Help others change and grow.

Gain the skills and knowledge to make a deep impact on families and communities. The M.Ed. in Couples, Marriage and Family Counseling prepares students to become both marriage and family therapists and licensed professional counselors. The program provides a broad foundation in mental health counseling with special attention to working with families encountering multiple and diverse challenges.

**FAST FACTS**

**Designed for:** People interested in becoming licensed professional counselors and marriage and family therapists; previous counseling experience not required

**Prerequisite:** Bachelor’s degree

**Requirements:** Full-time or part-time on-campus program consisting of 63 credits

**Entry term:** Fall

**Fieldwork:** 150-hour practicum and 300-hour internship

**Accreditation:** Accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)

**FIELD EXPERIENCES**

Students are well-prepared to become licensed counselors and marriage and family therapists through coursework and clinical training opportunities provided throughout the program. In the first year, students have their first client contact through a closely supervised 150-hour practicum. In the second year, two 300-hour internships provide for intensive counseling experience with couples and families.

Family counseling interns provide their counseling services at the William & Mary School of Education’s New Horizons Family Counseling Center. The center has offered free counseling services for more than three decades and serves approximately 300 families per year. Students have invaluable opportunities for leadership, clinical training and research experiences — all while providing an extraordinary service to the community.

**COURSE TOPICS INCLUDE:**

**YEAR ONE (27 credits)**

- Techniques of individual and group counseling
- Professional, ethical and legal issues
- Family development and processes
- Multi-cultural counseling
- Marriage and family counseling
- Practicum in counseling

**SUMMER (15 credits)**

- Couples counseling
- Addictions and family systems
- Psychopathology
- Internship in family counseling

**YEAR TWO (24 credits)**

- Substance abuse and society
- Advanced theories of family counseling
- Career development
- Human growth and development
- Internship in family counseling

**LEARN MORE**

Questions about Family Counseling at W&M?

**Contact the program director:**
Becky Sheffield, Program Director
rlsheffield@wm.edu | 757-221-1458

Questions about applying for admission?

**Contact an admissions representative:**
graded@wm.edu | 757-221-2317
In today’s ever-changing world, there is an increased need for counselors and school psychologists who can guide others through personal and interpersonal growth during all phases of life focusing on emotional, social, vocational, educational, developmental, and mental health concerns.

William & Mary’s department of School Psychology & Counselor Education is preparing tomorrow’s leaders by providing degree programs that offer rigorous curriculum, innovative research on current trends and hands-on experience. Through the integration of theory, research and practice, and with sensitivity to multicultural concerns, students learn to help others improve their well-being, alleviate distress and resolve crises.

**PROGRAM OFFERINGS**

**ON-CAMPUS:**
- M.Ed. – Clinical Mental Health Counseling
  - Optional specializations:
    - Addictions Counseling
    - Couples, Marriage and Family Counseling
    - Military & Veterans Counseling
- M.Ed. – School Counseling
- M.Ed. & Ed.S. – School Psychology
- Ph.D. – Counselor Education

**ONLINE:**
- M.Ed. – Clinical Mental Health Counseling
  - Optional specialization:
    - Military & Veterans Counseling
- M.Ed. – School Counseling

**WHY W&M?**
Looking to pursue a graduate degree in education? Here are a few reasons to consider W&M:

**A welcoming and supportive community**
With just over 650 students, the School of Education is big enough to offer a diverse range of programs, people and experiences, but small enough to feel like family. You’ll make close connections with your fellow students and your professors — relationships that will stay with you for life and help you forge your own career path.

**A focus on leadership in education**
Our programs produce leaders — people with the passion, skills and tenacity to effect change in education. Our alumni achieve early recognition, becoming school leaders and innovators.

**A campus in the heart of historic Williamsburg**
Study at a campus that offers more than 300 years of history and countless beloved traditions.

**Professors who are leaders in the field**
Our faculty are recognized and respected around the world for instruction and research. They’re passionate about their own research as well as the success of their students — they are, after all, teachers first and foremost.

**Field experiences that will change your life**
You won’t be stuck in a lecture hall and you won’t have to wait until after graduation to begin making a difference in the lives of students and communities. Opportunities abound to pursue meaningful, fulfilling experiences that allow students to both learn and contribute.

**Programs for students at every career stage**
Our graduate programs are designed to meet the needs of a diverse student population that includes full-time and part-time students, people re-entering the paid work force after raising a family, and recent recipients of bachelor’s or master’s degrees preparing for advanced positions in the field of education.

**APPLICATIONS**
Application deadlines vary by program. Visit our website for more details.

Learn more about applying online at education.wm.edu/admissions