

**Summary of the Case
Chaminade University of Honolulu
School Counseling¹**

The Summary of the Case is written by the site visitors and approved by program faculty. The Summary reflects the site visitors' understanding of the case the faculty are making for accreditation.

Authorship and approval of the *Inquiry Brief*:

The *Inquiry Brief* was written by Darren Iwamoto and Deneen Wong, and was approved by the MS in Counseling Psychology faculty on Wednesday, January 28, 2015.

Introduction:

Chaminade University of Honolulu is in the Kaimuki neighborhood of Honolulu, one of the oldest neighborhoods in the city. The residents range from college students to senior citizens. Chaminade University has a total enrollment of 2,762 of whom 1,235 are undergraduate students. There are 99 full-time faculty.

The student makeup is diverse, with the following groups represented: Asian (37%); African-American (3%); Hispanic (4%); Native American (1%), Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander (20%); and white (14%) with approximately 3% non-resident alien. The student body is 71% female and 29% male. The University's mission is guided by its Catholic, Marianist, and liberal arts traditions. The development of moral character, personal competencies, and a commitment to a just and peaceful society are encouraged. The University is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

The graduate level School Counseling program is an emphasis of the Master of Science in Counseling Psychology (MSCP) program. The MSCP program is housed within the Behavioral Sciences Division of the University. In addition to the characteristics of the Marianist tradition and the commitment to the native population evident in all of the programs at the University, the MSCP program embraces a holistic approach to counseling. This approach considers the adaptive nature of a person's interactions with the environment. Various approaches to psychological health and wellness are taught, including those of western and eastern traditions. Candidates learn a variety of counseling strategies designed to meet the emotional needs of their students and themselves.

The School Counseling program consists of 7 full-time and 20 adjunct faculty members. The program graduated 26 students in 2013-14 and enrolled 32 new students in 2014-15.

Table 1

¹ Program options include: School Counseling

Chaminade University School Counseling

Option Name	Level Graduate	Number of completers in previous academic year 2013-14	Number of students enrolled in current academic year 2013-14
MS in School Counseling		26	37

Program claims:

Claim 1: Program completers understand and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and techniques characteristic of effective school counselors.

Claim 2: Program completers are caring counselors who understand and demonstrate ethical and professional conduct.

Claim 3: Program completers understand diversity and consider diversity in meeting the unique needs of others.

Evidence supporting the claims

MSCP Core Comprehensive Examination (Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3)

The MSCP Core Comprehensive Examination consists of 125 multiple-choice items assessing content knowledge from the core program courses. Reliability is calculated to be 0.80 to 0.84 (KR20). Face validity was established by the exam construction process, using core course content and CACREP, Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB), and National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) content standards. Concurrent validity was established by correlating scores with those of the Praxis II Professional School Counselor examination ($r=0.75$) and the Professional School Counselor examination ($r=0.63$). The Core Comprehensive Examination includes an ethics sub-score (Claim 2) and a cross-cultural sub-score (Claim 3). Pass rates for the exam range from 96% to 100% with scores ranging from 74 to 118 correct (of 125). Scores on the Ethics subtest items ranged from 82% to 88% for the 17 test items. The score on the Cross-cultural subset was 85% (of 13 test items) for the three years reported.

MSCP School Counseling Comprehensive Examination (Claim 1)

The MSCP School Counseling Comprehensive Exam consists of 50 multiple-choice items assessing content knowledge in the counseling specific program courses. Reliability of the exam is estimated to be from 0.57 to 0.66 (KR20). HTSB, Department of Education, and American School Counselor Association (ASCA) standards are used as the basis for the course content. Use of these standards provides face validity for

the exam. Construct validity was established by correlating exam scores with Praxis II Professional School Counselor exam scores ($r = 0.43$) and School Guidance and Counseling exam scores ($r = 0.58$). Percent passing ranged from 96% to 100%.

Site supervisor Evaluation of School counseling Candidate survey (Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3)

The Site Supervisor Evaluation survey is based on NBCC and CACREP standards for clinical instruction. The survey consists of 15 items ranked on a 5-point scale as follows: NA – Not Applicable or not enough information to form a judgment; FB – Far Below expectations (1) – needs much improvement, a concern; BE – Below expectations (2) – needs improvement, a concern; A – Acceptable (3) – meets standards at average level for Practicum/Intern student; AE – Above expectation (4) – performs above average level for Practicum/Intern student; FA – Far Above expectation (5) – a definite strength, performs well beyond average levels for Practicum/Intern student. A more specific rubric for the rankings is provided. There are also 3 open-ended items; two related to overall performance and one regarding whether the results have been shared with the student. The 15 items are grouped into Knowledge and Skills Base, Professional and Ethical Standards (Claim 2), and Personal and Social Skills (Claim 3) categories. Ratings of the items ranged from a mean of 3.52 (0.73) for Developed Counseling Style item (2013 completer year) to 4.27 (0.75) for Professionalism item (2012 completer year). Ratings on the Professional and Ethical Standards subsection ranged from 3.83 (0.84) to 4.27 (0.75). Ratings on the Personal and Social Skills subsection ranged from 3.80 (0.96) to 4.24 (0.78).

Praxis II Content Examination (School Guidance and Counseling exam or Professional School Counselor exam) (Claim 1)

Praxis II School Guidance and Counseling exam and the Professional School Counselor exam are standardized tests developed and published by Educational Testing Service (ETS) to assess content knowledge of school counselors. These exams are used as requirements for licensure for School Counselors in Hawaii. A minimum score of 580 is used by the state for the school Guidance and Counseling exam. A minimum score of 156 is used by the state for the Professional School Counselor exam. Reliability and validity are established by ETS. Passing rates ranged from 95% to 100%.

School Counseling Program Evaluation (Claim 2, Claim 3)

The School Counseling Program Evaluation is completed by students during their final term. It consists of 202 questions covering the curriculum, fieldwork, their counseling dispositions, and knowledge of professional standards. Each item is rated on a scale from 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly Agree). KR20 reliability ranged from 0.97 to 0.99 for the evaluation administered over the past 3 years. Face validity is considered high since all faculty participated in generating the items. For the Ethics sub-category, ratings of Agree to Strongly Agree ranged from 72.7% to 100%. For the cross-cultural sub-category of items, ratings of Agree to Strongly Agree ranged from 70.8% to 100%.

The program provides anecdotal evidence for the Technology and Learning how to learn cross cutting themes. The Multicultural perspectives and accuracy cross cutting theme is assessed by the cross-cultural subtests of the MSCP Core Comprehensive Exam, the Site Supervisor Evaluation of School Counseling Candidate survey, and the School Counseling Program Evaluation.

Three secondary sources of evidence of the claims have been used or are in development. These are an e-Portfolio narrative, a Principal survey, and a Graduate survey.

Internal audit:

Eight faculty and staff, including the Dean of Behavioral Sciences and Program Director of the MSCP program, conducted an audit of the program quality control system. Information from the 2013-14 completer cohort (N=24) was used by the audit team. The quality control system includes aspects of the Curriculum, Faculty, Candidates, and Resources. Elements in each of these areas were investigated by the internal audit committee with 11 probes. The quality control system was found to be working as designed.

Plans for program improvement

A number of areas for improvement were identified by the faculty. These include:

- Based on the results of the comprehensive exam and supervisor ratings, provide a stronger emphasis on applications of theory in the real world and on assessment and treatment planning.
- Create signature assignments to better assess the learning to learn cross-cutting theme. These will include an action research study and completion of an ePortfolio.
- Continue working with Hawaii DOE and area school superintendents to obtain approval of a Principal survey.
- Reduce the length of the School Counseling Program Evaluation.
- More closely monitor required student contact with faculty advisor at the beginning of each semester.
- Monitor and adjust course prerequisite requirements to prevent enrollment challenges.

Statement regarding commitment and capacity:

The faculty concluded that Chaminade University is committed to the School Counselor program and that there is sufficient capacity to offer a quality program.

¹Chaminade University's Master of Science in Counseling Psychology program offers options at the graduate level in School Counseling. The state of Hawaii, at its discretion, offers licensure to program completers in these option areas.
