

Malone College Announces New Classroom Guidance Concentration within Counselor and Guidance Education Program

The School of Education at Malone College announces the new classroom guidance concentration within the counselor and guidance education master's degree program. A master's degree in classroom guidance is planned to empower teachers to help their own students across the educational spectrum; to enhance their student-centered problem-solving skills, and to make teachers more valuable members of the school community.

This newest Malone College master's degree will

- provide teachers with increased knowledge, understanding and practice in basic counseling, guidance, tests and appraisals, and to work with various diverse populations, developing consultation, collaborative and advocacy skills.
- provide teachers with a different perspective into the needs of their students.
- enable teachers to fulfill an expanded role as an advocate for their students.
- greatly enhance the teachers' role as a contributor on school teams designed to assist individual student success, such as, Intervention Assistance team (IAT); Individual Education Plan (IEP); 504 Plan Development team, or Response to Intervention team (RTI).
- provide the means of enriching the positive educational atmosphere for more classrooms.
- offer the opportunity for more students to be educated in classrooms where the highest standards are placed on a daily basis educate all aspects of the child, adolescent or young adult.
- allow teachers, who want to become more skilled in dealing with the child's social, emotional, developmental and educational needs on a daily basis.
- enable teachers to solve/deal with behavior and social concerns in their own classrooms.
- assist professional school counselors in providing a more comprehensive and productive counseling program to all students.
- Collaborate with certified professional school counselors to identify more intense, specific and critical aspects of student concerns, growth and success.
- provide a viable educational advancement option for teachers, who would like to earn their master's degree in counseling/guidance; however, intend to continue teaching.

The rationale for offering the new program is:

The new licensure standards in Ohio require teachers to earn a master's degree. Many teachers are interested in understanding more about how to respond to the diverse and troubled nature of their students. Teachers want to be more competent in dealing, coping, and aiding their **own** students. Many of these teachers love to teach and want to continue teaching. The completion of the master's degree in Classroom Guidance would enable those teachers to achieve two desired goals with one degree in a timely manner. Further, all teachers must continually increase their educational expertise by earning more college credits. Offering a 36 hour master's program enhances the educational atmosphere on

daily basis, and lays the groundwork toward licensure to become a professional school counselor. Teachers can choose to continue their college credits toward licensure. According to Brock Reiman, Ph.D., director of the counselor education program at Malone, “We are excited about our program in classroom guidance. We believe teachers need and want further training to respond to the various issues brought to their classrooms by children and their families. This program will enhance one’s ability to respond to those students, advocate for change, and collaborate with school counselors and administrators more effectively.”

Malone College, a Christian college for the arts, sciences, and professions in the liberal arts tradition, awards degrees in 49 undergraduate majors and five graduate programs. Malone is recognized by the prestigious Templeton Foundation as a leader in character development and is ranked among the top colleges and universities in the Midwest under the category Universities – Master’s according to *U.S. News & World Report’s America’s Best Colleges 2008*.