University of Scranton - Counseling and Human Services Program: Student and Program Characteristics and Outcomes (AY 2022-23)

Total number of students and graduates majoring in Counseling and Human Services (note that the CHS major numbers typically rise during the AY as students transfer into the CHS major):

2020-2021 AY - total CHS majors: 90	2021 total graduates: 23
2021-2022 AY - total CHS majors: 66	2022 total graduates: 27
2022-2023 AY - total CHS majors: 69	2023 total graduates: 24

GPA by class level (AY 2023-24, as of Sept 2023):

First Year: 2.63 Sophomore: 3.19 Junior: 3.31 Senior: 3.58

Internship site supervisor mean ratings of students on program learning outcomes* measures (AY 2022-23). Ratings are on a scale from 1-6 (with an option for N/A):

PLO #9: Develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills to provide program development in non-profit human services settings: 5.56 (N = 32)

PLO #10: Develop and demonstrate knowledge of the contemporary legal and ethical issues impacting the work of human services professionals in all setting: $5.44 \, (N = 34)$

PLO #11: Develop and demonstrate an accurate realization and perception of the multiple roles of the human service professional in community settings: 5.65 (N = 39)

PLO #12: Develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills to apply for graduate training in the areas of counseling, social work, allied health, human resources, education, and a myriad of other professional degree programs requiring students to have a solid foundation and training in human services: 5.72 (N = 39)

*Note: The CHS program has 12 PLOs, 4 of which are rated each year for a repeat cycle every 3 years.

Program attrition/retention rates

For the Class of 2019-2023, the retention rate was again 64%. Note that this is based solely on incoming first year students who have declared CHS as their major and does not account for the many transfer majors that we have on an annual basis; therefore, our overall retention rates are indeed higher. It is rare for our students not to complete the program in a timely and successful manner; however, on occasion during any given AY, students may take an extra semester or year (particularly non-traditional students), change their major, or withdraw for financial or other reasons. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic affected retention rates in a significant way, as it did with our enrollment rates. We expect this percentage to rise back to its typical values in the near future. It is important to note that the majority of our students typically do not begin as CHS majors, but transfer in from other majors or after being undecided.

Graduate Outcomes

Pursuit of higher degree programs (master's, doctorate)

For the Class of 2022, 13 (N = 27)* graduates reported attending higher degree programs. Note that others chose not to complete the survey or not to pursue higher degrees, so these should not be construed as acceptance rates. Programs students typically enroll in include Professional Counseling (Clinical Mental Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, School), Social Work (LSW and LCSW tracks), Child Life and Family Care, and others. Additional information is available here, and University-wide information for the classes of 2016-2020 is available here.

Job placement, especially in human services-related occupations

For the Class of 2022, of those who responded and were not enrolled in higher degree programs, $12 (N = 27)^*$ were employed full-time. Positions typically pursued at the undergraduate level include Behavioral Health Technician, Caseworker, Social Services Assistant, and Admissions Specialist. Additional information for the classes of 2016-2020 is available here.

*Note that 25 out of 27 who responded were employed full-time or pursuing further education; two chose "Other."

Human Services – Board Certified Practitioner Examination Pass Rates

Class of 2023: 100% Class of 2022: N/A

Graduate follow-up surveys (both graduates and their employers)

Related information regarding University of Scranton graduates in general can be found here.

CHS program advisory committee and further evaluation processes:

Summaries of available evaluative surveys and Student/Program Learning Outcome assessment are distributed at yearly advisory committee meetings and the CHS Program Director leads a follow-up discussion. Selected course syllabi are shared with the committee for input and course improvement suggestions. Outcome data related to other selected components of the program is addressed at each meeting (e.g., internship process, student evaluation process, employment outcomes, community-based learning, accreditation, etc.) so that we can obtain feedback and direction from members, which include faculty, current students, alumni, agency partners, and at-large members. Comprehensive minutes are taken at each advisory committee meeting.

Student Evaluation of the CHS Program (AY 2022-23):

A total of 57 CHS majors and 42 CHS minors completed the program evaluation surveys. Based on a Likert-type scale (3 = Exceeds expectations, 2 = Meets expectations, 1 = Needs improvement, plus an option for "don't know"), CHS majors rated 18 program areas (13 program areas for minors) as well as the overall program. Highlights of CHS Majors' ratings include:

Three Highest Ratings:

Three Lowest Ratings:

Program Atmosphere (2.97) Faculty Moral and Enthusiasm (2.92) Expertise of Faculty (2.91) Convenience of class schedules (2.02) Variety of courses available (2.19) Adequacy of CPS Advising Center (2.27)

Overall rating of the CHS Program = 2.89

Here's what our students say about the CHS program:

Examples of specific qualitative feedback about aspects of the program they like (May 2023):

1. Faculty

- a. "The professors are passionate about the program and genuinely care about students."
- b. "The professors bring good energy into the classroom. They focus on caring for others."
- c. "Every professor has a specialty that they are an expert in. The classes help me feel prepared for a career."
- d. "The professors are my favorite part of the program."

2. Curriculum

- a. "It gives the foundations of what I should know for my future. I appreciate the small class sizes and dedication of the faculty."
- b. "How it prepares you for your career, CHS teaches me things I didn't know and should be aware of, the opportunities it provides."
- c. "The various different topics and classes offered."
- d. "The CHS program feels welcoming while remaining rigorous and informative."

3. Fieldwork (Internships, Community Based Learning)

- a. "Intern site options (love that real world education), professors with CHS background, flexibility."
- b. "Most classes have community requirements (examples: cultural experience, administrator interview, site visits)"
- c. "The dedication faculty has for our department/ students and the internship/ work opportunities given."
- d. "Dedication of faculty and peers to social and human service internships."

4. Overall Program

- a. "The atmosphere created by the professors makes the student feel open and themselves."
- b. "I strongly like the diversity, staff/faculty, and guidance throughout the program...staff care for students and the department is always willing to help."
- c. "It gives the foundations of what I should know for my future."
- d. "The program provides an environment of learning and practicing to produce counselors to support society in an encompassing and inclusive fashion."

University of Scranton - Counseling and Human Services Program: Student and Program Characteristics and Outcomes (AY 2021-22)

Total number of students and graduates majoring in Counseling and Human Services (note that the CHS major numbers typically rise during the AY as students transfer into the CHS major):

 2019-2020 AY - total CHS majors: 108
 2020 total graduates: 27

 2020-2021 AY - total CHS majors: 90
 2021 total graduates: 23

 2021-2022 AY - total CHS majors: 66
 2022 total graduates: 27

GPA by class level (AY 2022-23, as of Oct 2022):

First Year: 3.02 Sophomore: 3.19 Junior: 3.38 Senior: 3.59

Internship site supervisor mean ratings of students on program learning outcomes* measures (AY 2021-22). Ratings are on a scale from 1-6 (with an option for N/A):

PLO #5: Develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills in group dynamics and developmental decision-making processes as applied to specific human services settings: $5.44 \, (N = 43)$

PLO #6: Develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills in human service systems to facilitate advocacy through local, state, national and international organizations: 5.21 (N = 33)

PLO #7: Develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills to implement social justice into human services systems of care: 5.40 (N = 43)

PLO #8: Develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills in the utilization of research design and implementation techniques in conducting relevant research studies and applying research findings to current counseling in human services settings: $5.27 \, (N = 26)$

*Note: The CHS program has 12 PLOs, 4 of which are rated each year for a repeat cycle every 3 years.

Program attrition/retention rates

For the Class of 2017-2021, the retention rate was again 67%. It is rare for our students not to complete the program in a timely and successful manner; however, on occasion during any given AY, students may take an extra semester or year (particularly non-traditional students), change their major, or withdraw for financial or other reasons. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic affected retention rates in a significant way, as it did with our enrollment rates. We expect this percentage to rise back to its typical values in the near future. It is important to note that the majority of our students typically do not begin as CHS majors, but transfer in from other majors or after being undecided.

Graduate Outcomes

Pursuit of higher degree programs (master's, doctorate)

For the Class of 2021, seven (N = 21)* graduates reported attending higher degree programs. Note that others chose not complete the survey or not to pursue higher degrees, so these should not be construed as acceptance rates. Programs students typically enroll in include Professional Counseling (Clinical Mental Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, School), Social Work (LSW and LCSW tracks), Child Life and Family Care, and others. Additional information is available here, and University-wide information for the classes of 2016-2020 is available here.

Job placement, especially in human services-related occupations

For the Class of 2021, of those who responded and were not enrolled in higher degree programs, $12 (N = 21)^*$ were employed full-time. Positions typically pursued at the undergraduate level include Behavioral Health Technician, Caseworker, Social Services Assistant, and Admissions Specialist. Additional information is available <u>here</u>.

*Note that 19 out of 21 who responded were employed full-time or pursuing further education; two chose "Other."

Human Services – Board Certified Practitioner Examination Rates

Class of 2022: N/A Class of 2021: 100%

Graduate follow-up surveys (both graduates and their employers)

Related information regarding University of Scranton graduates in general can be found here.

CHS program advisory committee and further evaluation processes:

Summaries of available evaluative surveys and Student/Program Learning Outcome assessment are distributed at yearly advisory committee meetings and the CHS Program Director leads a follow-up discussion. Selected course syllabi are shared with the committee for input and course improvement suggestions. Outcome data related to other selected components of the program is addressed at each meeting (e.g., internship process, student evaluation process, employment outcomes, community-based learning, accreditation, etc.) so that we can obtain feedback and direction from members, which include faculty, current students, alumni, agency partners, and at-large members. Comprehensive minutes are taken at each advisory committee meeting.

Student Evaluation of the CHS Program (AY 2021-22):

A total of 76 CHS majors and 51 CHS minors completed the program evaluation surveys. Based on a Likert-type scale (3 = Exceeds expectations, 2 = Meets expectations, 1 = Needs improvement, plus an option for "don't know"), CHS majors rated 18 program areas (13 program areas for minors) as well as the overall program. Highlights of CHS Majors' ratings include:

Three Highest Ratings:

Three Lowest Ratings:

Faculty Moral and Enthusiasm (2.95) Expertise of Faculty (2.92) Program Atmosphere (2.86)

Variety of courses available (2.53) Adequacy of CPS Advising Center (2.27) Convenience of class schedules (2.17)

Overall rating of the CHS Program = 2.84

Here's what our students say about the CHS program:

Examples of specific qualitative feedback about aspects of the program they like (May 2022):

5. Faculty

- a. "I love the relationship between student and professors. It is amazing to feel like you truly knew your professor for who they are."
- b. "The professors are the absolute best I've ever met."
- c. "I love how the professors share real world stories and expertise to help develop concepts...I love how accommodating and understanding professors are."
- d. "The majority of the professors will go through a brick wall to help any student understand the material. Positive atmosphere when learning. I've never felt uncomfortable in my class."

6. Curriculum

- e. "The diversity of the courses and instructors helping to view all aspects."
- f. "I liked the specificity of some of the electives (e.g., counseling LGBTQ+ persons, marital and family counseling)."
- g. "I loved our internship class it felt like an opportunity to debrief and get to know my peers on a deeper level."
- h. "How inclusive their classes are."

7. Fieldwork (Internships, Community Based Learning)

- e. "CBL hours and internships are so important and well executed by professors overseeing them."
- f. "The experiences my two internships afforded me."
- g. "Internship opportunities, availability/preparation for placements."
- h. "I feel prepared and excited for the future of my career and the experiences I gained through internship."

8. Overall Program

- a. "This program was incredibly influential in my career choice and character development. I would not be prepared to leave college and pursue counseling w/o this program."
- b. "I'm blown away by the program and it's dedication to student success...I couldn't imagine receiving a better education in counseling at any other school."
- c. "Exemplifies what it means to be Jesuit educated...an honor to be in this program and profession."
- d. "I love the program. It has given me more than I ever could have asked for. It is from this program and the professors that I have grown personally and professionally. I want to thank the university for everything and can't wait to see what it provides me with in graduate school."