit of CPE (involving 400 hours of class time, practicum work, group verbatim reflections, and supervisory meetings).

Some students may elect take more than 1 unit of CPE; however, additional CPE courses may not be used to satisfy the Master of Pastoral Studies degree requirements.

Transfer Credits

Because students in the Pastoral Care focus area typically transfer in 6 Counseling credits from outside of LIM, they may not transfer in any additional credits toward their LIM degree.