



CLINICAL HOURS REQUIREMENTS - MS PROGRAM

The clinical program is a vigorous, time-consuming and quite rewarding experience. It is a two-year, four semester commitment that provides the pastoral counseling intern an opportunity to gain clinical skills, provide mental health services to the greater community, and receive documented supervised experience. In adherence to accreditation standards and state licensure preparation, completion of the clinical program requires pastoral counseling students to complete no fewer than 800 clinical hours (260hrs/semester). General clinical hours include class time, all supervision activities, administrative paperwork, and in-service training. Client contact hours include face-to-face counseling sessions with clients. Student will spend 10 - 12 hours per week at the placement. Approximately 260 hours must be direct clinical contact hours such as individual, couples, marital, and/ or group therapy. The following guidelines for actual face-to-face work with clients are outlined below.

FIRST YEAR

The minimum number of client contact hours for a first year clinical intern is 50 per semester. However, most situations are not ideal due to clients not showing up for appointments, slow start getting clients, losing clients, etc. A grade of Incomplete will be given if the requirements for the Clinical Case Supervision course are not met (e.g. audio/videotape presentations).

SUGGESTED CASELOAD ACCUMULATION

<u>FIRST SEMESTER</u>	<u>TOTAL CLIENT HOURS / WEEK</u>
<i>Week 1 - Orientation.....</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Weeks 2 & 3 - One client</i>	<i>0-1</i>
<i>Weeks 4 & 5 - Two clients</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Weeks 6 & 7 - Three clients.....</i>	<i>2-3</i>
<i>Weeks 8 & 9 - Four clients</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Weeks 10 thru 16 - Five clients.....</i>	<i>4</i>

SECOND YEAR

A second year clinical student may be involved in more specialized training, have greater administrative duties and a larger caseload. The minimum number of client contact hours for the second year clinical intern is 60 per semester.

Please note, MS Pastoral Counseling students cannot graduate until the clinical hour requirement is met.