

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Master of Arts in Counseling

Professional Participation Policy

As a part of students' personal and professional growth, to broaden students' exposure to the field of counseling, and to assist in the intentional integration of theology and psychology, it is essential to the Counseling Department that our students actively participate in the counseling profession. This can be done through membership in professional counseling organizations and by participating in seminars, workshops, or other activities that contribute to the growth of the profession and its advocacy for mental health policies.

All MAC students who enter the **program in the Fall of 2020** or after are required to complete the following throughout the course of Practicum and Internship. This is a graduation requirement.

- **Membership** – All students, when enrolled in Practicum and Internship, must hold membership in either: the American Counselors Association (ACA) or the Missouri Mental Health Counselors Association (MMHCA). In addition, students may want to also hold memberships in the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC) or the Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS).

- **Participation in Professional Development Opportunities Hosted by Outside Organizations**– During the 18 months of Practicum and Internship, student counselors must participate in at least three (3) professional seminars, workshops, meetings, or other trainings hosted by organizations other than the Counseling Department. This can be accomplished through:
 - attending meetings or CEUs from the MMHCA
 - attending meetings or CEUs from St. Louis Psychotherapy
 - completing Free, online CEUs from PESI (<https://www.pesi.com/>)
 - completing the Ethics (CO 360) assignment contrasting the ethical codes of the ACA and the AACC
 - completing the Ethics (CO 360) assignment on learnings from participation in an online or in-person counseling training
 - completing the Internship (CO 542) assignment on learnings from attending an "in-person" professional development training in the St. Louis area.

- **Participation in Professional Development Opportunities On-Campus**– During the 18 months of Practicum and Internship, student counselors must participate in at least three (3) professional seminars, workshops or other trainings on campus. This can be accomplished through:
 - attending the Austin Harrington Counseling Lectures
 - attending a lecture in the Professional Counselor Training Series

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- attending Ministry Lunches with professional counselors as speakers
- attending events with special speakers of the Counseling Department

Students who would like to attend meetings by, or establish membership with, professional counselor organizations not listed on this policy, may seek approval from the Associate Dean of Counseling.

Students are responsible to collect their own proof of attendance (a receipt; certificate of attendance; etc.) to turn into the Counseling Department. Students should turn in this form BOTH at the end of Practicum and the end of Internship. Forms can be turned in to Sabrina Hickel, Associate Dean of Counseling in the Counseling Department.

Proof of Professional Participation

Student Name: _____

Current Status: _____ Practicum _____ Internship

_____ Attached is my proof of members in an approved Professional Counseling organization.

_____ Attached is a proof of attendance in a meeting, seminar or trainings for the following:

Organization	Title	Date	On-campus	Off-campus

Student Signature

Date Signed

*** Please turn in to Sabrina Hickel, Associate Dean, in the counseling department at the end of both Practicum and Internship. You will turn this in twice. ***