

Academic Council Minutes

October 2025

Midwestern State University

The Academic Council met Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the Dillard College of Business Administration Priddy Conference Room.

Voting Members:

Dr. Bob Brennan, Dean, McCoy College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering
Leah Gose, Dean, Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts
Dr. Leann Curry, Dean, Gordon T. and Ellen West College of Education & Professional Studies
Dr. Jeff Killion, Dean, Robert D. and Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
Dr. Robert Forrester, Dean, Dillard College of Business Administration
Dr. Sam Watson, Dean, Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Dr. Tiffany Ziegler, Dean, Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School
Dr. Darla Diltz, Faculty Senate Vice Chair
Monique Watkins, SGA Vice President of External Affairs

Additional Attendees:

Dr. Jeremy Duff, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Accreditation and Planning
Leah Hickman, Senior Associate Director, Admissions
Cortny Moorehead, University Librarian, Moffett Library
Elizabeth Ysasi, Associate Director of Admissions; Staff Senate representative
Rhiannon Barnett, Senior Associate Director, Global Education Recruiting
Dr. Eboneigh Harris, Director, Institutional Effectiveness
Cristin Martin, VA Specialist and Registrar representative

Dr. Margaret Brown Marsden, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presided and the meeting began at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Brown Marsden asked for a motion for the September 2025 minutes to be brought forward for approval. Dr. Ziegler approved, Dr. Forrester seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

Dr. Brown Marsden reminded everyone that the next TTUS Board of Regents meeting is in about one month. We do not have any items to submit for this meeting, but we should have some by the February TTUS Board of Regents meeting. She also mentioned the new submission process to TEAMS being overseen by Dr. Duff.

New Business

McCoy College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering – Dr. Brennan

1. Dr. Brennan submitted the following undergraduate items for approval. Dr. Watson seconded the motion and the items were approved.

Course Inventory Updates – Effective Fall 2026

Change of Course Prerequisite:

Course Prefix: CMPS

Course Number: 3663

Course Title: Intro to Computer and Network Security

Prerequisite(s): (CMPS 1023 or CMPS **1063** ~~2084~~ with grades of C or higher) AND (CMPS ~~4063~~ **2084** or CMPS 3613 with grades of C or higher)

Change of Course Prerequisite and Description:

Course Prefix: MATH

Course Number: 0010

Course Title: MATH NCBO

Prerequisite(s): **Consent of instructor or chair**

Description: ~~A Non-Course Based Option for students who failed the math section of the TSI A.~~
This developmental non-course-based option supports students in developing the numeric and algebraic skills needed to be successful in college-level math classes. Students will engage in self-paced online work with guidance from the instructor.

Lec/Lab Hrs: 0(0-0)

Type of Course: LAB

Change of Course Description and Reactivation of Old Course:

Course Prefix: MATH

Course Number: 4993

Course Title: Independent Study

Prerequisite(s): Consent of Chair

Description: **Directed research or advanced study in areas of mathematics. With approval of chair, may be repeated for credit with a different topic.**

Lec/Lab Hrs: 3(3-0)

Type of Course: Independent Study

Graduate Course and Catalog Changes – Dr. Ziegler

2. Dr. Ziegler submitted the following graduate items for approval. Ms. Gose seconded the motion and the items were approved.
3. Dr. Brown Marsden, Dr. Ziegler, and Ms. Hickman discussed starting this change in Fall 2026, and process waivers until that time.

McCoy College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering

Course Inventory/Catalog Changes—CMPS

Effective Fall 2026

MS in Computer Science

Admissions and Requirements

An application for admission to the Midwestern State University graduate program is available on the web site at <http://www.msutexas.edu>. ~~All applicants for admission to the computer science graduate program must submit scores of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. An applicant who is a graduate from Midwestern State University or who has earned a master's or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education may request a waiver of the GRE requirement.~~ **GRE scores are not required.**

4. **Unconditional Admission.** An applicant to the Master of Science degree program in Computer Science must satisfy the requirements of the University's graduate admissions policy for unconditional admission found under Admission to the Graduate School.

Additionally, the applicant must possess an undergraduate background judged by the faculty of the Computer Science graduate program to be adequate for success in the discipline, to include at least 18 credit hours in computer science and mathematics preparation through Calculus I. The computer science preparation must include C++ programming, data structures, algorithms, computer architecture, operating systems, and discrete structures and analysis.

~~The applicant scores on the Graduate Record Examination, when required, must place him/her at or above the 30th percentile on the verbal examination, at or above the 10th percentile on the analytical writing examination, and at or above the 50th percentile on the quantitative examination.~~

West College of Education

4. Dr. Ziegler submitted the following graduate item for approval. Dr. Forrester seconded the motion and the item was approved.

Course Inventory/Catalog Changes—SPED

Effective Fall 2026

Change of Course Description:

Course Prefix: SPED

Course Number: 6943

Course Title: Practicum in Special Education

Prerequisite(s): Satisfactory completion of SPED 6613, 6623, and 6633

Description: Field experience (~~180~~ **160** hours) in a special educational setting specific to the candidate's career goals under the supervision of experienced personnel. Required for students seeking Texas educational diagnostician certification. May be repeated for credit.

Type of Course: Practicum

Course Inventory/Catalog Changes—CLMH

5. Dr. Ziegler submitted the following graduate items for approval. Dr. Killion seconded the motion and the items were approved.

Clinical Mental Health, M.A.

Effective Fall 2026

Catalog Change -Effective Fall 2026

~~Mission Statement: The mission of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program faculty is to provide counseling students with the most recent research, technology, necessary training, and supervision required to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). Program faculty are committed to training students who are knowledgeable, ethical, competent, self-aware, and professionally mature, who hold a strong counselor identity, dedicated to advocacy efforts, and display a respect for diverse populations and multiculturalism in the role of counselors. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program will qualify students as counselors and provide them with the necessary skills to become fully functioning counselors who work in a variety of related settings and fields in an evolving diverse society. The program is teaching-centered with professors who are readily available to meet the needs of students. The Master of Arts with a major in clinical mental health requires 60~~ **62 or 65** ~~semester hours.~~

~~Mission Statement: The mission of the Clinical Mental Health with a concentration in School Counseling faculty is to equip the counselor with the knowledge and skills necessary to supply guidance and counseling services in a school setting. The school counselor will be able to provide direct counseling to students; consult with parents, teachers and administrators; act as a liaison between the school and outside agencies; and facilitate classroom guidance activities. The graduate program concentration in school counseling prepares students to be public school counselors and requires 63–65 semester hours. Students are required to pass a comprehensive exam as a program completion requirement. Texas Counselor certification requires completion of an approved master’s degree, two years of teaching experience, and a passing score on the state mandated examination, the TExES test and a practicum in a Texas school setting.~~

~~Enrollment in courses with the COUN prefix requires admission to the Master of Arts in clinical mental health program, or permission of the Counseling Program Coordinator.~~

Mission Statement: The mission of the Midwestern State University Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program, a CACREP-accredited program, is to provide counseling students with the most recent research, technology, training, and supervision necessary to become Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs). The program prepares counselors with research-based knowledge, skills, and supervision to become ethical, competent, and self-aware professionals committed to respectful, effective practice. The program offers two tracks: a general Clinical Mental Health track, and a School Counseling concentration track in which students may also pursue Texas school counselor certification. Program faculty are committed to preparing students who are knowledgeable, ethical, competent, self-aware, and professionally mature, who hold a strong counselor identity, demonstrate advocacy efforts, and display respect for clients in their roles as counselors. The program equips students with the skills to serve effectively in a variety of settings, including clinical mental health and school environments, where they may provide direct counseling, consultation, classroom guidance, and collaboration with parents, educators, administrators, and community agencies. Through a teaching-centered approach, faculty are readily available to meet student needs and to ensure that graduates are qualified to practice in an evolving society. Program completion requires 62 or 65 semester hours, a comprehensive exam, and—when applicable—state requirements for Texas school counselor certification, including two years of teaching experience, a practicum in a Texas school setting, and a passing score on the TExES examination.

The Clinical Mental Health track is 60–62 hours and the Clinical Mental Health with a concentration in School Counseling tracks is 63 65 credit-hours. Both tracks are fully online and digitally delivered; **however, CACREP-accredited programs, including online programs, are required to provide a minimum of two in-person, synchronous intensive experiences for students. At MSU, all Clinical Mental Health students are required to enroll in two intensive sessions (one hour credit each), which will be held over two days on campus during the first and second fall semesters.**

Enrollment in courses with the COUN prefix requires admission to the Master of Arts in clinical mental health program, or permission of the Counseling Program Coordinator.

Students must receive a B or better ~~within COUN 5283~~ COUN 5283 - Advanced Counseling Skills, ~~or~~ COUN 5293 - Practicum in Counseling or COUN 5813 - Practicum ~~for~~ in School Counseling, COUN 6043 - Graduate Internship I, and COUN 6053 - Graduate Internship II.

For Clinical Mental Health MA students, 12 hours each ~~f~~ Fall and ~~s~~ Spring is considered ~~f~~ Full-~~t~~ Time by the department. For combined summer sessions, 12 hours is considered full-time by the department. Please be aware that overall u University course load status and ~~f~~ Financial a Aid award status may differ.

School Counseling Certification Only: The school counseling certification only is for professionals who already have a master's degree in a clinical mental health field that is at least 48 hours and want to acquire their TEA school counseling certification. Availability for this certification only depends on space available within the clinical mental health graduate program. Individuals coming back to this program are required to be placed within a Texas ISD school system for their practicum site placement.

The five courses that are mandated to acquire this school counseling certification only are COUN 5403 - Introduction to School Counseling, COUN 5233 - Comprehensive School Counseling Services, COUN 6023 - Counseling Individual Children, SPED 5013 - Exceptional Individuals, and COUN 5813 - Practicum in ~~for~~ School Counseling.

Clinical Mental Health Requirements:

COUN 5103 - Professional Orientation and Ethics

COUN 5203 - Introduction to Counseling

COUN 5213 - Human Development and Learning

COUN 5223 - Career Development Counseling

COUN 5243 - Group Counseling

COUN 5253 - Assessment

COUN 5263 - Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

COUN 5273 - Theories and Techniques of Counseling

COUN 5283 - Advanced Counseling Skills

COUN 5293 - Practicum in Counseling

COUN 5303 - Advanced Ethics and Issues in Counseling

COUN 5323 - Marriage and Family Counseling

COUN 5363 - Multicultural Counseling

COUN 5503 - Counseling Research and Program Evaluation

COUN 5513 - Counseling Children for Clinical Mental Health

COUN 5523 - Counseling Individuals through Crisis, Grief, and Trauma

COUN 5603 - Psychopharmacology

COUN 5803 - Substance Abuse Counseling

COUN 6043 - Graduate Internship I

COUN 6053 - Graduate Internship II

COUN 5421 – Intensive I

COUN 5431 – Intensive II

Program Objectives:

1. Students will be prepared to engage in ethical counseling practice, advocacy and develop professional identity.
2. Students will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to serve clients with varied backgrounds and life experiences.
3. Students will apply human developmental concepts to counseling, and examine biological, social, and environmental influences on growth and well-being across the lifespan.
4. Students will understand career development theories, apply counseling strategies for career planning and life transitions, and integrate career counseling with mental health support.
5. Students will develop effective counseling techniques and therapeutic relationships, apply counseling theories and evidence-based interventions, and enhance interpersonal skills, goal-setting, and client outcomes.
6. Students will demonstrate an understanding of group dynamics, processes, and leadership styles, develop and facilitate effective group counseling sessions, and apply ethical responsive practices in group settings.
7. Students will demonstrate proficiency in selecting, administering, and interpreting assessments, apply knowledge of reliability and validity, and utilize assessment results to inform treatment planning and diagnosis.
8. Students will develop skills in understanding and applying counseling research, evaluate counseling practices, programs, and interventions, and utilize data-informed decision-making to enhance client outcomes.
9. Students will learn to identify and reflect on their strengths and limitations as a counselor and utilize consultation, supervision and referrals when appropriate.

10. Students will develop the knowledge and skills to assess, intervene, and provide trauma-informed care in crisis situations, applying evidence-based strategies to support individuals experiencing psychological distress.

Clinical Mental Health with a concentration in School Counseling Requirements:

COUN 5103 - Professional Orientation and Ethics

COUN 5213 - Human Development and Learning

COUN 5223 - Career Development Counseling

COUN 5233 - Comprehensive School Counseling Services

COUN 5243 - Group Counseling

COUN 5253 - Assessment

COUN 5263 - Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

COUN 5273 - Theories and Techniques of Counseling

COUN 5283 - Advanced Counseling Skills

COUN 5303 - Advanced Ethics and Issues in Counseling

COUN 5323 - Marriage and Family Counseling

COUN 5363 - Multicultural Counseling

COUN 5403 - Introduction to School Counseling

COUN 5503 - Counseling Research and Program Evaluation

COUN 5603 - Psychopharmacology

COUN 5803 - Substance Abuse Counseling

COUN 5813 - Practicum in ~~for~~ School Counseling

COUN 6023 - Counseling Individual Children

COUN 6043 - Graduate Internship I

COUN 6053 - Graduate Internship II

SPED 5013 - Exceptional Individuals

COUN 5421 – Intensive I

COUN 5431 – Intensive II

Course Inventory Updates – Effective Fall 2026

New Course Additions:

Course Prefix: **COUN**

Course Number: **5421**

Course Title: **Intensive I**

Prerequisite(s):

Description: **This in-person intensive will allow students to practice counseling micro-skills through practical experiences. This intensive will occur during the first fall semester.**

Lec/Lab Hrs: **1(6-10)**

Type of Course: **Practicum**

Course Objectives:

- 1.) Students will be able to demonstrate counseling micro-skills in authentic settings.**
- 2.) Students will be able to demonstrate active listening, paraphrasing, attending skills, reflection skills, appropriate questioning, summarizing skills, clarification skills, empathy, and the use of silence.**
- 3.) Students will be able to integrate counseling micro-skills into a coherent session.**

Course Prefix: **COUN**

Course Number: **5431**

Course Title: **Intensive II**

Prerequisite(s): **COUN 5421 Intensive I**

Description: **This in-person intensive will allow students to practice group counseling skills through practical experiences. This intensive will occur during the second fall semester.**

Lec/Lab Hrs: **1(6-10)**

Type of Course: **Practicum**

Course Objectives:

- 1.) Students will be able to demonstrate group counseling skills in authentic settings.**
- 2.) Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of group dynamics, apply theories of group counseling, develop group leadership skills, manage group processes and dynamics, promote cohesion and trust, handle ethical and legal considerations, and facilitate goal setting and growth.**
- 3.) Students will be able to integrate group counseling into professional practice.**

Adjournment:

Dr. Brown Marsden asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Ziegler made a motion and Ms. Gose seconded. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Boerma

Assistant to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs