

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

### **10 hour/week (½ time) Graduate Assistantship**

The graduate assistant with graduate counseling programs at Rhode Island College has active involvement with faculty, current students, and prospective students. As a CACREP nationally accredited counseling program, the MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling has achieved a high national standard. We have the only CACREP accredited clinical mental health counseling program in the state and our program is one of only 13 in New England. Faculty are highly committed to strong clinical preparation of qualified mental health counselors. We also have a robust group of Advanced Counseling students seeking licensure. The need to stay current and connected to behavioral health initiatives is imperative. The Graduate Assistantship is half time assistantship requiring 10 hours of work per week during the academic semester.

In 2023-24, 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.
- Coordinate the **program mentoring initiatives** with student mentors in each of the 3 years of the program; develop and maintain mentoring resources for mentors and mentees; create, implement, and summarize surveys to determine student needs; support mentor development; and serve as a liaison to the program director and faculty.  
<https://sites.google.com/site/ricgraduatecounselingprograms/mentoring>
- Provide support to accreditation requirements for CACREP.
- Assist monitoring and improving practicum and internship placement processes.
- Assist to create and disseminate the counseling newsletter.
- Support Graduate Open House. Outreach and other information sessions.
- Facilitate faculty/student collaboration for the Counseling honors society, Chi Sigma Iota.

Additionally, the Counseling GA for 2023-24 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.

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

Submit resume indicating interest to Monica G. Darcy, [mdarcy@ric.edu](mailto:mdarcy@ric.edu). Include Counseling GA in the subject line.