Doctoral Mission Statement

The Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher education makes strong contributions to both the NIU mission and to the goals of the Illinois Commitment. All programs, including the doctoral program, prepare multiculturally competent counselor educators and supervisors who develop an expertise in the core CACREP competencies of teaching, research, leadership and advocacy, advanced counseling, and supervision. Students develop critical thinking through personal and professional growth experiences that promote awareness of self and impact on others. Students involve themselves in appropriate program and professional association activities. Students generate new knowledge and skills that result in meaningful research that promotes social justice in a pluralistic society as well as advances the profession of counselor education and supervision. Preparing professionals with a counselor identity to work as multicultural, ethical counselor educators and supervisors is the program’s highest priority.

Program Objectives

The objectives for the Ph.D. Counselor Education and Supervision program at Northern Illinois University are to address the professional leadership roles of counselor education, supervision, advanced counseling practice, and research competencies expected of all graduates of the doctoral program.

Objective 1: Students will explain the theory of advanced human growth, development, and/or learning.

Objective 2: Students will describe advanced knowledge of counseling theories.

Objective 3: Students will demonstrate skills in counseling throughout internship and during sessions in applied settings.

Objective 4: Objective 4: Students will apply learned skills while supervising colleagues in applied settings by completing CAHC 652, Supervision in Counseling and Personnel Services, with 80% accuracy or better as assessed by the instructor.

Objective 5: Students will describe advanced research skills in counseling.

Objective 6: Students will demonstrate competence in an area of specialization related to counseling.

Objective 7: Students will demonstrate proficiency with and sensitivity to issues in counseling related to diversity in race, gender, religion, age, ability, sexual/affectional orientation, and other facets of identity and culture.