



Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Pastoral Counseling in Clinical Settings

Institutional Identity

The Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) is an ecclesiastical institution inspired by the Christian-Catholic tradition, committed to integral formation in the light of the Gospel and the living tradition of the Church. UNICA integrates faith and reason, fosters spiritual life, and prepares its students for academic, social, and pastoral service in contemporary society.

Mission

To form professionals with a solid foundation in psychology and pastoral counseling, capable of integrating Christian faith and psychological principles in the care of individuals and communities within clinical environments, contributing to the holistic well-being of mental and spiritual health.

Vision

To be recognized as a Catholic university of reference in the formation of clinical pastoral psychology, with innovative, bilingual, and academically excellent programs serving the Church, society, and the integral well-being of the person.

Values

Truth, Charity, Excellence, Holiness, Unity, and Service.

Technical Program Sheet

Field	Description
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P.O. Box 16088, Houston Tx 77222
(correspondence), and 627 Rocky Mountain Dr.,
Houston, TX 77037
contacto@uca-virtual.us



Program Name	Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Pastoral Counseling in Clinical Settings
Academic Level	Undergraduate / Bachelor
Duration	8 semesters (curricular structure organized by semesters)
Total Credits	160 credits (average of 20 per semester)
Modality	Virtual and blended (synchronous/asynchronous classes, intensive in-person sessions, and supervised clinical practices)
Language Options	Spanish / English / Bilingual (according to student's choice)
Location	State of Texas, USA
Degree Awarded	Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Pastoral Counseling in Clinical Settings — Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA)

Admission Requirements (Profile and Documentation)

- Recognized High School Diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Transcript / Academic record from secondary education.
- Personal essay (motivation letter and vocational discernment).
- Admission interview (academic and vocational).
- Pastoral or academic recommendation.
- Proof of language proficiency, according to the selected modality (see language section).
- For international students: compliance with current migration and visa requirements.
- The university may include additional requirements in accordance with institutional and accreditation standards.

Educational Purpose

To form pastoral counseling leaders capable of integrating clinical psychology principles, pastoral counseling, and Christian spirituality to conduct processes of diagnosis, guidance, prevention, and treatment in clinical and community environments, with a humanistic and Christian approach.

Learning Outcomes

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Upon graduation, the Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Pastoral Counseling in Clinical Settings graduate will be able to:

1. Understand the biblical, theological, and psychological foundations applied to clinical and pastoral practice.
2. Conduct basic psychological assessments with a pastoral focus.
3. Apply counseling techniques in supervised clinical settings.
4. Integrate Christian faith into therapeutic and support processes.
5. Address mental health challenges from an interdisciplinary and pastoral perspective.
6. Design clinical intervention programs with a spiritual dimension.
7. Conduct research on the relationship between psychology, spirituality, and pastoral care.
8. Exercise ethical and pastoral leadership in interdisciplinary care teams.

Competencies

- Generic: Critical thinking, effective communication, leadership, intercultural sensitivity, interdisciplinary collaboration, digital competence.
- Specific: Basic clinical psychology, clinical pastoral counseling, crisis intervention, psychopathology, spiritual accompaniment in clinical contexts, professional ethics in mental health and pastoral care, research in pastoral psychology.

Language Options and Proficiency Requirements

The program is offered in three modalities: Spanish, English, and Bilingual. Language certification requirements are equivalent to those in other undergraduate programs, with emphasis on clinical and pastoral terminology in both languages.

Curriculum by Semester (8 semesters — 160 credits)

Semester	Code	Course	Credits	Description	Prerequisites
1	CPC-101	Introduction to Clinical Pastoral Psychology	6	Nature and foundations of psychology and	None

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				pastoral counseling in clinical settings.	
	CPC-102	Biblical and Theological Foundations of Pastoral Care	6	Biblical and theological bases of clinical and pastoral accompaniment.	None
	CPC-103	General Psychology	4	Theories and schools of modern psychology.	None
	CPC-104	Academic Writing and Communication	4	Competence in writing, reasoning, and communication.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
2	CPC-201	Psychology of Human Development	6	Stages of human development and their relevance in clinical practice.	CPC-103
	CPC-202	History of Christian and Clinical Counseling	6	Historical development of Christian counseling and its clinical application.	CPC-101
	CPC-203	Philosophy and Christian Anthropology	4	Philosophical reflection on the person in clinical and pastoral contexts.	None
	CPC-204	Digital Competencies for Psychology and Pastoral Care	4	Application of digital tools in clinical settings.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
3	CPC-301	Psychology of Religion	6	Study of religious experience from a psychological perspective.	CPC-103
	CPC-302	Clinical Pastoral Counseling I	6	Basic counseling techniques in clinical environments.	CPC-101
	CPC-303	Christian and Professional Ethics in Clinical Contexts	4	Ethical principles applied to clinical	CPC-102



				and pastoral practice.	
	CPC-304	Sociology and Health Pastoral Care	4	Social and community context of healthcare and pastoral assistance.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
4	CPC-401	Psychopathology I	6	Introduction to the most common mental disorders.	CPC-201
	CPC-402	Clinical Pastoral Counseling II	6	Advanced strategies for clinical intervention with pastoral focus.	CPC-302
	CPC-403	Spirituality, Liturgy, and Inner Healing	4	Relationship between sacraments, spirituality, and clinical healing.	CPC-102
	CPC-404	General Elective I	4	Elective course in social sciences, humanities, or arts.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		
5	CPC-501	Family and Couples Psychology in Clinical Settings	6	Family and couple dynamics in clinical and pastoral environments.	CPC-201
	CPC-502	Psychopathology II	6	Advanced study of psychological disorders and therapeutic accompaniment.	CPC-401
	CPC-503	Clinical Crisis Counseling	4	Counseling strategies for crisis situations.	CPC-402
	CPC-504	Supervised Clinical Practice I	4	Initial supervised experience in clinical counseling.	CPC-302
		Total Credits:	20		
6	CPC-601	Health Psychology and Basic Neuropsychology	6	Introduction to the relationship between health, neuroscience, and pastoral care.	CPC-502



	CPC-602	Psychotherapeutic Techniques and Pastoral Care	6	Psychotherapeutic strategies applied to pastoral counseling.	CPC-503
	CPC-603	Health Pastoral Care and Hospital Ministry	4	Pastoral accompaniment in hospital and clinical contexts.	CPC-304
	CPC-604	Supervised Clinical Practice II	4	Intensive experience in clinical pastoral counseling.	CPC-504
		Total Credits:	20		
7	CPC-701	Advanced Pastoral Psychology	6	Integration of clinical psychology and pastoral care in complex settings.	CPC-602
	CPC-702	Research in Psychology and Clinical Pastoral Care	6	Research methodology applied to clinical pastoral settings.	CPC-204
	CPC-703	Intercultural Counseling in Clinical Settings	4	Counseling in multicultural and hospital contexts.	CPC-402
	CPC-704	Advanced Elective in Pastoral Psychology	4	Specialized course in an area of clinical pastoral psychology.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		
8	CPC-801	Integrative Seminar and Final Thesis	10	Development and defense of a final project in clinical pastoral psychology.	CPC-702
	CPC-802	Clinical-Pastoral Leadership and Case Management	6	Leadership and interdisciplinary coordination strategies.	CPC-401
	CPC-803	Specialized Clinical Counseling (Addictions, Trauma, Grief)	4	Advanced specialization in specific clinical pastoral areas.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		



Methodology and Evaluation

- Blended methodology: Synchronous and asynchronous classes, supervised clinical practices, intensive seminars, and case study workshops.
- Continuous assessment: Case studies, essays, clinical practice evaluations, direct supervision, research projects, and thesis defense.
- In the bilingual modality, proficiency in both Spanish and English will be assessed, emphasizing clinical terminology.

Institutional Observations and Compliance

The university will adapt documents and admission requirements according to Texas State regulations and current authorization and accreditation standards for religious institutions and virtual/hybrid programs.