

Counseling Programs (Clinical Mental Health and Advanced Counseling) Graduate Assistantship

The graduate counseling programs at Rhode Island College are full of activity. With full approval as a CACREP accredited program (2016-2024), the MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling has achieved a high national standard. As the only CACREP accredited clinical mental health counseling program in the state and only one of 11 in New England, faculty are excited to continue with the strong clinical preparation of qualified mental health counselors. We also have a robust group of Advanced Counseling students seeking licensure and the need to stay current and connected to behavioral health initiatives is imperative. The Graduate Assistantship is a half time assistantship requiring 10 hours of work per week during the academic semester.

In 2019-20, the Counseling programs GA would provide the following support to the Counseling programs:

- Continue and expand initiatives to reduce mental health stigma and underscore the importance of mental health wellness activities;
- Improve recruitment and retention of diverse students including in class activities in undergraduate classes and participation in campus clubs and organizations;
- Provide support with accreditation requirements for CACREP;
- Assist monitoring and improving practicum and internship placement processes;
- Create and disseminate the counseling newsletter;
- Facilitate faculty/student collaboration for the Counseling honors society, Chi Sigma Iota.

Additionally, the Counseling GA for 2019-20 is anticipated to participate in:

- Ongoing data collection and analysis (e.g., graduate surveys, employer surveys) for continuous program improvement;
- Detailing placement selections for practicum and internship sites;
- Improving our on-line platforms for streamlining information for students and alumni;
- Connecting students to professional associations.

The benefits to the student's professional development are many, and include:

- Submission of conference proposals for diversity issues undertaken in program recruitment.
- Familiarization with mental health counseling regulations and licensing in RI.
- Collaboration with department and professional associations.
- Advocacy for student concerns regarding curriculum changes, comprehensive exams, scheduling, etc.
- In depth knowledge of counseling profession gained through interaction with faculty and faculty research.

- Enhanced understanding of professional accrediting body standards (CACREP), and how they shape coursework and training.
- Increased experience in data analysis, literature reviews, and the development of marketing strategies.
- Experience in strategies to recruit and retain diverse students.
- Experience with research, data entry and analysis, and computer programs (e.g., excel, Google site, Google forms, mail chimp, survey gizmo)

Qualifications:

Required - accepted degree candidate enrolled full time in plan of study (minimum 6 credits; maximum 9 credits); strong interpersonal skills; good communication skills; proficiency with Office software – Excel, Word, and social media - Facebook, Twitter.

Preferred – experience working with outreach activities; degree program in counseling or related field.

Submit resume indicating interest to Monica G. Darcy, mdarcy@ric.edu. Include Counseling GA in the subject line.