

**COUNSELING, LEADERSHIP AND SPECIAL EDUCATION****Counseling**

The Counseling program grants the Master of Science degree in Counseling with options in school counseling and clinical mental health counseling. Students interested in public school settings must either have a valid Missouri teaching certificate, or complete additional teaching course work, to be eligible for state certification as professional school counselors. The School Counseling option program requirements fulfill the professional counseling course requirements for both elementary (K-8) and secondary (7-12) school counselor certification in the State of Missouri. The Clinical Mental Health counseling option requirements fulfill the professional counseling course work requirements for licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Missouri. Students who elect to complete either the School Counseling option may also meet the education requirements to apply for LPC licensure.

**Special Education**

The Master of Science in Education, Special Education may be obtained by following a course of study specific to multiple areas of interest and certification needs with three option areas, blindness and low vision, mild/moderate disabilities (Special Education Alternative Certification track), and autism spectrum disorders, with each leading to a Master of Science in Education degree. Graduate Certificates in Autism Spectrum Disorders or Orientation and Mobility may be pursued as a component of a degree, or as options for nondegree-seeking students. An accelerated Masters option is available in the option of autism spectrum disorders for students seeking a BSEd, Special Education degree. The Special Education Program is designed to include a mixture of online course delivery options, arranged supervised practica, and on-site methods. All course work in the area of Visual Impairment and some course work required for the SEACT program is available online. Alternative delivery systems such as intersession and week-end courses may also be offered to support completion of course work.

**Educational Administration**

Persons completing this option should acquire the necessary competencies to gain initial certification to serve as a principal in Missouri schools. Even though a research component is required, emphasis is on the practical aspects of the principalship. (All Educational Administration courses are taught through Missouri State Direct, live interactive technology.)

**Student Affairs in Higher Education**

The Student Affairs program has been developed at Missouri State to meet the staffing needs of colleges and universities throughout the nation. Our goal is the development of individuals to successfully enter the field of student affairs administration in higher education. Individuals who participate in this program will have both a theoretical understanding of the history and traditions of higher education, and the practical experience needed to address current issues which face campuses in the 21st Century.