



WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

College of Education and Allied Professions

The primary role of the College of Education and Allied Professions is to prepare educators, counselors, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, recreation personnel and other human service specialists at both entry and advanced levels.

These professionals will staff public elementary, secondary, postsecondary schools, sport and recreation agencies, and other human service organizations in North Carolina and the region beyond.

The College fulfills its mission by developing and maintaining a community of scholars that promotes and recognizes good teaching, service, and research. Of these three scholarly activities, providing optimal learning environments for students is most important, followed by service and research.

For more information about Western Carolina University's College Student Personnel program, contact **Adriel A. Hilton, Ph.D.**, Program Director at 828.227.2115 or aahilton@wcu.edu.

"The most useful thing I learned during my time at WCU is the ability to apply theories and concepts into practice. This field requires much more than being able to rattle off some theorist's name and the steps in his/her theory; but understanding how those theories help to shape the student affairs professional you want to be as well as how they shape your actions and impact on your students."

– Winston Bland, 2014 Graduate

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN College Student Personnel





WHAT IS STUDENT AFFAIRS?

Student affairs is a critical aspect of the higher education experience. The work done by student affairs professionals helps students begin a lifetime journey of growth and self-exploration. Student learning doesn't just happen in a classroom. Opportunities for teaching and development exist everywhere and at all times on campus, and it's our job to foster and promote these experiences. Encouraging an understanding and respect for diversity, a belief in the worth of individuals, and supporting our students in their needs are just some of the core concepts of the profession.

What can you do with a M.Ed in College Student Personnel?

Graduates of our program can work in a wide variety of settings in higher education student affairs, and some include the following:

- Academic advising
- Admissions
- Civic engagement
- Resident life
- Greek life
- Counseling services
- Service learning
- Financial aid
- Multicultural programs
- Orientation

Our graduates are also prepared with a solid background to enter PhD/EdD programs in higher education/student affairs.

What is special about WCU's College Student Personnel program?

Hands-on experience with faculty

Work closely with College Student Personnel faculty as well as a wide variety of Western Carolina's experienced higher education/student affairs practitioners.

A variety of work experience

Gain experience in the field through two internships, plus the opportunity of a paid graduate assistantship on WCU's campus.

Post-graduate placement

Our program has a 100% placement rate in higher education jobs or PhD/EdD programs.

"I had the absolute best experience in the CSP program at WCU because we were taught by professionals in the field at that time. ... The faculty and advisors included vice chancellors, presidents, directors...people who were able to take their daily work and show us the true picture of what they do every day. It doesn't get more real life than that!"

– Leigh Prouty, 2006 Graduate

"WCU taught me to utilize the resources available to me in order to truly help students. I consistently put students first, which is definitely something I learned from my classes and assistantships at WCU, and I'm so thankful I was taught that."

– Melissa Boles, 2014 Graduate

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