**Courses required for the MHC program:**

**The MHC program requires 60 semester credit hours, all of which are required. 1000 clock hours of field placement (practicum and internship) are also required. Students attending full time (including summers) can complete the MHC program in three academic years. The curriculum is listed below:**

**Required Sequence of Courses for Clinical Mental Health Counseling Students:**

**EDU 595**: Introduction to Educational Research. EDU 595 is designed to introduce the graduate student to the principles of research and statistics.

**EDU 651**: Introduction to Counseling: EDU 651 explores the basic techniques of counseling such as reflection, confrontation, open questioning, building rapport, etc.

**EDU 652**: Multicultural Counseling: An introduction to the meta-cultural issues in schools, agencies and society.

**EDU 654**: Counseling Theory: This course examines the various theoretical approaches to counseling, such as Psychoanalytic, Client Centered Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Solution-Focused Counseling, and many others.

**EDU 655**: Lifespan Development: Emphasis is placed on developmental life stages and the particular challenges they present to clients.

**EDU 657**: Assessment in Counseling: Fundamentals of educational and psychological assessment. EDU 657 also examines a number of standardized and non-standardized tests counselors may use in professional practice.

**EDU 658:** Counseling Process: This course is designed to provide students the opportunity to develop their emerging counseling skills.

**EDU 659**: Wellness and the Counseling Process: This course introduces the student to issues of personal growth, stress management and personal reflection.

**EDU 664**: Career Counseling: This class critically examines the factors involved in career development. Topics of study include theories of vocational development and career assessments.

**EDU 666**: Psychopathology and DSM Diagnosis: Understanding the nature of mental disorders and proper use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) will be the focus of this course. Students will also practice diagnosing clients in video-tapes.

**EDU 668**: Family Counseling: The theoretical perspectives guiding family and couples counseling will be covered. The course will also utilize role plays with mock families.

**EDU 669**: Group Theory and Application: The course examines the various approaches to group counseling. Students will learn to the core facilitation skills for groups.

**EDU 671:** Psychopharmacology: Students will learn about psychotherapeutic medications, their uses, and how they work in the system.

**EDU 672:** Bases to Drug and Alcohol Addiction: Students will learn about the maladaptive use of drugs and alcohol and how it factors into the therapeutic process, as well as treatment of such disorders.

**EDU 673:** Foundations and Ethics of Mental Health Counseling: Students will learn the fundamentals of mental health counseling including roles, the functions of different work settings, and ethics of the profession.

**EDU 803**: Counseling and Behavior Therapy with Children: Students will develop advanced skills in diagnosis as well as necessary skills required for comprehensive client care, management and consulting with all professionals in the total managed care system.

**EDU 679**: Mental Health Practicum: Students complete a clinical experience in a mental health setting and are required to meet in a weekly class. Students must complete a minimum of 100 clock hours in a professional setting; have on-site supervision from a master’s level or above on-site clinical supervisor and weekly supervision from their professor in the classroom. Forty of the 100 hours must be in direct contact with clients. Direct contact includes counseling (individual, group, couples, and family), intakes, assessment, phone crisis counseling, etc.

**EDU 685/686/687**: Mental Health Internship I, II, & III: Internship follows the practicum class in a cohort sequence. Students will continue their practicum setting and obtain 300 clock hours per semester in that setting. There should be 120 hours of direct client/patient contact per 300 hours of internship. Internship I (EDU 685) runs through Spring semester; Internship II (EDU 686) runs through the following fall; and, Internship III (EDU 687) the subsequent spring. The 1000 hour practicum/internship cohort is considered the backbone of the graduate Mental Health Counseling program.

**Note: EDU 679 and EDU 685, EDU 686, & EDU 687 are taken in sequence and as a cohort. The first of these classes is EDU 679 (Practicum) and all practica begin in the fall. When students successfully complete EDU 679, they proceed to Internship I (EDU 685) in the spring, EDU 686 the subsequent fall and 687 the following spring. Thus, students will be on their field placement their last two years in the CMHC program.**

**Counselor Licensure and Certification:**

All graduate students should plan to become Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC) in New York, or licensure in their state of residence. Canadian counselors will need to seek “Registration” from the Ontario College of Psychotherapists”. In addition, all students should consider becoming Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselors (CCMHC) or National Certified Counselors (NCC) after they complete the post-graduate requirements. There are numerous other credentials offered by state agencies, universities and private organizations. Graduate students should discuss licensure and credentialing with their faculty advisor. Information can be obtained through the New York State Department of Education’s (NYSED) web-site at [www.nysed.org](http://www.nysed.org) and click on the *Office of the Professions* link. Essentially, NYSED requires a masters degree with 60 semester credits, then 3000 post master’s degree hours in a mental health counseling setting, supervised by a licensed mental health professional (e.g., licensed counselor, licensed social worker, licensed psychologist, etc.). Further, there is a required test, the NCMHCE, which must be taken when the state designates. Finally, attendance at (or online completion of) the NY State workshop on Mandated Reporter Training: Identifying and Reporting child Abuse and Maltreatment is required.

**Ontario Credential: Ontario College of Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario** (Ontario Psychotherapy Act 2007)

For Ontario graduates credentialing is as a “Registered Psychotherapist: and will be administered through the Ontario College of Psychotherapists. As of this writing, standards are being finalized. For further information go to the website of the Transitional Council of the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO). The website is: [www.crpo.ca/](http://www.crpo.ca/).

Faculty members of the graduate CMHC program will provide endorsements only for the program for which the graduate has been prepared (e.g., LMHC, CCMHC, Registered Psychotherapist in Ontario, etc.). Graduates must have successfully completed all requirements in order to be endorsed.