

C&R NEWS

Counseling & Rehabilitation Program News

Two New Specialized Practice Areas!

The Counseling and Rehabilitation program has implemented a major change in its curriculum offerings and is excited to announce that in addition to the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling specialty, we are offering two new specialized practice areas: Clinical Addiction Counseling and Career Counseling beginning in the fall 2024 semester! Each pathway prepares students for practice as Licensed Counselors (LPC or LAC) and Certified Counselors (CRC, NCC, MAC, or CCC).

The 60 credit hour curriculum for each specialty area includes thirteen (13) required courses, three (3) specialized practice area courses, a practicum, an internship, and one (1) elective.

Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling

We train our graduates to be professional counselors with a specialized understanding of disability and disadvantage-related issues. With a specialization in clinical rehabilitation counseling, our curriculum and service activities are focused on providing counseling and employment-related support to persons who have physical or mental disabilities, including addictions. Additional service perspectives focus on individuals who are disadvantaged by cultural differences and educational and economic impoverishment throughout the state and beyond.

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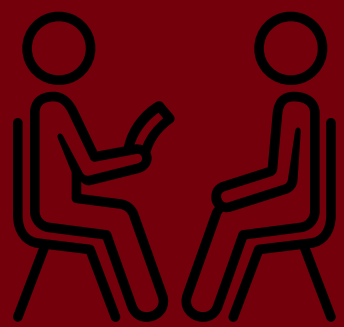
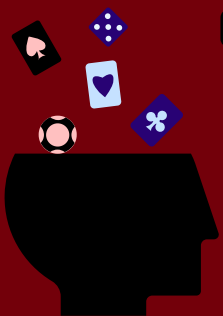
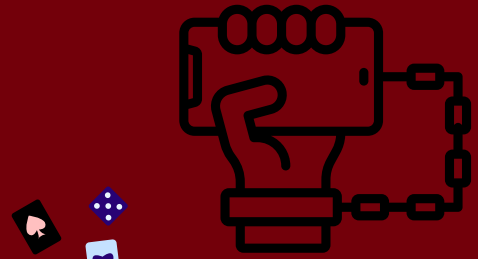
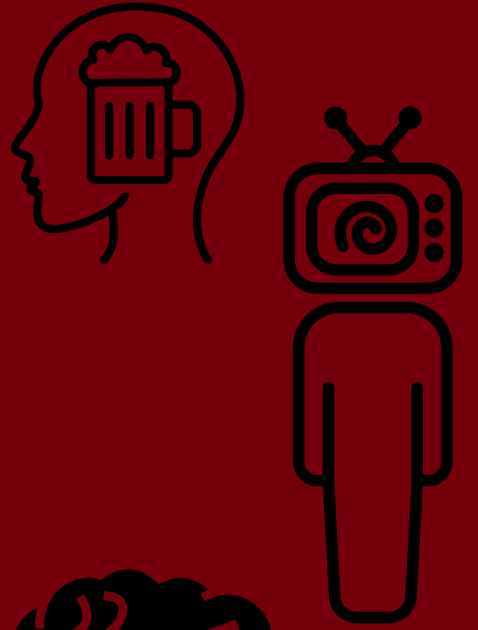
“I applied to the USC School of Medicine’s Counseling and Rehabilitation program after one year in the Educational Psychology PhD program because of the courses surrounding support for persons with disabilities as well as the influence of culture and upbringing. Coming from a military family and spending two years overseas, I knew that there was no better program to prepare me to be a counselor and I get to showcase how great this program is as I finish up my internship and move into professional counselor life.” - **Erica Hoyer**



Clinical Addiction Counseling

We train our graduates to be professional counselors with a specialized understanding of a broad range of addictive behavior, including substance related and behavioral focused, as well as the environmental, social, and cultural contexts related to addiction. With a specialization in clinical addiction counseling, our curriculum and service activities are focused on providing counseling and support to persons who live with addiction as well as those who have physical or mental disabilities. In addition, the M.A. in Counseling Rehabilitation also includes a service perspective focus on individuals who are disadvantaged by cultural differences and educational and economic impoverishment throughout the state and beyond.

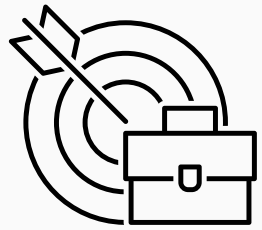
“With almost ten years of alcohol recovery under my belt, I applied to the USC School of Medicine’s Counseling and Rehabilitation master’s program with the goal of becoming an addiction counselor to assist others who struggle with substance use disorders. It wasn’t until my interview for the master’s program that I discovered that there was a brand-new specialization being offered in Clinical Addiction Counseling. I am thrilled to be able to dive right into learning my specialization by taking Foundations in Addictions and Treatment in Counseling during my very first semester! I am confident that this focused curriculum coupled with my eventual internship in a clinical addiction counseling setting will thoroughly prepare me to help those battling addiction.” - **Susan Fairhurst**





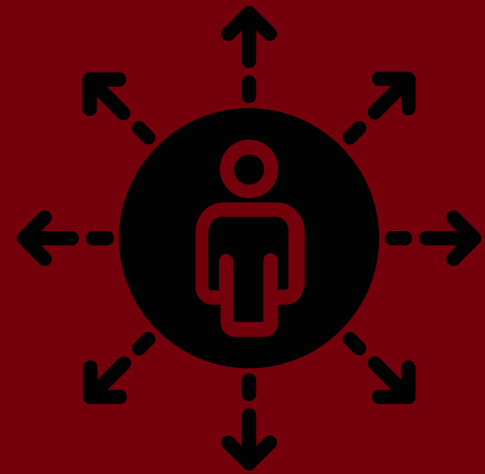
Career Counseling

We train our graduates to be professional counselors with a specialized understanding of career development, theory, and strategies for working with individuals with and without disabilities.



This specialized practice area also delves into organizational behavior within businesses and organizations. With a specialization in career counseling, our curriculum and service activities are focused on providing counseling and support to individuals to build life skills and achieve their career goals and with businesses to promote workplace health and wellbeing. As throughout our program, additional service perspectives focus on individuals who are disadvantaged by cultural differences and educational and economic impoverishment throughout the state and beyond.

“I am very honored to have been accepted to the Inaugural cohort of the University of South Carolina COM MA degree in Counseling & Rehabilitation with a concentration in Career Counseling. As a seasoned Human Resources professional, I know there have been a lot of people who pursue a certification in Executive Coaching but has always felt that these programs lack the clinical science surrounding Human Behavior that I believe can only be found in a true degreed program in a medical sciences program. When I originally looked at the program it did not offer the Career Counseling concentration, but this new track will provide a level of education to prepare professionals to help members of the community identify pediments to careers but will also equip the Clinical Counselor with the tools to professionally guide the clients to ways to not only overcome them but help to identify accommodations to allow their unique abilities to shine.” - **Michelle Wiles**



CHECK OUT OUR SOCIALS





Summer '24 Graduates Entering the Workforce!

With the U.S. Bureau Labor Services reporting that roles for rehabilitation counselors will grow 10% from 2020-2030, our students are in demand now more than ever. In fact, as of the 2022-2023 academic year, 100% of program graduates (N=15) who were actively seeking employment were employed. One (1) graduate opted to delay their job search.

Graduates of the Counseling and Rehabilitation Program go on to work in a variety of settings including private practice, community and state agencies, colleges and universities, hospitals, government and so many more. Below, we check in with a couple of our summer '24 graduates who will be entering the workforce following graduation or who have already begun work through their internship program.

“I was recently hired by the site that I completed my internship at. Foundations Counseling and Wellness Center is a private practice located in Goose Creek, SC.

I will be working as a full-time clinician to provide therapeutic services for those in need. I will be working with a varying population ranging from ages 6-80. I will mostly be conducting individual sessions; however, I may encounter work with some couples.” - **Zachary Ho**

“I have recently pursued a change of sites. Salem Counseling and Consulting is a 100% telehealth practice that was established in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

I am currently meeting primarily with adults between the ages of 21 and 60 who are diagnosed with ADHD, Anxiety and Depression, and PTSD as well as those who are also experiencing life changes (i.e., career changes).

Whether this site offers me a job after completion of my hours or I start somewhere new, I look forward to putting what I have learned into practice.” - **Erica Hoyer**

**CLASS OF
2024**



Speaker Series

Featuring Dr. Amanda Giordano



October 11th - Clinical Work with Behavioral Addictions: A Primer

Mark your calendar for our next Speaker Series event with. Dr. Amanda Giordano.

Dr. Giordano specializes in addictions counseling with clinical, instructional, and scholarly experience related to both chemical and behavioral addictions. She is the sole author of a clinical reference book titled, A Clinical Guide to Treating Behavioral Addictions and co-author of a textbook titled, Addiction Counseling: A Practical Approach. Dr. Giordano works to advance the counseling field with rigorous research and has published over 60 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. She regularly teaches addictions counseling courses at the undergraduate and graduate level. Dr. Giordano works to raise public awareness about behavioral addictions by regularly offering community trainings and workshops (both domestically and internationally), being a guest on podcasts, and contributing to news media stories on the topic of addiction. She also writes a blog for Psychology Today called, "Understanding Addiction."

[RSVP Here](#)

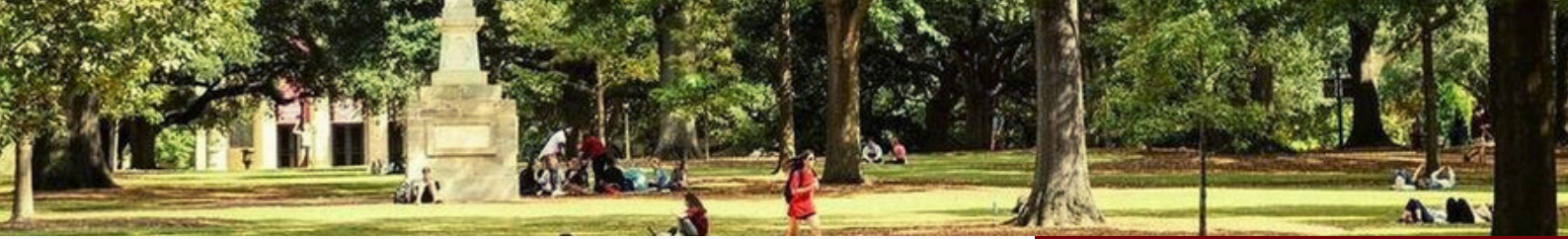
Save the Date

August 19th 2024: New and Returning Student Orientation

August 20th 2024: School of Medicine Graduate Student Welcome Social

October 11th, 2024: Speaker Series featuring Amanda Giordano.

October 12th, 2024: Fall Semester Learning Community Saturday



Podcast Episode!

The C&R Podcast Team has been busy producing new content with more to come each month! The C&R Podcast aims to educate about the Counseling & Rehabilitation Program at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. Each episode explores a different area of the 60-credit hour Master of Arts in Counseling and Rehabilitation. From interviews with faculty and current students, to episodes on our philosophy and approach, this is the place to learn how and why we do what we do. Join us, won't you, as we explore Counseling and Rehabilitation at the USC School of Medicine-Columbia!

Below, you'll find a link to our recently released episode "Perspectives from the Field, an Interview with Michael Hanna" where we dive into an interview on assistive and adaptive technology with Mr. Hanna, Equip Coordinator at ABLE South Carolina along with host, Dr. Michael Walsh.

[Listen to the C&R Podcast here.](#)



CHECK OUT OUR SOCIALS





SOM Graduate Program Welcome Social

The Office of Student Affairs and Career Advising invites you to attend the Graduate Programs Welcome Social on Tuesday, August 20th (11:00am - 1:00pm). In addition to being a great time to connect and network with fellow Graduate Students at the School of Medicine, this is drop in event features food, games and important university resources that you won't want to miss out on. We look forward to seeing you in the VA Auditorium on 8/20!

SOM Graduate Programs
**Welcome
Social**
LUNCH, MINGLE, AND CONNECT
Tuesday, August 20
11-1 (drop in)
VA Auditorium

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Announcements from Financial Aid Officer, Takillya Brown

With the start of the fall '24 semester just under a month away, we've listed a few important announcements for students from Graduate Financial Aid Office, Takillya Brown below. For any additional questions, don't hesitate to reach Ms. Brown at Email: Takillya.Brown@uscmcd.sc.edu or Phone: 803-216-3655.

Student Health Insurance

- The waiver process has changed, and students are able to submit their waiver through the AHP system until August 24, 2024.
- If a student submits their waiver and it's approved before bills become available, they won't be charged for health insurance.
- Starting this Fall, students will not see insurance charges on their bill in July unless they have communicated with the Health Center or AHP that they want to have insurance. To Opt-Into the Plan or Waive out of the Plan you can visit [University of South Carolina | Home \(myahpcare.com\)](http://UniversityofSouthCarolina|Home(myahpcare.com)). On this webpage there is a chat feature if you have any questions that you would like to ask directly to AHP. The contact information for Student Health Assistance Office is 803-777-1916
- The deadline to complete the waiver is August 24, 2024, and if it's not completed, the charge will be added to the student's account on August 25, 2024. Students will have until September 9th to submit your waiver and have the charges removed.
- It's mandatory for students enrolled at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia to have health insurance.

Fall '24 Class Payment Deadline

- The Fall 2024 Payment Deadline is at 5pm on August 14, 2024, regardless of when your classes begin.
- If you see where your Financial Aid has not been applied, please let me know so I can look into your account. You can send your USC ID number and the number of hours you are enrolled in. Please submit this information by August 9, 2024 so that I can save your classes

Financial Aid

- Students, if you have not accepted your student loans via Self-Service Carolina or if you still haven't applied for your Unsubsidized loan or the Grad Plus Loan, please do so as soon as possible. Once that has been done make sure that you monitor Self-Service Carolina so that you can accept the loan. Main campus is working to get those loan applied to your account as soon as possible.

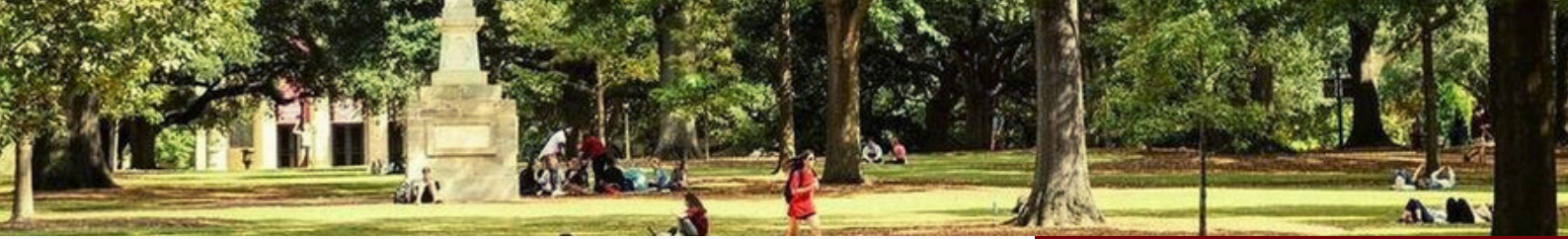
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Wellness Corner

One of our students' favorite wellness activities is the app Finch! It's a free app that is like Tamagotchi or Webkinz. You get to customize your personal self-care bird, and each activity you complete gives the bird energy to go on adventures and discover new things! It is super helpful to get you out and moving. Download through the App Store or Google Play.

If you have any other self-care or wellness ideas to share with the Learning Community, please complete [this form](#).



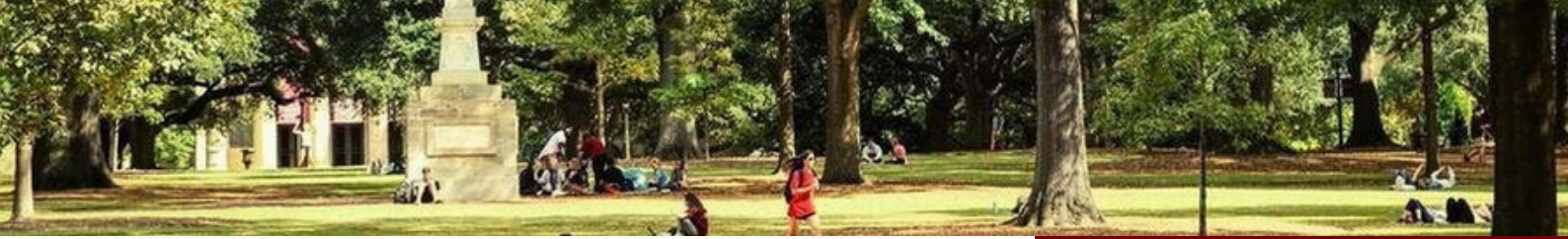
Pet of the Month

Meet Seamus, a 15-year-old Boarder Collie Mix, and Allie, a 17 year-old Russian Blue who belong to Counseling and Rehabilitation student, Lori Hornsby.

Seamus was named after the Pink Floyd song and Allie was named after the Tsarina Alexandra Romanov. Allie enjoys sitting on the screened porch, watching the birds and deer (and the occasional bear) in the back yard. Seamus enjoys listening to Celtic music. His favorite training treats are olives and pickles.

To have your pet(s) shared in next month's newsletter, complete [this form](#)!





APA Writing Tips

Bias-Free Language: Writing About Disability

The language to use where disability is concerned is evolving. The overall principle for using disability language is to maintain the integrity (worth and dignity) of all individuals as human beings. Language should be selected with the understanding that the expressed preference of people with disabilities regarding identification supersedes matters of style.

Both person-first and identity first approaches to language are designed to respect disabled persons; both are fine choices overall. It is permissible to use either approach or to mix person-first and identity-first language unless or until you know that a group clearly prefers one approach, in which case, you should use the preferred approach.

Person-First: “a youth with epilepsy,” “people with intellectual disabilities,” etc.

Identity First: “blind person,” “autistic person,” etc.

Source: APA, 7th edition, p.136



CHECK OUT OUR SOCIALS

