

SCHOOL COUNSELING, CAS

Contact

Yanhong Liu, Associate Professor, 315-443-9624, yliu363@syr.edu –
Inquiries during Fall 2025

Sabrina Butler, Assistant Teaching Professor, smbtl01@syr.edu –
Inquiries during Spring 2026

Core Faculty

Dr. Sabrina Butler, Assistant Teaching Professor

Dr. Yanhong Liu, Associate Professor

Dr. Melissa Luke, Dean's Professor

Dr. Caroline O'Hara, Associate Professor

Dr. Derek Seward, Associate Professor

The Certificate of Advanced Study (C.A.S.) prepares students in more scholarly depth than does the Master's degree and meets the New York State academic requirements for permanent school counselor certification. The C.A.S. is appropriate both for students with a Master's in school counseling and for students who have a Master's in another specialty within counseling, but wish to pursue New York State certification as a school counselor.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Apply social and cultural diversity theories, models, and multicultural competencies in counseling practice and research
2. Demonstrate expertise and an advanced understanding of the history and current best practices of school counseling, as well as the roles and responsibilities of a school counselor across grade levels
3. Identify and comprehensively respond to characteristics, risk factors, and warning signs for students at risk for learning mental health, behavioral disorders
4. Demonstrate advanced clinical practice in the P-12 school context

Requirements for the C.A.S.

- A master's degree in counseling;
- A minimum of 60 credits beyond the baccalaureate, of which 30 credits must be taken at Syracuse University;
- Satisfactory completion of a special project (typically completed as part of COU 749 Leadership and School Counseling Program Implementation).

In order to better meet the career needs and interests of our students, the Counseling and Human Services faculty voted to allow current students the opportunity to apply to the Certificate in Advanced Study (C.A.S.) program in School Counseling following successful completion of practicum. The revised application process will allow our current students increased opportunities for course selection if they are interested in, and admitted into the C.A.S. program. As has always been the case, the C.A.S. in School Counseling which leads to state credentialing as a school counselor is open to students across the School Counseling, Student Affairs, and Clinical Mental Health master's programs.

Programs include extensive fieldwork opportunities in which students gain hands-on experience working with students and clients in a wide range of counseling and educational settings. Students work closely with their advisor, and the fieldwork coordinator to identify settings that meet their individual interests and career goals. The faculty is nationally

recognized for their leadership in the profession and all classes are taught by skilled experts and experienced clinicians.

The faculty is deeply committed to the growth and development of their students; faculty work closely with both our master's and doctoral students. Students are trained in the most current information in counseling and provided the opportunity to develop their skills and succeed in their chosen area of specialization. The department's goal is to prepare national leaders in counseling. It seeks to develop a diverse group of professionals who will excel in knowledge, skills, commitment, and service in a wide range of educational and community settings.

Accreditation

The C.A.S. in School Counseling is accredited by CAEP and meets the requisite expectations of such professional accreditation. The degree is registered with New York State and meets the curricular requirements for permanent certification as a school counselor.

Recommended Coursework

To meet the requirements of the C.A.S. in School Counseling, students are recommended to complete the following courses:

Code	Title	Credits
COU 600	Selected Topics in Counseling (Psychodiagnosis, Treatment, and Psychopharmacology for Counselors)	1-6
COU 651	Crisis Counseling	3
COU 672	Counseling Children and Adolescents	3
COU 675	Substance Abuse Counseling	3
COU 678	Child Centered Play Therapy	3
COU 729	The Counselor in the Schools (if not courses required in master's degree)	3
COU 749	Leadership and School Counseling Program Implementation	3

Additional requirements are identified in consultation with the student's advisor.

Note

There are no required courses for the C.A.S. program. Students are encouraged to take coursework coincident with their counseling interests.