



Clinical Mental Health Counseling & School Counseling
Department of Communication Sciences and Professional Counseling
College of Education

Frequently Asked Questions

Admissions Related Questions

1. What is the typical GPA and GRE of students who are accepted?
Admission is based on a variety of factors including GPA (minimum requirement is 3.0), GRE (recommended combined score of 297 for both verbal and quantitative; 3.5 for Analytical Writing), personal statement, letters of recommendations, and interview. Students who are accepted into our program typically have GPAs ranging from 3.4 to 4.0; and combined Verbal and Quantitative GRE scores ranging from 290-320. However, student performance on these measures vary from one year to another.
2. What should be included in a personal statement?
There are many different ways to write a personal statement. There are also a multitude of resources for how to do so. Key topics might include your interest in pursuing speech-language pathology, and why you are a strong candidate to pursue graduate studies at the University of West Georgia. It is very important that your personal statement is well written and well organized. It is recommended that the personal statement be no longer than three double spaced pages.
3. How many people does the program typically accept?
The program typically accepts between 17-23 students per concentration each academic year.
4. How do I apply for admission?
Go to <https://www.westga.edu/academics/gradstudies/apply-now.php>.
5. How are financial aid, tuition, and fees handled?
 - **All business processes are available online or by phone.**
 - **For payment of tuition or fees, see http://www.westga.edu/bursar/index_1567.php.**
 - **or financial aid, see <https://www.westga.edu/student-services/financialaid/>.**
6. When can I expect to hear about the status of my application?
The program typically contacts students to schedule an interview about two to three weeks after the application deadline.
7. When are potential candidates accepted?
Applicants are informed of their admission status about two to three weeks after the conclusion of the interview process.
8. Can I visit the campus prior to the interview?
To schedule a visit to University of West Georgia, go to www.westga.edu/visit and sign up for a daily campus tour.

Program Related Questions

1. What accreditations does the program have?
 - **The School Counseling (SC) and Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) programs have been continuously accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Educational Related Programs (CACREP) since March 2001, and are accredited under the 2009 standards through October 31, 2023.**
 - **UWG is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).**
 - **COE is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).**
2. What are the class schedules and mode of delivery?
Courses may be offered fully face-to-face, fully online (synchronous or asynchronous) or in a hybrid model. Most face-to-face course sessions are offered from 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. during Fall and Spring semesters. Summer semester classes are spread across daytime. Occasionally, courses are taught on Saturdays or weekends. Check the University Class Bulletin for course schedules at <http://banweb.westga.edu>. The CEP clinical courses will include on campus supervision that often requires time before or after class or a return to campus another day.

3. How are online courses different from face-to-face courses?

- **Students admitted to UWG's online programs learn the same material and benefit from the same rigorous and high-quality learning experiences as campus-based students. They also enjoy frequent interactions with the instructor and other classmates.**
- **All of the online course are taught by UWG faculty. Further, instead of being limited to asking questions during class or office hours, online students have direct access to instructors via email, message boards, or phone.**
 - **Online courses often require at least as much, if not more, time and commitment than traditional courses.**
 - **They often require far more reading, as much of the information is text based.**
 - **With the increased freedom and flexibility comes responsibility. Without the structure of regular class meetings, it will be up to you to stay motivated, pace yourself, and keep up with assignments.**
 - **Successful online students are also not afraid to proactively seek solutions to technical or logistical challenges or speak up and ask for assistance when needed.**
 - **In some cases, proctored exams may be required but will be made available at a site convenient to where you live.**
- **Online courses can be a good choice for those who need flexibility, those who work best when given time to review content and post thoughtful responses to questions posed, and those who are self-disciplined.**

4. What are hybrid courses?

- **Hybrid courses offer the best of online and on-campus courses, in that they mix online and face-to-face instruction. For example, a professor may design a hybrid course so that the class uses online instruction half the time and then meets face-to-face for the remainder of the semester.**
- **It really depends how you prefer to learn. Some students like the freedom associated with a completely online course. Others want to interact face-to-face with classmates and the professor in the same classroom. Still others like to do both.**

5. Who do I contact for technical support for my online classes?

- **UWG Online help line**
 - Call: 678-839-6248 (M-F 8am-5pm)
 - or 1-855-933-UWGO (8946) (M-F 8am-5pm)
 - E-mail: online@westga.edu
- **Online Support Center**
 - 1-866-588-5293
 - 24 hours a day / 7 days a week
 - <http://D2Lhelp.view.usg.edu>

6. Are study abroad opportunities available?

We currently offer a collaborative study abroad experience to Ecuador during spring break. Study abroad opportunities may change from year-to-year based on level of student interest, changing opportunities, international travel restrictions, etc. You will need to verify the currently scheduled study abroad opportunity at your projected time of admission.

7. Are research opportunities available?

There are opportunities to participate in research with faculty. These may or may not be funded opportunities. Students who are admitted to the program might consider contacting individual faculty members to learn more about these opportunities.

8. Can I transfer graduate credit or other credits following the completion of my bachelor's degree?

A maximum of 6 semester hours of appropriate graduate credit MAY be transferred from another academic institution upon approval of the advisor. The following conditions must be met:

- **Courses must be from a CACREP accredited program (non-CACREP programs will need further review and a decision will be made case-by-case);**
- **Coursework credited toward awarding of another degree cannot be transferred;**
- **No course older than 7 years, at the time of graduation, will be accepted for transfer credit;**
- **Work must have been for graduate degree credit; and**
- **Transfer courses must meet the student learning objectives for the courses they replace.**

A transfer credit request form is available in the department office and must be completed and signed by the appropriate parties.

9. Who can I talk to help me get started or answer questions

- **Dr. Christy Land, Ph.D.**
 - Area of Counselor Education
 - cland@westga.edu
 - 678-839-6116 / 678-839-6084
- **Graduate and International Admissions**
 - Phone: 678-839-1394
 - Fax: 678-839-5451