



## Master of Arts in Student Personnel Services (575)

### Program Description

The Master of Arts degree in Student Personnel Services prepares graduates to meet the academic, social, and personal needs of college students. The program offers two areas of concentration: counseling and student affairs administration.

Both concentrations consist of courses in student affairs, counseling, educational psychology, and electives. Practicum and Internship classes provide individualized, hands-on experience in counseling settings or student affairs offices. Additionally, students have opportunities for involvement through the SPS graduate student organization, participation in state and national conferences, and experiential activities.

Graduates of the SPS program demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions that are expected of professionals in counseling and student affairs administration. Many graduates work in a variety of higher education areas, such as:

- Admissions
- Student Activities
- Financial Aid
- Leisure and Recreational Programs
- Career Planning and Career Placement
- College Counseling Centers
- Student Orientation
- Student Organizations
- Greek Affairs
- Residence Life
- Academic Advising
- International Student Affairs

Other graduates have found great success in non-educational environments, such as:

- Psychiatric Hospitals
- Community Counseling Agencies
- Veterans Administration
- Addictions/Treatment Centers
- Correctional Systems
- Hospitals
- Court System/Justice Department



## Course Rotation

The degree requires at least 48-hour semester hours that can be completed in four semesters and one summer of enrollment.

### FIRST FALL

COUN	5000	Dynamics of the Counseling Process
EPSY	5460	Human Growth & Development
SPS	5500	Introduction to SPS
COUN	5530	Theories of Counseling

### FIRST SPRING

COUN	5550*	OR
SPS	5550**	Supervised Experience/Practicum
EDUC	5010	Educational Research and Evaluation
COUN	5610	Multicultural and Diverse Populations
SPS	5920	The American College Student

### SUMMER

COUN	5510	Career and Lifestyle Planning
SPS	5580	Group Process

### SECOND FALL

SPS	5930	Org & Admin of SPS in Higher Education
SPS	5570	Internship in College Student Personnel
EPSY	5520	Analysis of the Individual
COUN	6530*	Advanced Group Leadership

### SECOND SPRING

SPS	5960	Legal & Ethical Issues in Student Affairs & Counseling
SPS	5570	Internship in College Student Personnel
SPS	5970**	Seminar on Current Issues in Higher Education & Student Affairs
COUN	6520*	Differential Diagnosis & Treatment in Counseling

\* Required for counseling area only

\*\* Required for administration area only

## Candidate Admission Contact Information

### Office of Graduate Studies

101 Roy Hall  
Northwestern State University  
Natchitoches, LA 71497  
Telephone: 1-800-232-9892  
E-mail: [graduate\\_studies@nsula.edu](mailto:graduate_studies@nsula.edu)  
Website:  
<http://graduateschool.nsula.edu/>

or

<http://education.nsula.edu/>

### Dr. Henrietta Williams Pichon

Office #103M, Pod D, Teacher Education Center  
Northwestern State University  
[pichonh@nsula.edu](mailto:pichonh@nsula.edu)  
318-357-5192

### ACCREDITATION

Northwestern State University is accredited by the Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, and specialist's degrees.

Northwestern's College of Education and Human Development has been continuously accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since its initial accreditation in 1954. The College must include in its accreditation review all initial and advanced programs that prepare teachers and other school professionals to work in preschool through 12th grade settings. NCATE uses six standards to holistically evaluate Northwestern's professional education unit. Additionally, each initial and advanced program must meet professional standards and be nationally recognized.

Through the process, NCATE assures the public that graduates of accredited institutions have acquired the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to help all P-12 students learn and/or to create supportive environments for student learning.

Advanced programs for preparing the professoriate or non-school personnel are not within NCATE's scope of authority.

### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of Northwestern State University of Louisiana not to discriminate on the basis of race, color religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment practices.



Northwestern State University  
is a member of the  
University of Louisiana System