**Testing Video**

0:01
Hi everyone, I wanted to talk about testing procedures for the UNC Pembroke Department of Counseling.

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My name is Doctor Stargill and I am the testing coordinator for the department.

0:13
So here is my contact information.

0:15
I'm in the School of Education room 334 and you can e-mail me if you need anything.

0:20
nicole.stargill@uncp.edu There's two or three primary exams that we work with.

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The CPCE is the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive exam.

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Every student is required to pass this exam before moving on to Internship 1, so we'll talk a little bit more.

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But this exam is taken during practicum and it must be passed before moving on to internship one and then the NCE is what I recommend, the National Counselor Exam.

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This is an exam that will allow you to become a National Certified Counselor, which is not a license to practice, but it is a certification that states that you have the top training and quality across the nation.

1:04
An alternative would be the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor exam.

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I find that exam to be a little bit different and difficult, more difficult and in in Ohio for example, you'd have to take the NCMHCE after you complete 3000 hours supervised in the field in order to get a unrestricted license.

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So in our state you don't have to take this NCMHCE but it is a more advanced exam that some states use in order to kind of like bump you up to a a greater licensure.

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So what I recommend is that students take the National Counselor exam if wishing to become credentialed as a National Certified Counselor or if wishing to earn licensure as a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor Associate.

1:51
So I'll talk a little bit more about that in a moment.

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And then the other exam that we'll talk about is the Praxis 2, and that is for school counselors to become licensed by the Department of Public Instruction.

2:04
So let's start off by talking about the CPCE, because every student has to pass this.

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It is the comprehensive exam, and it tests you on the core courses.

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So that's your 9 core courses.

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Ethics skills, multicultural career theories, those are your research assessment, your core courses.

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And so both program, school and clinical share the Common Core, and we share a professional identity as a professional counselor.

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And so everybody needs to be able to pass the CPCE and it is taken during 6100, which is your practicum course, your first field placement course.

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You can't take it sooner than that, and you can only take the CPCE once per semester.

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So if you don't pass it, then you're going to need to wait to start internship until you take the exam once per semester and pass it.

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You have 4 hours to take the exam and there's 160 questions on it.

3:01
However, only 31136 are scored because the other 24 they are gathering norming data on the psychometrics.

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What's the, what's the average passing score, passing rate, what's the standard deviation?

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And that's how they ensure that they are using top quality questions.

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But with that being said, you won't know which 24 are not scored.

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So you need to take all 160 as though they're all being scored because you won't know which ones aren't in a passing score for our department is a 70 out of 136.

3:38
OK, you have to take the CPCE through us at UNCP.

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And actually what you end up doing is taking it out of any Pearson testing center.

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But when I say you have to take it at UNCP, it means it has to be approved through us.

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And it really, it does link back to that one test per semester so that you really pace yourself and take time to study if you're not successful in passing it the first time.

4:02
There's 8 contents areas.

4:04
Those are the core courses that we talk about throughout the program.

4:08
So there they are listed and that's your core.

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And what I would like to say is there's two books provided as textbooks for 6100, your Practicum course.

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And in your off weeks of practicum you will be tasked with studying.

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And then also the testing manual, which is located on the Field placement and Testing website is filled with additional test prep resources.

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There's no official study guide issued by the test maker.

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They just, you know, kind of lead you back to those core content areas.

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And one thing I really like to highlight is that the actual test questions that you study from any of the study guides are not going to be on the exam.

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The exam includes questions that are highly confidential and guarded so that you don't know the answers before you go in.

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However, what the study guides can do are tell you what to study.

5:03
So every answer choice is a real option.

5:08
If you get a question and you don't know exactly why A is wrong, B is right, and C is wrong, then stop and say I don't know what C is.

5:15
Let me go look that up.

5:17
So don't study the actual questions, but use it as a guide to tell you the information that you need to study.

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And you know you can use whatever study process works best for you, whether that's like taking notes, writing it up, typing it up on the computer, highlighting, going back to your textbooks.

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Really, you know, kind of listening to audio tapes, there's all different types of resources and it's going to be what works best for you.

5:43
So there's going to be either three or four answer choices per question.

5:47
There's 160 questions.

5:49
Eliminate those that you know are wrong right off hand and always go with the what you think is the best answer or even like your first gut instinct with that.

5:59
If you get stuck, you are able to come back and you'll be testing on a computer out of any Pearson view center.

6:05
There's one in Fayetteville, there's one in Wilmington, Charlotte, Conway, SC, all over the country.

6:14
So you'll just I'll give you instructions on how to look up when I e-mail you, I'll e-mail everybody in practicum and tell you that it's time to register for your exam and how you can find a testing spot.

6:25
So I briefly talked about the NCE and the NCMHCE.

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We participate in an early administration program because we're AK KREP accredited program in which you can sit for the NCE during internship 2 if you wish.

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If you choose to sit for the NCE during internship 2, then you are not only just taking the exam, but you are.

6:48
Essentially you are applying for the National Certified Counselor credential and both clinical and school counseling students can become NCC certified a national certified counselor.

7:01
And again, it just indicates that you have a top quality education across the state.

7:06
It's not a license to practice.

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However, you can use these exam scores.

7:11
Clinical mental health Counseling.

7:12
Students can use the exam scores in order to apply for the LCMHCA which is our clinical counseling licensure.

7:23
OK and I will e-mail you during internship one.

7:27
Once you have passed the CPCE, you'll be an internship one.

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I will e-mail you and let you know that I've put your name on the roster.

7:33
It's up to you whether you want to pay for the exam and take it.

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Clinical students get the added benefit of getting the NCC plus you know qualifying for licensure the the exam portion of it.

7:45
Whereas school counseling students, you may choose to take the NCE if you would like to have NCE credential.

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School counselling students are going to take the Praxis 2, number 5422.

7:58
You'll need a score of 159.

8:01
If you just Google UNCP field placement, our website will pop up or you could manually type it in as you see it here.

8:09
And there is a link on the website to apply for your Praxis 2 test to take it and then also to apply for your licensure as a licensed school counsellor.

8:19
All right, So that is a brief overview of the CPCE, the NCE and the Praxis too.

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And hopefully it's helpful.

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Hopefully it gives you some guidance on when you will take your exams.

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The purpose of the exams, Which ones you will take.

8:36
Everyone's going to take the CPCE.

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Clinical students can take the NCE in order to get licensure as well as the NCC credential.

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School counseling students can take the NCE if they would like to get that national Certified Counselor credential and then which is not a license to practice, but school counseling.

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Students can take the practice too.

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If you wish to get licensed as a school counselor, hopefully that's helpful.

9:04
As you're studying, make sure that you're using whatever resources in order to gain a broad knowledge of all of those core 8 content areas.

9:13
Thanks.