

# VIOLENCE, LOSS AND TRAUMA COUNSELING, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

## Graduate Certificate of Advanced Studies in Violence, Loss and Trauma Counseling (VoLT certificate)

Applicants who have obtained a master's degree in behavioral health disciplines (counseling, psychology, school psychology, social work, etc.) or who are concurrently enrolled in one of these programs are eligible to apply for the VoLT certificate.

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- Students concurrently enrolled at Marshall University need only submit a Secondary Program Request form once they have completed the interview with counseling program faculty.
- Master's students at universities other than Marshall University may apply in the same way as one would apply for the full degree with the exception of designating "Professional Development - Certificate in Violence, Loss, and Trauma" as their intended program of study. They will submit the following materials:
  - An application
  - An application fee
  - A transcript from their current university
  - Two (2) references
  - A written statement of goals which speaks to their desire to work with trauma victims (see the Guidelines for Written Statement on the Program website).
  - A letter from their program chair or director as evidence of their good standing in their current degree program.
- Applicants who completed their degree in Counseling or a related Behavioral Health field at Marshall University may apply designating the "Professional Development - Certificate in Violence, Loss, and Trauma" and need to submit:
  - An application
  - An application fee
  - A written statement of goals which speaks to their desire to work with trauma victims (see the Guidelines for Written Statement on the Program website).

(Note: Official MU transcripts will be obtained through the Banner system.)

- Applicants who have completed their degree outside of Marshall University and wish to take the Certificate courses must apply

in the same way as one would apply for the full degree with the exception of designating "Professional Development - Certificate in Violence, Loss, and Trauma" as their intended program of study.

- An application
- An application fee
- A transcript from the university where they completed their master's degree
- Two (2) references
- A written statement of goals which speaks to their desire to work with trauma victims (see the Guidelines for Written Statement on the program website).

NOTE: Professional Continuing Education coursework offered in the certificate program will be eligible for continuing education units by the Counseling Board of Examiners.

The graduate certificate program of Advanced Studies in Violence, Loss, and Trauma Counseling (VoLT) is completed in one of two ways:

- First, the student may be accepted into the Counseling program and take the certification courses in conjunction with the required degree courses and graduate with a Master of Arts degree in Counseling in addition to a graduate certificate denoting this area of specialty.
- Second, for those holding master's degrees in counseling or related fields, the certificate coursework may be taken as a stand-alone program to be completed in one to two years.

This program is currently the state's only graduate level initiative providing a sequential, specialized professional development opportunity for mental health professionals who contribute to the identification of and interventions in these specialty areas.

## Admission Requirements

Students already enrolled in the Counseling program, in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling area of emphasis, should submit to Graduate Admissions a Secondary Program Request form: [www.marshall.edu/graduate/secondary-program-request-form](http://www.marshall.edu/graduate/secondary-program-request-form). Prospective certificate-only students should apply for admission to Marshall University as a Certificate/Professional Development student and select on the application form the Certificate of Advanced Studies in Violence, Loss, and Trauma Counseling (VoLT).

It is expected that enrollees of this program will generally be engaged in clinical practice or some support aspect of direct client service and/or intervention where family violence, bereavement, or trauma have been identified or suspected.

Admission requirements for the certificate program include the following:

- Concurrent enrollment in a Master's degree in counseling, social work, psychology, or related field, OR
- A master's degree in counseling, social work, psychology, or related field, OR
- Departmental approval.

## Course Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<i>Required Courses</i>		
COUN 556	Death & Grief Counseling <sup>1</sup>	9

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COUN 654	Family Violence <sup>1</sup>	
COUN 682	Tr in Trauma Recovery <sup>1</sup>	
<i>Select 6 hours from the following</i>		<b>6</b>
COUN 655	Coun Victims Dom Violence	
COUN 683	Psychophys of Trauma	
COUN 684	Treating Complex Trauma & Loss	
COUN 685	Military Cult & Treat Vets	
<hr/> Total Credit Hours		<b>15</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required for the certificate.