



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Graduate Counseling Programs at the University of Saint Joseph Earn CACREP Accreditation

WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – (July 31, 2013) – The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) has recently been granted accreditation from The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) for the following two graduate-level programs through October 31, 2015:

- Clinical Mental Health Counseling (Master of Arts degree)
- School Counseling (Master of Arts degree)

CACREP accreditation is among the highest commendations that an academic program can receive in the counseling field, providing recognition that content and quality have been thoroughly evaluated and meet the standards set by the profession.

“Offering challenging programs that meet rigorous educational standards serve to enhance our students’ academic experiences, preparing them to become outstanding professionals in the counseling field,” said Richard Halstead, Ph.D., professor and chair of the department of Counseling and Family Therapy. “Meeting CACREP accreditation standards is further evidence that denotes the caliber of the University of Saint Joseph’s programs and faculty. We are proud to have faculty from USJ’s counseling programs recognized for their work in guiding our students through the development of the knowledge and skills required to provide quality professional counseling services in consort with the high standards set by CACREP.”

- **The Master of Arts Program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at the University of Saint Joseph** is committed to educating counselors who will provide leadership in serving the mental health needs of individuals across the lifespan. This program offers an education that is holistic, reflecting an integration of mind, body and spirit. For more information, view: <http://www.usj.edu/academics/schools/school-of-graduate-and-professional-studies/counseling-mft/clinical-mental-health-counseling/>

- **The Master of Arts Program in School Counseling at the University of Saint Joseph** is committed to educating counselors who will provide leadership in serving the developmental needs of children in a school community. The purpose of a counselor's intervention is seen as facilitating growth towards the student's full academic and psychosocial potential. For more information, view: <http://www.usj.edu/academics/schools/school-of-graduate-and-professional-studies/counseling-mft/school-counseling/>

About CACREP: As an independent agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), CACREP grants accreditation status to master's degree programs in: addiction counseling; career counseling; clinical mental health counseling; marriage, couple and family counseling; school counseling, student affairs and college counseling. CACREP also accredits doctoral programs in counselor education and supervision. For more information, view: www.cacrep.org.

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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

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