



Master's Program in College Student Affairs



Our Mission

The University of West Georgia College Student Affairs program will prepare graduate students for careers serving students in higher education by providing opportunities to:

- Develop advising and helping skills
- Develop competencies as outlined by the NASPA and ACPA Professional Competency Areas for Student Affairs Practitioners
- Understand and appreciate the student development experience and student diversity in higher education
- Understand the historical and theoretical context of higher education
- Understand and apply the practice-to-theory-to-practice model
- Gain focused practical experience through assistantships, internships and practicums to prepare graduates for successful careers in higher education

Why West?

- We support the professional involvement of our students who make high visibility presentations at state, regional, and national professional association conferences and meetings.
- We offer summer courses online for students who wish to do practicums at other institutions.
- We are a counseling-focused program - while the program will not prepare you to be a licensed counselor, it will provide you with strong counseling skills that you need regardless of work setting.
- Our graduates work at a variety of institutions all over the U.S.

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Admissions Requirements

- Minimum GRE score before August 1, 2011
 - Composite score of 800
 - 400 Verbal
 - 400 Quantitative
 - 3.5 Writing
- Minimum GRE score after August 1, 2011
 - Composite score of 286
 - 146 verbal
 - 140 quantitative
 - 3.5 Writing
- Two letters of recommendation (i.e., one from a faculty member and one from a current or former supervisor or professional colleague)
- Written personal narrative describing the reasons for applying to the program, an analysis of personal strengths and weaknesses related to career goals and anticipated benefits from the program.
- Résumé tailored to apply for both admission into the program and consideration for specific assistantships.

Deadlines

Priority Application Deadline: February 1

Admission to the program is competitive. Students are admitted for the following Fall semester. Review of completed applications will begin after February 1. Applications after that date will be reviewed if spaces are still available in the Fall class.

Interview Days

Selected applicants will be invited to campus for a two-day interview process, which will include an interview for the graduate program and interviews for various assistantships. This interview will focus on the assessment of factors such as emotional maturity, related professional or undergraduate experience, readiness for the program, life experiences, attitude, compatibility with department goals, and communication/interpersonal skills.

Everything changes when you **Go West.** UNIVERSITY of West Georgia

Our vision is to prepare and develop the next generation of student affairs professionals.

Master of Education in Professional Counseling with a concentration in College Student Affairs

Program

Program students develop competencies recommended by national professional associations. They understand and appreciate the student development experience and student diversity in higher education, understand the historical and theoretical context of higher education and learn to apply theory to practice in order to prepare for successful careers in colleges and universities. While the program will not prepare you to be a licensed counselor, it will provide you with strong counseling skills as an important complement to administrative skills.

Curriculum

- Foundations of College Student Affairs
- Theories of College Student Development
- Higher Education Administration
- The American College Student
- Theory and Assessment of Educational Environments
- Student Affairs Practicum (2)
- Capstone Seminar: Student Affairs
- Advocacy and Leadership
- Crisis and Trauma Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Counseling Theories
- Introduction to Counseling Practice
- Research and Program Evaluation

Experience

UWG's College of Education is dedicated to preparing exemplary practitioners. We are fully committed to your professional success. The College Student Affairs program emphasizes practical experience as a complement to the academic experience; students will either be required to work full-time in higher education or have a graduate assistantship. Courses are taught by both full-time faculty and full-time professionals.

Assistantships

More than 40 graduate assistantships in the Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management are available to graduate students in the College Student Affairs Program. The assistantship stipend is \$800 per month, plus a waiver of tuition. Some assistantships in Housing & Residence Life also include an on-campus apartment. Students are responsible for mandatory fees (approximately \$1000 per semester). Assistantships are available in the following departments:

- Admissions
- Career Services
- Center for Diversity & Inclusion
- Center for Student Involvement
- Enrollment Services Center
- EXCEL Center for Academic Success
- Financial Aid
- First Year Experience
- Housing & Residence Life
- Orientation
- Student Conduct
- University Recreation
- University Communications & Marketing

University of West Georgia

UWG is a comprehensive institution with a diverse student body, which will expose you to the full spectrum of student affairs and enrollment management functions. We are a growing campus of approximately 12,000 students located one hour west of Atlanta.