USM Counseling Psychology MS Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives

The mission of the Counseling Psychology Master’s Program at the University of Southern Mississippi is to provide the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary for students to become competent professional counselors and/or seek further graduate study by providing training in the foundations required of proficient consumers of psychological science. As such, we train students to utilize the science of psychology to inform sound diagnostic and evidence-based interventions consistent with the philosophical underpinnings of Counseling Psychology in serving their clients, community, and the profession.

Program Goals & Objectives

1. Goal: Graduates of our program will demonstrate competency in evidence-based treatment and assessment approaches.
   
   **Objective 1:** Knowledge in evidence-based treatment and assessment approaches will be demonstrated.
   
   **Objective 2:** Students will demonstrate skills in evidence-based treatment and assessment approaches through clinically-based evaluation tools.

2. Goal: Graduates of our program will demonstrate an appreciation for the impact of diversity on the science and practice of the counseling profession.
   
   **Objective 1:** Knowledge regarding the impact of diversity on the science and practice will be demonstrated.
   
   **Objective 2:** Skills in integrating issues of diversity into science and practice of the counseling profession will be demonstrated.

3. Goal: Graduates of our program will demonstrate competency as consumers of psychological science.
   
   **Objective 1:** Knowledge in consuming psychological science will be demonstrated.
   
   **Objective 2:** Students will demonstrate skills in consuming psychological science through research team participation and associated products.

4. Goal: Graduates of our program will demonstrate professionalism through identification with the field of counseling psychology and demonstration of competency with professional skills necessary for success as a practitioner or doctoral student.
   
   **Objective 1:** A developing professional identification will be demonstrated through engagement in professional development activities.
   
   **Objective 2:** Professional skills, consistent with career goals, will be demonstrated.