

Learning Objectives for CSA

M.S. in College Student Affairs (CSA)

The M.S. in College Student Affairs is designed to prepare students for the expanded roles and responsibilities of student affairs professionals in today's diverse college and university environments. Students will learn and experience the practical application of the knowledge base and skill sets of student affairs administration and conflict analysis and resolution in higher learning settings.

At the end of the Master's Degree Program in College Student Affairs, students will be able to display competency in the following areas: Theory, Substance, Research, and Practice.

Theory

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify and understand the prominent theorists and schools of thought that have contributed to the field.
- 2) Apply theoretical perspectives in the analysis of college student affairs administration and practice and conflict on various levels.
- 3) Demonstrate critical thought and analysis in the evaluation of college student affairs administration and practice and conflict on various levels.

Substance

Students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the core body of literature in the field.
- 2) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the emergence and development of student affairs in American higher education and the philosophical foundations of the practice of student affairs in today's diverse institutional settings
- 3) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the administrative models of student affairs organizations and the functions that support the organization's operations.
- 4) Demonstrate critical thought and analysis in the evaluation of college student affairs administration and practice.
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of systemic approaches in the analysis of the current purpose and role of student affairs in American colleges and universities.

6) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of inter-cultural and global perspectives and how these perspectives impact college student affairs development, administration, practice, and conflict on various levels.

7) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the practice and application of conflict analysis and resolution in college student affairs.

8) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the diversity of twenty-first century college students and their development, and an understanding of the multicultural environments in university settings.

Research

Students will be able to:

1) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major concepts and stages of research design.

2) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major concepts and issues in research design ethics.

3) Read and understand scholarly research.

4) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of assessment and its application to the practice of student affairs

Practice

Students will be able to:

1) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding, and application of conflict management intervention processes including models, techniques and tools such as mediation, facilitation, peace education, and dispute systems design.

2) Demonstrate critical thought and analysis in the evaluation of college student affairs administration, practice and conflict on various levels.

3) Integrate theory and substance in the analysis and application of applied interventions.

4) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of systemic approaches in the analysis of student affairs administration, practice, and conflict on various levels.

5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding, and application of the competencies and skills needed in the contemporary practice of student affairs.

6) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding, and application of reflective practice perspectives and techniques.

7) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of inter-cultural and global perspectives and how these perspectives impact conflict and college student affairs administration and practice.

8) Demonstrate the application of various techniques and technologies in the design of presentations including demonstrations, computer presentations, group exercises, role-plays, and other aids.