

Important Information For Those Who Wonder About Taking A Counselor Education Course:

Admission to the various tracks within the Counselor Education Department is quite competitive, and we have stringent accreditation standards that dictate our faculty-student ratio, as well as exert control over the quality and content of our courses. These are some of the reasons that our courses are restricted. Generally, only fully-admitted graduates in our programs are allowed to take courses offered through Counselor Education (COUN).

There are a few exceptions.

- Students are welcome to take our course, COUN 485, Theories in Context (**get real name) for either undergraduate or graduate credit. It is similar to, but not the same as, our graduate course in Theories of Individual Counseling.
- Students can also sign up for our course, COUN 475, Forgiveness and Reconciliation. Because this is an Honors Course, funded specifically by a family foundation, enrollment is kept to 20 students.
- Our mental health track students also take a course offered in Pharmacy called PHAR 556; this is a course open to other graduate students from other backgrounds as well.

We are aware that many people have graduate degrees that do not have all the necessary coursework for school or mental health licensure in Montana. Because we cannot allow people to take our restricted courses unless they are in one of our degree programs, we often advise people to apply to our post-masters degree, the Educational Specialist. This degree is flexible. At a minimum, it requires that you take 18 credits, but some of these can be internship, or involve working on a professional project. It can be tailored to meet specific licensure requirements. However, admission to this degree program is competitive, and we are usually only in a position to admit one to two people per year. The application deadline is the same as for the MA tracks—February 1.

It is also possible to ask the Counselor Education Faculty for special permission to take a course. Your request will be reviewed by the full faculty. The decision will depend on class size, the requestor's reasons and background, and other potential factors related to these concerns.