

# HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## MA PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

(Nov. 2013)

### Faculty:

Sheryl Klein, M.S. Criminal Justice, Chairperson  
Mary Ann Coupland Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Mental Health Practitioner,  
Graduate Curriculum Moderator, Professor  
Adjunct Faculty

### Mission Statement:

The Master of Arts in the Human Services Department will provide an environment of academic excellence through contemporary education reflective of *Wolakota* values. The student will have the opportunity of pursuing one or more of the modern career goals in the arenas of Clinical Mental Health or School Counseling.

### Program Goals:

The graduate will...

- i. Demonstrate analytical thought through effective and innovative communications, presentations, and technological interactions both in modern context and in the reservation/rural based environment
- ii. Successfully implement professional research that improves the quality of life for the Oyate
- iii. Understand, appreciate, and practice traditional Wolakota values as a leader in the community
- iv. Actively seek to improve the quality of life for the Oyate by becoming an agent of change
- v. Be knowledgeable about and will uphold professional, ethical, and legal standards within his/her chosen discipline

### Program Description

The Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree Program provides a graduate experience for the individual who wishes to professionalize and advance his/her education. The Degree incorporates significant elements from Native American culture, language, history, and philosophy. All M.A. coursework will include attention to Native American issues, especially within the reservation context. The MA degree *may* be used as a bridge to doctoral studies. Contact the doctorate program of choice to assess the program requirements prior to making a decision.

To assist with the development of the program and the recognition that most of the students work full time, the graduate staff have dedicated themselves to developing blended courses. Blended courses are a combination of in-class and on-line study, with a majority of

the classes occurring in the evenings and or on week-ends. Currently, a majority of the classes are blended, with the goal of all graduate classes being taught as blended by 2011.

The M.A. student will elect one of two Tracks. The chosen area will be the basis for the student's Plan of Study.

**1. Clinical Mental Health (CMH)** is provided for students who want the training to be eligible for the South Dakota professional counselor license (SD-LPC). This program requires completion of 55 credits. It is the responsibility of the graduate to contact SD State Licensing Board and obtain licensure information.

**2. School Counseling (SC)** incorporates classes that meet South Dakota State Department of Education requirements for school counselors, courses that are equivalent to CACREP requirements, plus coursework that allows a graduate from this program to apply for a professional counselor license (LPC) in South Dakota. The classes, internship, and practicum sites are relevant to the school setting, with the student needing 49 credits to graduate. In addition, the Department of Education at SGU will provide over sight of the School Counseling Program, ensuring that the program continues to meet state standards.

### **Program Eligibility and Application:**

Applications will be welcomed by 1 August (or the first Monday in August).

The M.A. Program welcomes students who possess a strong academic record, positive recommendations, appropriate experiences both professionally and personally, coherent career plans, strong personal qualities, and desire to contribute to the betterment of education and Indian Country.

The full package of eligibility and application materials are available on-line at [www.sintegleska.edu](http://www.sintegleska.edu) and then linking to the Human Services Department webpage. That site also displays the full M.A. Program policies and procedures. For further information, contact the Department.