

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNSELING



## ***Behavioral Health Counseling at Drexel***

Drexel University's Behavioral Health Counseling program offers an integrated curriculum designed to meet growing needs for caring and competent behavioral health care professionals. It is a four-year course of study leading to a bachelor of science degree. The program's advanced, clinically applied curriculum prepares students for careers in mental health and addiction treatment settings. Graduates are exceptionally well prepared for immediate employment or for graduate education toward master's and doctoral degrees in a variety of behavioral health care-related disciplines.

## ***Drexel Co-op for Behavioral Health Counseling***

A key part of the program is Drexel's prestigious co-operative education program, in which students alternate periods of classroom study with periods of professional work experience. Behavioral Health Counseling students can participate in the following:

- One Co-op Option (Four Years): includes one six-month period of full-time employment

## ***Employers***

Here are some of the companies that have hired Drexel students as co-op or full-time employees:

- Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
- Keystone Home Health
- Logan Square East
- Mercy Health System

## ***Potential Careers***

**Mental Health Counselor.** Treats mental and emotional disorders. Learns therapeutic techniques to address a wide range of issues, including depression, substance abuse, stress management, problems with self-esteem, suicidal impulses, aging-related issues, career matters, educational decisions, and relationship problems.

**Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselor.** Helps people who have problems with alcohol, drugs, gambling, and eating disorders. Helps clients identify behaviors and problems related to their disorders or addictions. Conducts programs intended to prevent addictions from occurring. Holds sessions designed for individuals, families, or groups.

**Education Counselor.** Uses interviews, counseling sessions, interest and aptitude assessment tests, and other methods to evaluate and advise students. Emphasizes preventive and developmental counseling to provide students with the life skills needed to deal with problems before they occur and to enhance students' personal, social, and academic growth.

## **Courses You'll Really Enjoy**

**Crisis and Brief Intervention.** Introduces the fundamental concepts, theories, strategies, and skills needed to understand and conduct effective crisis and brief intervention counseling. Gives particular attention to several types of crises commonly encountered when working in settings serving people who have long-term disabling psychiatric disorders.

**Child and Adolescent Support Services.** Based on the principles of the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP), this course gives students the knowledge and skills necessary to implement a comprehensive care system for families and their children endorsed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Forensic Mental Health Services.** The intersection between law and behavioral health services is the focus of this course. Topics include the criminal justice system, criminal thinking, community and ethical barriers, biopsychosocial models that are specific to the forensic client, and the growing base of knowledge about community corrections.

**Addictions Counseling within Special Populations.** This course involves the student in examinations of challenges for addictions counselors in working with frequently underserved populations represented by adolescents and elderly persons. Effective approaches to assessing and treating both youthful and older adult individuals with addiction disorders are explored and defined.

### **Learn More: University Catalog**

Detailed course descriptions can be found online at [www.drexel.edu/catalog](http://www.drexel.edu/catalog).

## **Accelerated Degree Options**

Accelerated degree programs, such as the BS/MD, BS/PhD in Engineering, BS/JD, and BS/MBA, enable academically qualified students to earn both a bachelor's and an advanced degree, graduating sooner than they would in traditional programs. Eligible students can be admitted to an accelerated degree program in one of two ways: apply as an incoming freshman through Undergraduate Admissions or apply to the Graduate Studies Office after completing a minimum of 90 credits. To learn more about accelerated degree options, visit [www.drexel.edu/em/ug/accelerated](http://www.drexel.edu/em/ug/accelerated).

## **For More Information**

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