

## **PhD Counselor Education & Supervision Applicant Essay**

Doctoral degree programs in Counselor Education and Supervision are intended to prepare graduates to work as counselor educators, supervisors, researchers, and practitioners in academic and clinical settings. To best prepare the future counselor educator, the doctoral (Ph.D.) program at NIU provides unique training in the areas of teaching, supervision, counseling, leadership, and research. The rigor of preparation for our program also demands applicants must meet the following criteria (CACREP, 2016):

- Academic aptitude for doctoral-level study
- Previous professional experience
- Fitness for the profession, including self-awareness and emotional stability;
- Oral and written communication skills
- Cultural sensitivity and awareness
- Potential for scholarship, professional leadership, and advocacy

### **Writing Guidelines**

- Provide a 10-15 page response to the prompts below. Approximately two – three pages per writing prompt
- Text should be double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font with 1 inch page margins
- Running header on each page with applicant name and page numbers
- Use major heading for each question prompt and subheadings as appropriate for your response
- Submit PDF file format document

### **Using the above criteria as a guide, please answer the following questions:**

1. The dedication, perseverance, time and energy to complete a PhD program is like no other academic degree you've received in the past. You may have to reprioritize and experience sacrifices to be successful. Please discuss strategies that you use that promote success.
2. Please discuss your previous academic and clinical training that will provide the foundation of your doctoral studies. How will these inform your doctoral program?
3. Can you describe what "self-awareness" means to you and how you practice wellness?
4. What does multiculturalism, social justice, and intersectionality of identity mean to you? How do you practice this in your professional counseling?
5. Please share your research interest/s, any professional leadership you have engaged in, and any advocacy experiences/projects that you have been a part of.