**Christian Counseling Programs**

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It is the intent of Central Christian University of S.C., Inc. to provide counseling education for all levels of counseling abilities in all levels education to lay counseling education. For that purpose, Central Christian University of S.C., Inc. has developed a Counseling Certificate Program format designed to give marginally adequate knowledge to lay counselors or to pastors who have been counseling for many years without structured education.

While these programs may provide marginal abilities for lay counselors and pastors, this program is sufficiently designed to catapult the individual toward the full Bachelor’s or Master’s counseling Programs. This Counseling Certificate Program allows the individual to gain educational experience from both the Bachelor’s level program and the Master’s level program. The Bachelor’s level educational experience contains courses that are mandatory for the Master’s Program. That means that individuals who are capable of entering a Master’s Program in the future, can apply everything that they learn in the Counseling Certificate Program. There are no “wasted” courses for even the Master’s applicant once they complete the Counseling Certificate Program. Even for the individual who must enter at the Bachelor’s Degree level, the Master’s level courses that are contained in the Counseling Certificate Program are accredited to the student. After completion of the Bachelor’s program, the student will already have Master’s level education already accrued.

The purpose of the Counseling Certificate Program is to provide immediate educational experience for lay counselors who have no real educational experience. It is also designed to give an already-practicing pastor with minimal education for practice of counseling. The individual who completes this program is very strongly encouraged to continue education – if they wish to continue to in the counseling profession – whether that practical experience is in the pastoral arena or in lay counseling. Any lay counselor who is serious about helping people in the counseling environment should obtain the highest level of education possible to be able to help people. There is no excuse for not having the education. Experience alone is not a good indicator for success in counseling. A valid and very well-rounded education must also accompany the counseling experience. The purpose of the Certificate Counseling Program is to give the lay counselor or the pastoral counselor the “jump start” that they need toward a complete and viable education.

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* **Program 1- Certification (Diploma): Phase I**
* **Program 2-   Associate Degree in Christian Counseling: Phase II**
* **Program 3-   Bachelor: Phase III**

Program Objectives:

1. To prepare students for entry level career in Christian Counseling ministry.
2. To prepare students for a Christ-centered Christian Counseling ministry as pastors and ministers.
3. To give the students a sound knowledge of the word of God and worship.
4. To prepare students with the proper foundation for continued education and professional study.
5. To prepare students with meaningful internships for practical application and skill development.
6. To enhance communication skills: reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking.
7. To prepare students to know themselves and others as they individually utilize the concept of temperament.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts in the Old and New Testaments.
2. Describe church polity, administrative and effective leadership duties within the Protestant church.
3. Research and create critical and analytical writings on topics, themes and genres.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of Christian ethics, evolution, and application of moral standards when engaging in making Christian ethical decisions.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of practical application of major program content.
6. Explain the importance of intense spiritual, cognitive, and ethical theories and preparation for effective teaching, preaching, expectation between pastor and congregation/ individuals, and the basic principles of undergirding Christian Pastoral Care and Counseling.
7. Recommend or not recommend further counseling services beyond his or her skill set.
8. Upon completion of Phase II requirements, a review with the Counseling Review Board and Acceptance, the student will qualify to receive:
* Certified Pastoral Counselor Certificate and Associate Degree of Pastoral Counseling if she/he is an ordained Clergy.
* Certified Christian Counselor Certificate and Associate Degree of Christian Counseling if he/she is not an ordained Clergy.