Admission Requirements
In addition to meeting the application and admissions requirements of the Graduate School, students must submit:

- Three letters of recommendation (at least two from individuals with earned doctorates, preferably prior instructors).
- A copy of a paper you have written on a scholarly topic, as a writing sample.
- A professional resume.
- Evidence of above-average academic records. A GPA of 3.5 or higher is preferred.
- GRE scores. Quantitative and verbal scores at or above the 50th percentile are preferred. An analytical writing score of 4.0 or higher is preferred.
- Answers to these three questions (limit responses to 300 words or less per question), sent to CounselingDocApps@umsl.edu:
  - How do you envision the UMSL doctoral program preparing you to meet your career goals?
  - What are your experiences working with diverse populations and what you have learned from these experiences?
  - What personal qualities do you possess that relate to your interest in doctoral education in counseling?

Admission is competitive, and a favorable vote of an admission interview committee, composed of faculty in the emphasis area, is required.

Degree Program
- Coursework: A minimum of 60 credit hours is required beyond the Master's degree, including 6 hours of dissertation research. A minimum of 42 of these hours must be completed in residence.
- Dissertation: All students must defend orally a written dissertation proposal to their dissertation committee. A dissertation embodying the results of original research must be accepted by the dissertation committee and the Graduate School.

Admission Application
To ensure time for review and decision, applicants should submit the Graduate School application, college transcripts, and any program-specific materials (e.g. supplemental application, letters of recommendation, etc.) well in advance of the December 1st deadline. Please note that unofficial transcripts can be uploaded with the Graduate School application to expedite admissions decisions; however, official transcripts must be received directly from all prior institutions attended before regular admission to any program will be granted. In addition, applicants are urged to request transcripts and letters of recommendation two weeks before completing the online application. Consideration of applications cannot be undertaken until all materials are available.

Degree Requirements
Students in the Counseling emphasis area complete the following requirements:
These courses are normally part of a master's program. Equivalent graduate coursework may count as transfer credit toward the degree with approval of the Ph.D. program.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

• Demonstrate and apply the ethical and culturally relevant practice of counseling
• Be adept at conceptualizing clients using theory and integrating theory and research into counseling practice
• Demonstrate skills in the process and practice of clinical supervision and consultation, including the use of theory, assessment, gatekeeping, and ethical and culturally relevant strategies
• Develop skills in teaching, including course design, assessment, andragogy, differentiation, and gatekeeping.
• Demonstrate the ethical practice of conducting rigorous and intentionally designed counseling research.
• Develop and refine scholarship skills through advanced qualitative and quantitative coursework to be able to disseminate findings through professional presentations or publications
• Demonstrate abilities to serve as leaders in the field and advocates for the profession, for clients, and with marginalized populations to stand up against issues of systemic inequity