

# Post-Graduate Certificate in Counselling

[www.abcounsellored.net](http://www.abcounsellored.net)

The Campus Alberta Applied Psychology Counselling Initiative (CAAP) is a Canadian, collaborative, distance education alternative for individuals wishing to prepare for roles as professional counsellors or counselling psychologists.



The Post-Graduate Certificate in Counselling focuses on the fundamentals of counselling theory and practice. Choosing this path is an alternative to, or a step on the way, to a Masters degree.



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CAMPUS ALBERTA  
applied psychology  
COUNSELLING INITIATIVE

enhancing professional counselling practice



## Post-Graduate Certificate in Counselling

The 18-credit (6 half courses), Post-Graduate Certificate in Counselling program focuses on the fundamentals of counselling theory and practice.

### Is this program for me?

The Certificate is designed for students who either do not want to complete a Masters degree or who do not meet the admissions criteria for the Masters program and plan to apply to use their certificate as a stepping stone for entering a Masters program.

### Opportunity for Graduate Studies

A Masters program is not for everyone. Some people want additional education but do not want to enroll in a full Masters program. Since the Post-Graduate Certificate is a shorter program (only 6 courses), it provides that opportunity. Others may want to try their hand at graduate school before making the commitment to a masters program. Further, some people are unsure a full degree program is right for them, and the certificate can provide a good starting point.

### Career Advancement

The Post-Graduate Certificate in Counselling may appeal to people who want additional education for career advancement. Some occupations base salary partially on number of years of education, and the certificate program can provide the opportunity to enhance employment status without needing to take a complete Masters degree.

### Laddering

Some people are unable to enter directly into the Masters program because their grade point average is too low. The CAAP Post Graduate Certificate program has a lower gpa admission requirement therefore, can be an entry point into the program. Students who achieve strong grades in the certificate program can apply to

ladder their completed coursework into a masters program. This provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate that they are capable of graduate level study and have those courses apply towards their masters degree.

### Program Design

The program has been designed to be completed in 1.5 years. This completion rate is considered full-time study at four courses per year. You are not permitted to move through the certificate program more quickly, however you may choose to complete the program over a longer period of time (up to 3 years).

### Course Requirements

All Certificate students are required to complete the following courses:

- Theories of Counselling and Client Change
- Professional Ethics
- Developing a Working Alliance
- Equity and Diversity Issues in Counselling
- Two elective courses

For a detailed syllabus of these courses, refer to the CAAP website at [www.abcounsellored.net](http://www.abcounsellored.net).

Students who successfully complete the Post-Graduate Certificate in Counselling may apply to ladder their course work directly into the Master of Counselling. Those intending to do so are advised to take Methods of Inquiry as one of their elective courses.

### Admission Criteria

The application deadline is May 15, for programs that begin the following January.

Students must have at least twelve credits (four half courses) in psychology or educational psychology and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in order to be admitted to the Master of Counselling program. The admission process is completed on-line. For more information and details about the admission criteria, consult the web site: [www.abcounsellored.net](http://www.abcounsellored.net)