



GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL of PSYCHOLOGY  
and COUNSELING

P R O G R A M S



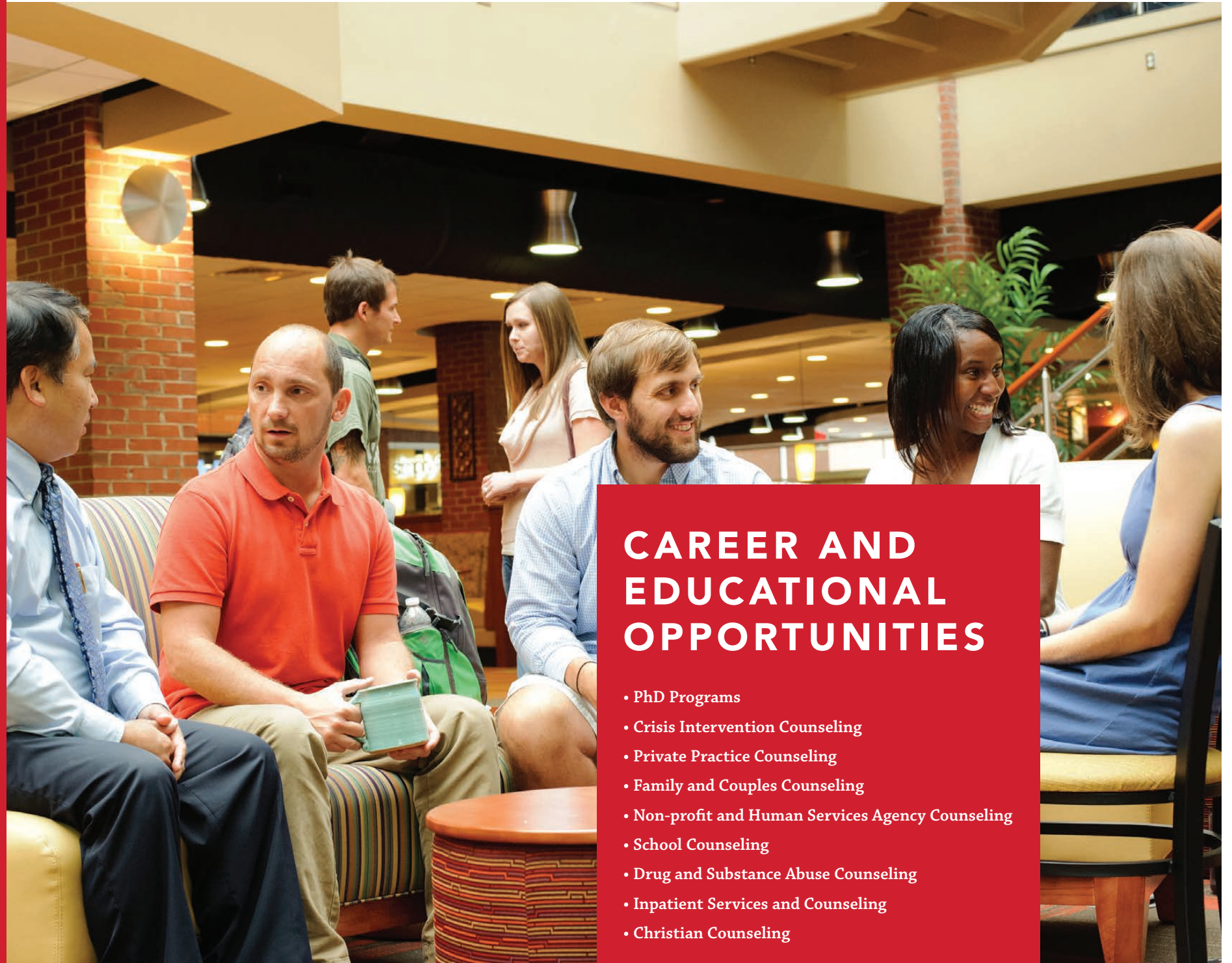
# MISSION

The mission of the graduate programs of the School of Psychology and Counseling is to create a context in which counseling students participate in an academically rigorous process that values the power of interpersonal relationships in creating beneficial change. For faculty, counseling students, and the community we serve, we believe this process is essential.

Our school has an ongoing commitment to providing a caring and challenging environment which facilitates the acquisition of the knowledge and the development of the skills necessary for our counseling students to become effective counselors in an increasingly diverse society. We seek to empower students within a framework of mentoring relationships to promote spiritual, ethical, mental, physical, social, and vocational growth. In addition, we seek to foster a commitment to continuing education and lifelong learning.

The goal of the graduate programs in the School of Psychology and Counseling is to prepare students for professional careers in counseling through courses in the eight core areas as required by CACREP.

- **Professional Identity**
- **Social and Cultural Diversity**
- **Human Growth and Development**
- **Career Development**
- **Helping Relationships**
- **Group Work**
- **Assessment**
- **Research and Program Evaluation**



## CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- **PhD Programs**
- **Crisis Intervention Counseling**
- **Private Practice Counseling**
- **Family and Couples Counseling**
- **Non-profit and Human Services Agency Counseling**
- **School Counseling**
- **Drug and Substance Abuse Counseling**
- **Inpatient Services and Counseling**
- **Christian Counseling**



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# MASTER OF ARTS IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

The Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling program develops skilled clinicians and well-educated leaders within a caring and challenging environment. Students will develop academically, professionally, and personally in order to better prepare them for diverse counseling settings.

The program is designed for working adult students who seek advanced educational experiences and clinical training leading to certification and/or licensure for professional positions in the mental health counseling field. Our counseling program prides itself on developing students who will be prepared to take the National Counselor Exam.

Graduate students will experience an advanced curriculum which involves the application of principles in mental health counseling, human development, treatment planning, group dynamics and the assessment of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior.

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## FAQS

- The program is 60 credit hours.
- The program is offered at both the Boiling Springs and Charlotte campuses.
- Graduates of the program meet the educational requirements set forth by the NC Board of Licensed Professional Counselors for licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPCA).
- We feel it is imperative to teach our students in a face-to-face environment, as this is the method in which they will assist their future clients.



## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, with a minimum 3.0 GPA
- A minimum of 12 hours of psychology or related areas to include general, abnormal/psychopathology, personality theory, and development
- Satisfactory test scores on either the GRE or MAT within the past five years
- Three positive letters of reference from professors, faculty advisors, employers, or supervisors who have knowledge of an applicant's personal characteristics and/or abilities
- A successful interview with faculty in the program
- A questionnaire requiring applicants to respond to questions relative to the pursuit of a graduate counseling degree
- Proof of satisfactory criminal background check for all states of residence for the past five years with a residence verification statement

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# MASTER OF ARTS IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

The Master of Arts in School Counseling program prepares graduate students to fulfill diverse roles required of school counselors who are both theorists and practitioners in a multicultural society. Through academic preparation and personal development, students will be equipped to develop comprehensive school counseling programs and to collaborate with parents, school personnel, and others in assisting students with academic, career, personal, and social concerns. Our counseling program prides itself on developing students who will be prepared to take the Licensed Professional Counselor exam.

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## FAQS

- The program is 48 credit hours.
- The program culminates in a school-based practicum and internship experience designed to solidify the graduate student's identity as a professional school counselor.
- We feel it is imperative to teach our students in a face-to-face environment, as this is the method in which they will assist their future clients.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, with a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Undergraduate psychology courses including abnormal psychology/psychopathology and classroom management
- Three positive letters of recommendation (academic or professional references preferred)
- A successful interview with faculty in the program
- A questionnaire requiring applicants to respond to questions relative to the pursuit of a graduate counseling degree
- Proof of satisfactory criminal background check for all states of residence for the past five years with a residence verification statement
- Satisfactory test scores on either the GRE or MAT within the past five years
- A background in psychology at the undergraduate level is strongly recommended



# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN SERVICES

A Bachelor of Science in Human Services equips students with a solid foundation in the field of psychology and a practical understanding of the challenges and capabilities of potential clients, empowering them to advocate for people and their needs and giving them opportunities to enter and advance in a variety of social service career paths.

Graduates work in fields such as geriatric care, group rehabilitation, social services, and drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

## CORE CURRICULUM

Ethical Issues	Introduction to Counseling
Treatment Modalities	Personality
Group Dynamics	Crisis Intervention Counseling
Introduction to Clinical Practice	Positive Psychology
Psychopathology	Human Services Seminar
	Internship

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended
- Program-specific prerequisites in English and Psychology (may be taken concurrently)



**Be empowered by our caring and challenging environment as you begin preparing for a professional career in counseling.**

## **ANDREW WOODS ('14)**

"In counseling and ministry you can encounter more struggles through the people you work with than can be imagined, not to mention the personal struggles in your own life. It is impossible to implement all the information received through the dynamic classes of the Gardner-Webb program, but the classes are formative and impacted who I am and who I am becoming. I not only learned a lot of essential information that I draw from in my career and ministry, but the classes and teachers prepared me to become a person who can sustain and fruitfully practice counseling while being a husband, friend, and son."

[Read More >](#)

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**Gardner-Webb University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and the School of Psychology and Counseling is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).**

Upon request, this publication can be made available in an alternate format. Please make a request by calling 704-406-4723 or emailing [gradschool@gardner-webb.edu](mailto:gradschool@gardner-webb.edu).