

## **Annual Report and Qualifying Examination Portfolio**

Statement of Purpose: All students are required to complete a portfolio. The portfolio will be developed in an ongoing manner throughout the graduate counseling program, and is used periodically as a tool for reflection, evaluation, and feedback. Successful completion of the assessment components of the portfolio process serves as benchmarks during graduate study. The overall purpose is to collect and combine examples of experience and mastery with reflection on their meaning or significance. Reviewing one's strengths and areas of growth setting goals for needed learning, pursuing a learning strategy, and regular evaluation of progress are all important steps in engaging with the learning process at the graduate level. Developing a portfolio is a vehicle for this engagement. The process of portfolio development also provides opportunities for regular faculty evaluation and feedback for each student in a manner which includes dialogue between faculty members and students throughout the course of study. The counseling program requirements focus elements of the portfolio into a coherent process that (1) facilitates students' intentional shaping of their learning, (2) provides for regular faculty feedback, (3) serves as "marker events" during graduate studies, and (4) provides a format for presentation of professional qualifications. See the Documents page for a copy of the portfolio outline.

Elements of the portfolio will be turned in each year and utilized as the student's annual review of progress in the program. During the 4<sup>th</sup> year of study, or earlier for students with Master's degrees, the final product will be turned in and will serve as the student's qualifying examination. Once completion of all milestones as reviewed by relevant faculty is determined to be successful the student will be recommended for candidacy with the graduate school.

### **Contact information for accrediting association:**

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