



## **ACADEMIC ALERT #2006-16**

**DATE:** June, 2006  
**DECISION:** College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)  
Department of Human Services

### **Change in Name**

**From:** Master of Science (M.S.) in Human Services Counseling

**To:** Master of Science (M.S.) in Counseling with a Community Counseling option and a School Counseling option

### **Change in Number of Hours for Degree Completion**

**From:** 48 Semester Hours **To:** 51 Semester Hours

### **Rationale**

Prospective students are looking for a degree that will provide eligibility to sit for counselor licensure exams. The title Human Services Counseling, however, does not communicate that very clearly. The title change is important for indicating the intent and purpose of the degree to the external community. The implementation of the two new options in School Counseling within the past two years (one for teachers and the other for non-teachers) further demonstrates that the title change would help to more accurately indicate the counseling focus of the degree. Changing the degree title is consistent with the Counseling & Human Services Department's strategic goal of achieving counselor accreditation. The increase in hours from 48 to 51 for students to earn a Masters degree in Human Services/Counseling, also is in line with the program's move toward Council for Accreditation for Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) accreditation.

**Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: February 16, 2006**

**Faculty Senate Approval: Point of Information; Not required**

**Provost Approval: Point of Information; Not required**

**Illinois Board of Higher Education Notification Approval: March 15, 2006**

**Program Authorizations:** The M.S. in Counseling Program is authorized to be offered in the following Illinois Regions: Chicago, North Suburban, West Suburban, South Metropolitan, and Fox Valley.

### **IMPLEMENTATION DATES:**

**Effective Immediately: For Change in Name from Master of Science (M.S.) in Human Services Counseling to Master of Science (M.S.) in Counseling with a Community Counseling option and a School Counseling option**

**Effective September 1, 2007: For Change in Number of Hours for Degree Completion**  
**From: 48 Semester Hours To: 51 Semester Hours**

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### **SIGNATURE**

**Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.**  
**Vice Provost**

<b>Revised M.S. in Counseling Degree Program</b>					
<b>Students in Community Counseling</b>			<b>Students in School Counseling</b>		
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>SH</b>
HSC 533	Counseling Practicum (Added Course)	3	HSC 504	Clinical Techniques of Counseling (Added Course)	3
Total Hours for Degree	Increased from 48 SH to 51 SH		Total Hours for Degree	Increased from 48 SH to 51 SH	

### **Implementation**

The revisions must be built into Banner.

Materials need to be prepared by marketing; the revised program needs to be added to NLU's web.

Human Services Department faculty, Offices of the Registrar, Admissions, and staff in Enrollment, Marketing, Recruitment need to be knowledgeable about these revisions.

The revised program and courses will be added to the 2007-2008 catalog.

The revised catalog copy will be written and submitted to the Vice Provost and University Registrar Catalog Coordinator prior to posting of the academic alert.