

New Mexico State University

# **MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program 2023 Assessment Report**

Academic Semesters Covered in this Report: Summer 2022, Fall 2022, & Spring 2023

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## Section I: Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

### Introduction

The MA-CMHC program faculty developed nine Key Performance Indicators (KPI's), which are available on pages 38- 39 in the Student handbook: [https://cep.nmsu.edu/academic-programs/CMHC-HANDBOOK-2023--2024\\_Final2.pdf](https://cep.nmsu.edu/academic-programs/CMHC-HANDBOOK-2023--2024_Final2.pdf). The KPIs are based on the common core CACREP areas. Students are assessed on each KPI at two separate points during their time in the program via KPI rubrics. On each KPI rubric, students are evaluated on an ordinal scale with the following anchor definitions: 0 = *Competency Not Met*, 1 = *Competency Satisfied*, or 2 = *Competency Exceeded*. The target goal is for 100% of students to score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on all KPI rubrics at both assessment points. A remediation plan is implemented for a student who doesn't meet or exceed the competencies on any KPI assessment.

The program director analyzes the data upon receiving each KPI rubric at the end of each semester. Interval-level mean composite scores are not aggregated for KPI scores, as data are collected on ordinal scales and the psychometric properties of the KPI rubrics cannot be tested for internal structure validity or internal consistency reliability of scores due to small sample size (a sample of approximately 800 to 1,000 data points would be necessary for psychometric testing). Thus, constructing and interpreting interval-level scales would be inappropriate, as scores would lack reliability (consistency) and validity (measuring the latent trait that it was intended to measure) evidence. Alternatively, descriptive statistics are computed to reveal the frequencies of students who scored in the 0 = *Competency Not Met*, 1 = *Competency Satisfied*, or 2 = *Competency Exceeded* ranges. The program director inspects the data to (a) make sure that 100% of students earned at least a 1 = *Competency Satisfied* on all KPIs and (b) identify content areas where the majority of students (approximately 75% +) scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify areas for programmatic improvement aimed towards increasing scores in the *Competency Exceeded* range in the future. A remediation plan is necessary for a student who doesn't at least meet the competencies for any of the KPI assessments.

The following subsections will include (1) each of the nine KPIs with their corresponding CACREP area. (2) A description of how the KPI is assessed at both assessment points. (3) The results of student's scores on both rubrics for the KPI. (4) An interpretation of the results and areas identified for potential modification.

### Key Performance Indicator 1

**Students will demonstrate their ability to select and critique the psychometric properties of reliable, valid, and cross-culturally fair psychological assessments and be able to administer, interpret, and report the synthesized findings of a psychological test battery.**

**CORE CACREP AREA: ASSESSMENT AND TESTING**

**Target /Benchmark**

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

**Overview and Results**

Students are assessed on KPI 1 for the first time during CEPY 5220: Testing, Assessment, and Psychometric Theory course when they complete a Test Report. The Test Report involves developing a psychological assessment report that includes a biopsychosocial interview and a mental status examination, including demographic information on their practice client's family background, medical and counseling history, career history, diagnosis, and "other" relevant information. Students also interpret the results of a psychological test battery and report the synthesized findings of the test battery. Lastly, students write treatment goals and recommendations as well as a summary and conclusions section in the test report.

During the academic semesters covered in this Report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range for KPI assessment 1.

Students are assessed on KPI 1 for the second time during CEPY 5985: Counseling Practicum via a site-supervisor evaluation rubric. Site supervisors complete a comprehensive evaluation of the students' performance, including their ability to administer, interpret, and discuss the results of the Counseling Center Assessment of Psychological Symptoms (CCAPS) instrument (a rigorously validated psychometric screening tool) with their clients.

During the academic semesters covered in this Report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

**Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification**

Collectively, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' target goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. The MA-CMHC program director reviewed the KPI data for any themes or content areas where students scored primarily in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify potential areas for improvement. No major program modifications will be made in this area, as 100% of MA students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

A review of the composite report for the second assessment for KPI 1 (Counseling Practicum: Site-Supervisor Evaluation Rubric) revealed that 100% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. Accordingly, the MA-CMHC Program faculty will review and compare the Counseling Practicum criteria on the KPI Rubric to the course curriculum and identify potential areas for improvement during their program retreat in the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

**Key Performance Indicator 2**

**Students will demonstrate their ability to critique the empirical rigor and determine the cross-cultural appropriateness of evidence-based research with diverse clients as well as propose future research to inform their practice of counseling.**

**CORE CACREP AREA: RESEARCH AND PROGRAM EVALUATION**

**Target /Benchmark**

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

**Overview and Results**

Students are assessed on KPI 2 for the first time during CEPY 5210: Counseling Research when they complete a written research proposal. Specifically, students complete an APA style written research proposal on a counseling-related topic of their choice (pending instructor approval). The proposal consists of three major elements, including (1) A review of the extant literature pertaining to the selected topic that includes a synthesized overview of the existing findings as well as highlighting a gap in the knowledge base. (2) Purpose statement and research question(s), in which students will articulate how their proposed study has potential to enhance the practice of counseling as well as posing at least one research question that is quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods in nature. (3) Methodology, in which students will specify their major research methodology, design, procedures, participants, measures, data analytic techniques, and potential limitations of their proposed study.

During the academic semesters covered in this Report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 55.6% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 44.4% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 2 for the second time during CEPY 5985: Counseling Practicum when they facilitate a roundtable discussion. Students find a research article regarding their chosen theoretical framework on a subject relating to one of their clients. They then read the article, summarize the pertinent information, and then distribute the article along with their summary to their classmates and instructor. All students are required to read each classmate's articles ahead of time and be prepared to participate in class round table discussion regarding implications for practice.

During the academic semesters covered in this Report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 100% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

**Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification**

Taken together, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' target goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. Accordingly, no major programmatic modifications will be made. However, the MA-CMHC program director reviewed the KPI data for any themes or content areas where students scored primarily (approximately 75% +) in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify potential areas for improvement. A review of the composite report for the first KPI 2 assessment (CEPY 5210: Counseling Research: Written Research Proposal) revealed that the less than approximately 75% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range in any section of the Written Research Proposal. Accordingly, no major program modifications will be made in this area.

A review of the composite report for the second assessment for KPI 2 (CEPY 5985: Counseling Practicum: Roundtable) revealed that 100% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. Accordingly, the

MA-CMHC Program faculty will review and compare the Counseling Practicum criteria on the KPI Rubric to the course curriculum and identify potential areas for improvement during their program retreat in the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

### **Key Performance Indicator 3**

**Students will be able to identify factors that impact human development, functioning, and behavior.**

#### **CORE CACREP AREA: HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

##### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

##### ***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 3 for the first time during CEPY 5120: Human Development when they write a Human Development Paper. Specifically, students write a paper in which they identify factors that impact human development, functioning, and behavior. Students review the extant peer-reviewed literature regarding their topic and then write a paper citing current research, interventions (if applicable), and their own personal experiences in facing the issue.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 30.0% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 70.0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 3 for the second time during CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship via the KPI Rubric for the Human Development Portion of Comprehensive Examination. This portion of the comprehensive exam tasks students with (a) demonstrating an understanding of factors that impact human development, (b) demonstrating an understanding of factors that impact human functioning, and (c) demonstrating an understanding of factors that impact human behavior.

During the academic semesters covered in this Report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range on KPI 3 assessment 2. More specifically, 100% of internship students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

##### ***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. The MA-CMHC program director reviewed the KPI data for any themes or content areas where students scored primarily (approximately 75% +) in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify potential areas for improvement. A review of the composite report for the first KPI 3 assessment (CEPY 5120: Human Development: Human Development Paper) revealed that there were zero areas on the Human Development Paper that the majority of students (approximately 75% +) scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range.

Accordingly, no major programmatic or curricular changes will be made in relation to KPI 3 assessment 1.

A review of the composite report for the second assessment for KPI 3 (CEPY 5120: Human Development: Human Development Portion of Comprehensive Examination) revealed that 100% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. Accordingly, the MA-CMHC Program faculty will review and compare the Counseling Internship criteria on the KPI Rubric to the course curriculum and identify potential areas for improvement during their program retreat in the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

### **Key Performance Indicator 4**

**Students will be able to assess factors that contribute to career development, including culturally relevant influences.**

#### **CORE CACREP AREA: CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

##### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

##### ***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 4 for the first time during CEPY 5320: Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment via the Final Assignment KPI Rubric. For the Final Assignment, students choose a topic related to career counseling, career development, vocational testing and assessment, or sociocultural influences on career behavior and provide an analysis of a question of their choice using themes and topics from class as well as outside readings. The majority of these readings must be empirical (i.e., peer-reviewed research articles).

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 0 students took Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment due to a curricular change. Based on feedback from past students, taking Counseling Research during their internship semester was overwhelming. According, the program committee unanimously voted to switch the semesters that students take Counseling Research and Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment so that students would no longer take Counseling Research and Internship in the same semester. In the new sequence, students now take Research Methods in their first spring semester in the program and Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment in their second spring semester.

Students are assessed on KPI 4 for the second time during CEPY 5220: Testing, Assessment, and Psychometric Theory via the Test Report KPI Rubric. The Test Report involves developing a psychological assessment report that includes a biopsychosocial interview and a mental status examination, including demographic information on their practice client's family background, medical and counseling history, career history, diagnosis, and "other" relevant information. Students also interpret the results of a psychological test battery and report the synthesized findings of the test battery. Lastly, students write treatment goals and recommendations as well as a summary and conclusions section in the test report.

During the academic semesters covered in this Report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 0% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 100% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

### ***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on the KPI assessment. A review of the second assessment (CEPY 5220: Testing, Assessment, and Psychometric Theory: Test Report) for KPI 4 revealed that 100% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. As a result of 100% of students exceeding expectations on this KPI assessment, no modifications will be made.

## **Key Performance Indicator 5**

**Students will be able to identify the fundamental tenants of major counseling theories and demonstrate fundamental counseling skills.**

### **CORE CACREP AREA: COUNSELING AND HELPING RELATIONSHIPS**

#### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

#### ***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 5 for the first time during CEPY 5230: Counseling Theory and Technique via the Overall Skills Demonstrations KPI Rubric. Specifically, students take turns roleplaying a client and counselor and submit two separate, transcribed practice sessions to the instructor. Students are required to transcribe and reflect on at least 20 minutes of each practice session, however, they must submit the video of the entire practice counseling sessions to the instructor. Students must include at least one example of each requirement/skill that's listed on the grading rubric, an alternative response, and self-reflection section. Students select both effective examples of each skill, as well as instances where the use of a skill seemed ineffective, and reflect on how they can grow and learn.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 45.5% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 54.5% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 5 for the second time during CEPY 5985: Counseling Practicum via the Tape Script KPI Rubric. The Tape Scripts task students with completing a minimum of two video transcription assignments in which they are required to demonstrate their ability to use and recognize their use of fundamental counseling skills.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 93% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range and 7% (one student) scored in the *Competency Not Met* range.



***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on the first assessment for KPI-5 met the program faculty members' goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. However, one student did not meet competency for KPI-5 assessment 2. Accordingly, a remediation plan was put in place to support this student, who will repeat Counseling Practicum in a future semester.

**Key Performance Indicator 6**

**Students will be able to identify, demonstrate, and experience dynamics associated with group process and development with an emphasis on culturally relevant practice.**

**CORE CACREP AREA: GROUP COUNSELING AND GROUP WORK*****Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 6 for the first time during CEPY 5260: Group Work Theory and Technique via the Final Project KPI Rubric. The final project involves working with 6 - 7 other students on a group project and presentation. During these final project presentations, every work-group member will be expected to speak and take a portion of responsibility for the overall presentation. The presentation will focus on a specific type of group with a specific type of population in a specific setting.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 100% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 6 for the second time during CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship via the Group Counseling Portion of the Site Supervisor Evaluation KPI Rubric. Students' internship site supervisors evaluate their performance on their ability to identify, demonstrate, and experience dynamics associated with group process and development with an emphasis on culturally relevant practice.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 100% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. The MA-CMHC program director reviewed the KPI data for any themes or content areas where students scored primarily (approximately 75% +) in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify potential areas for improvement. The MA-CMHC Program faculty will review and compare the criteria on the KPI Rubric to the curriculum in both

the group counseling and internship courses to identify potential areas for improvement during their program retreat in the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

### **Key Performance Indicator 7**

**Students will understand ethical and legal considerations specifically related to the practice of clinical mental health counseling.**

#### **CORE CACREP AREA: PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING ORIENTATION AND ETHICAL PRACTICE**

##### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

##### ***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 7 for the first time during CEPY 5170: Professional Issues in Mental Health Counseling via the Final Exam KPI Rubric. This is a 50-question final exam on the ACA code of ethics. Concepts also include ethical decision-making models, as well as other issues regarding ethical practice and professional development.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 100% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 7 for the second time during CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship via the Ethics Portion of the Comprehensive Examination KPI Rubric. On the ethics portion of the comprehensive exam, students are required to demonstrate an understanding of ethical considerations specifically related to the practice of clinical mental health counseling. Students must also demonstrate an understanding of legal considerations specifically related to the practice of clinical mental health counseling.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 36.4% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 63.6% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

##### ***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. The MA-CMHC program director reviewed the KPI data for any themes or content areas where students scored primarily (approximately 75% +) in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify potential areas for improvement.

A review of the composite report for the first assessment for KPI 7 (CEPY 5170: Professional Issues in Mental Health Counseling: Final Exam KPI Rubric), revealed that 0% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 100% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. No major program modifications will be made in this area, as 100% of students exceeded the expectations for KPI 7, assessment 1.

A review of the composite report for the second assessment for KPI 7 (CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship via the Ethics Portion of Comprehensive Examination KPI Rubric), revealed that 36.4% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 63.6% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. Accordingly, the MA-CMHC Program faculty will review and compare the ethics portion of the CEPY 5170 final exam and ethics portion of the comprehensive examination to the course curriculum and identify areas for helping more students earn competency exceeded ratings in the future.

### **Key Performance Indicator 8**

**Students will demonstrate awareness, knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs and their impacts on diverse client populations.**

#### **CORE CACREP AREA: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

##### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

##### ***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 8 for the first time during CEPY 5130: Multicultural Counseling via the Self-Reflection Paper KPI Rubric. This written assignment is an exploration into the nature of students' own personal values, cultural identity, family history, and current lifestyle. It is to be a cultural autobiography focusing on the constructs that are most salient to students' self-definition/identity and worldview (e.g. ethnicity, race, culture, spirituality, class, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, ...). Lastly, students are required to articulate their understanding of how these identities may possibly impact counseling relationships with clients.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 50.0% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 50.0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 8 for the second time during CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship via the Site Supervisor Evaluation KPI Rubric. This KPI rubric focuses on the site supervisor evaluation questions related to students' social and cultural diversity competencies. Specifically, site supervisors evaluate students' competencies related to awareness, knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs and their impacts on diverse client populations.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 30.0% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 70.0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

##### ***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on both KPI assessments met the program faculty members' goal of 100% of students scoring in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments. The MA-CMHC program director reviewed the KPI

data for any themes or content areas where students scored primarily (approximately 75% +) in the *Competency Satisfied* range to identify potential areas for improvement.

A review of the composite report for the first assessment for KPI 8 (CEPY 5130: Multicultural Counseling: Self-Reflection Paper KPI Rubric), revealed that 40.0% scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 60.0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. Specifically, 100% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range in the Social Awareness section of the KPI rubric. While this meets the program's goal, the program faculty will discuss this competency during the Fall 2023 retreat and discuss potential strategies for helping more students score in the *Competency Exceeded* range in the future.

A review of the composite reports for the second assessment for KPI 8 revealed that 100% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. To this end, no major program modifications will be made in this area, as the majority (70%) of students exceeded the expectations for KPI 8, assessment 2.

### **Key Performance Indicator 9**

**Students will demonstrate their ability to provide culturally sensitive counseling services to diverse clients in a variety of settings.**

#### **CORE CACREP AREA: CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING**

##### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will score in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range on both KPI assessments.

##### ***Overview and Results***

Students are assessed on KPI 9 for the first time during CEPY 5985: Counseling Practicum via the Faculty Supervisor Evaluation KPI Rubric. This KPI rubric focuses on the faculty supervisor evaluation questions related to students' clinical mental health counseling competencies. Specifically, faculty supervisors evaluate students' competencies related to culturally sensitive counseling services and their ability to work effectively with diverse clients.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 85.7% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range. More specifically, 7.15% ( $n = 1$ ) of MA students scored in the *Competency Not Met Range*, 85.7% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 0% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range.

Students are assessed on KPI 9 for the second time during CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship via the Site Supervisor Evaluation KPI Rubric. This KPI rubric focuses on the site supervisor evaluation questions related to students' clinical mental health counseling competencies. Specifically, site supervisors evaluate students' competencies related to culturally sensitive counseling services and their ability to work effectively with diverse clients.

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 100% of MA-CMHC students scored in either the *Competency Satisfied* range or *Competency Exceeded* range for KPI 9, assessment 2. More specifically, 45.5% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 54.5% of MA-CMHC students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range on KPI 9, assessment 2.

***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

Collectively, students' scores on KPI-9 assessment 1 revealed that one student scores in the *Competency Not Met* range. Accordingly, a remediation plan was put in place to support this student, who will repeat Counseling Practicum in a future semester. The rest of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* or *Competency Exceeded* range. Accordingly, no major program modifications will be made in this area, as a remediation plan is already in place to support the one student who did not meet competency in this area.

A review of the composite report for the first assessment for KPI 9 (CEPY 5998: Counseling Internship: Site Supervisor Evaluation KPI Rubric), revealed that with the exception of one student, 45.5% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 54.5% of students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range. While this meets the program's goal, the program faculty will discuss this competency during the Fall 2023 retreat and discuss potential strategies for helping more students score in the *Competency Exceeded* range in the future.

A review of the composite report for the second assessment for KPI 9 revealed that 45.5% of students scored in the *Competency Satisfied* range and 54.5% of MA-CMHC students scored in the *Competency Exceeded* range on the demonstrated culturally sensitive counseling services portion of Site Supervisor Evaluation. Accordingly, no major program modifications will be made in this area.

## Section II: Professional Dispositions

### Introduction

MA-CMHC Students are required to maintain professional dispositions throughout their entire time in the program. Any core or non-core faculty member can bring a professionalism concern about a student in the form of a fitness-to-practice review at any time in the program. Students are quantitatively assessed (aggregate data) across the professional dispositions listed in the student handbook: [https://cep.nmsu.edu/academic-programs/CMHC-HANDBOOK-2023--2024\\_Final2.pdf](https://cep.nmsu.edu/academic-programs/CMHC-HANDBOOK-2023--2024_Final2.pdf) (see pages 13 - 14). Students are rated on each competency based on the following scale: 0 = *competency unmet*, 1 = *competency met*, or 2 = *competency exceeded*. Aggregate scores are computed at each of the three different points in the program at the end of each course in the clinical sequence: Counseling Theory and Technique, Group Theory and Technique, Counseling Practicum, and Counseling Internship. An aggregate score < 12 is considered “*unacceptable*” (and requires a remediation plan), an aggregate score between 12 and 18 is considered “*meets expectations*,” and an aggregate score > 18 is considered “*exceptional*.”

### **2023 Professional Dispositions: Results and Interpretation**

#### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will earn aggregate scores > 12 on all professional disposition assessments.

#### ***Results, Interpretation, and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

During the academic semesters covered in this report, 97% of MA-CMHC students' aggregate scores were in the *meets expectations* or *exceeds expectations* range and 3% ( $n = 1$ ) scored in the *competency unmet* range. In addition, students are required to score in the *meets expectations* (> 2) range on all individual professionalism competencies. Aggregate scores ranged from 10 to 24 ( $M = 20.1$ ;  $SD = 3.67$ ). Interval level scores were coded into ordinal variables with the three following levels: 0 to 11 = *expectations not met*, 12 to 18 = *meets expectations* and > 18 = *exceeds expectations*. Overall, 3% ( $n = 1$ ) of students scored in the *expectations not met* range, 21% of students scored in the *meets expectations* range, and 76% of students scored in the *exceeds expectations* range.

With the exception of one person, all MA-CMHC students' individual and aggregate scores met or exceeded competency on all three professional disposition assessments. A remediation plan is in place to support the one student who did not meet all of the competency areas. Accordingly, no major program modifications will be made in this area, as a remediation plan is already in place to support the one student who did not meet competency in this area. The CMHC program faculty will continue to monitor students' progress across the professional disposition assessments in accordance with the CACREP Standards.

## Section III: Written Comprehensive Examination

### Introduction

MA-CMHC students take a written comprehensive examination in the middle of their final semester in CEPY 580: Counseling Internship. This comprehensive written exam consists of multiple-choice questions. The exam is designed to assess students' acquired knowledge in each of the eight common core curricular areas and the Student Learning Outcomes for Clinical Mental Health Counseling identified by CACREP and additional coursework that comprises students' curricular program of study. A candidate failing to obtain a passing score is required to repeat the exam and obtain a passing score before proceeding on to the oral portion of the final examination process. A passing score of a minimum of 70% is required for all CMHC students. The written exam is offered during fall and spring semesters. It is not offered during the summer. Unless otherwise in conflict with Graduate School policy, the written portion of the final examination may be taken as many times as it takes a student to obtain a passing score. Program faculty will schedule a retake of the exam at the earliest possible date that will allow reasonable time for a student to prepare for a successful retake.

### 2023 Written Comprehensive Examination: Results and Interpretation

#### *Target /Benchmark*

100% of students will score in 70% or higher on the written comprehensive examination.

#### *Results*

In the semesters covered in this report 16 students took the written comprehensive exam. Among examinees, 93.8% ( $N = 15$ ) of MA-CMHC students successfully passed their oral comprehensive examination on the first attempt, and one student passed it on their second attempt. On the exit survey (see section IV in this report), students rated the value of the written comprehensive examination on the following scale 1 = *poor quality*, 2 = *average quality*, 3 = *high quality*. The mean composite score exceeded the average quality 2.09,  $SD = 0.54$ ,  $n = 11$ .

#### *Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification*

As a result of 100% of MA-CMHC students passing their written comprehensive examination on the first attempt or second attempt, no major programmatic modifications will be made in this area. However, the program faculty will continue to revise and update the exam questions to be consistent with the CACREP standards in each course.

## Section IV: Oral Comprehensive Examination

### Introduction

Following successful completion of the written examination, students are assigned a time and date for their oral exam. The purpose of the oral comprehensive examination is to assess each student's ability to demonstrate their application of knowledge and skills in each of the eight common core curricular areas identified by CACREP, and additional coursework that comprises students' curricular program of study. Students' overall performance on the Oral Comprehensive Exam is used as an indicator of the effectiveness of the program curriculum in addressing the professional identity standards of CACREP and meeting the program goals.

### **2023 Oral Comprehensive Examination: Results and Interpretation**

#### ***Target /Benchmark***

100% of students will pass the oral comprehensive examination.

#### ***Overview and Results***

The oral examination procedures include the CEPY 5998 instructor helping students assemble an oral examination committee comprised of two CEP faculty members, including at least one Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program faculty member as chair, a second CEP faculty member, and one faculty member from outside the CEP department who serves as the Dean's representative per university policy. Students are presented with a client case vignette and committee members ask the student a series of application-based questions. In determining a candidate's performance, committee members have three options: pass, adjourn, or fail.

In the semesters covered in this report, 100% ( $N = 16$ ) of MA-CMHC students successfully passed their oral comprehensive examination on their first attempt. On the exit survey (see section IV), students rated the value of the oral comprehensive examination on the following scale 1 = *poor quality*, 2 = *average quality*, 3 = *high quality*. The mean composite score was in the average-quality range, 2.73,  $SD = 0.47$ ,  $n = 11$ .

#### ***Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification***

As a result of 100% of MA-CMHC students passing their oral comprehensive examination on the first attempt or second attempt, no major programmatic modifications will be made in this area. However, the program faculty will continue to update the client case vignettes each year to be consistent with the CACREP standards and course content, particularly in the Diagnosis and Treatment Planning and Internship courses.



## Section V: Exit Survey

### Introduction

MA-CMHC students are asked to provide feedback about the program via a confidential exit survey, which is administered following their completion of the oral comprehensive examination. Students complete the exit survey via Qualtrics secure electronic survey platform. Students are asked to “please rate the overall quality (i.e., how much you learned) in each of your courses” on the following Likert-type scale 1 = *poor quality*, 2 = *average quality*, 3 = *high quality*. Any class with a mean composite score < 2 is reviewed by the program committee for improvement.

### 2023 Exit Survey: Results and Interpretation

#### *Target /Benchmark*

100% of MA-CMHC classes will receive a mean composite rating  $\geq 2$ .

#### *Overview and Results*

Among the students who completed the exit survey ( $N = 11$ ), the following mean ( $m$ ), standard deviations ( $SD$ ), and completion samples ( $n$ ) emerged on the 2023 exit survey: Human Development ( $m = 2.55$ ,  $SD = 0.52$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Multicultural Counseling ( $m = 2.91$ ,  $SD = 0.30$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Organization and Administration of School Counseling ( $m = 2.60$ ,  $SD = .52$ ,  $n = 10$ ), Professional Issues in Mental Health Counseling ( $m = 2.64$ ,  $SD = 0.51$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Counseling Research ( $m = 2.64$ ,  $SD = 0.51$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Testing, Assessment, and Psychometric Theory ( $m = 2.45$ ,  $SD = 0.69$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Counseling Theory and Technique ( $m = 2.64$ ,  $SD = 0.51$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Diagnosis and Treatment Planning ( $m = 2.73$ ,  $SD = 0.47$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment ( $m = 2.45$ ,  $SD = 0.52$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Addictions Counseling ( $m = 2.27$ ,  $SD = 0.47$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Child and Adolescent Counseling ( $m = 2.60$ ,  $SD = 0.52$ ,  $n = 10$ ), Family Theory and Technique ( $m = 2.00$ ,  $SD = 0.47$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Group Work Theory and Technique ( $m = 2.36$ ,  $SD = 0.67$ ,  $n = 6$ ), Counseling Practicum ( $m = 2.73$ ,  $SD = 0.50$ ,  $n = 11$ ), Advanced Counseling Practicum ( $m = 2.90$ ,  $SD = 0.32$ ,  $n = 10$ ), and Counseling Internship ( $m = 2.82$ ,  $SD = 0.41$ ,  $n = 11$ ).

Students also offered qualitative feedback about the program of study. A total of 9 students offered qualitative feedback. Among the students who offered qualitative feedback, (44.4%,  $n = 4$ ) noted that taking Counseling Research and Counseling internship during the same semester was overwhelming. In addition, (33.3%,  $n = 3$ ) of the students who offered qualitative feedback would have liked an option to take Counseling Internship in two semesters.

#### *Interpretation of Results and Areas Identified for Potential Modification*

The CMHC program faculty achieved and exceeded their target benchmark goal of 100% of MA-CMHC classes will receive a mean composite rating  $> 2$ . The class with the lowest mean composite scores were Family Theory and Technique ( $m = 2.00$ ,  $SD = 0.89$ ) and Child and Adolescent Counseling. However, considering the small sample size ( $N = 11$ ), standard deviations of the estimates, and the standard error of measurement, the differences in mean scores is in all likelihood, negligible (i.e., the standard deviations exceed the differences between

means for most estimates). Collectively, the results of the exit survey indicate that the MA-students who participated in the survey rated all of their classes in the average-to-high quality range. Accordingly, no major curricular changes will be made in this area. However, the MA-CMHC Program committee will continue to collect the exit survey data in the future and aim for a higher completion rate.

Two changes were made to the course sequence based on students' qualitative feedback. First, the program committee unanimously voted to switch the semesters that students take Counseling Research and Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment so that students would no longer take Counseling Research and Internship in the same semester. In the new sequence, students now take Counseling Research in their first spring semester in the program and Career/Life Planning and Vocational Assessment in their second spring semester. In addition, the program committee worked in collaboration with the CEP Department Head to receive approval to offer Counseling Internship during the summer semesters. With this additional course offering, students now have the option of taking Counseling Internship in two semesters.