



SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE & NEW EARTH INSTITUTE



CONSCIOUSNESS-CENTERED GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR COUNSELING AND ART THERAPY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

2022

Southwestern College (SWC) and the Institute of American Indian and Alaskan Native Arts and Culture (IAIA) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the mutual benefit of both institutions who serve individuals, families, and communities through opportunities and access to higher education and professional career pathways that provide needed services.

In order to open pathways toward professional careers for IAIA graduates, faculty and staff, SWC offers to extend the following opportunities, provide the following services, and partner with IAIA in the following ways.

I. Graduate Study

SWC will provide IAIA students who complete an undergraduate degree the following:

1. Priority in admissions.
2. SWC has established scholarship funds for Native American graduate students.
3. Additional scholarships and/or Graduate Assistantships as available and appropriate.
4. Federal financial aid in the form of loans, including resources for loan forgiveness.
5. A choice between online or on-ground study.
6. An opportunity to serve clients at Tierra Nueva Counseling Center (TNCC) during practicum under the supervision of our clinical faculty.
7. Priority given to Spanish-speaking students in receiving internship opportunities at Tierra Nueva Counseling Center.
8. Internship opportunities in local agencies and organizations often leading to employment.
9. Upon graduation, students submit their transcripts to the New Mexico State Counseling and Therapy Practice Board to receive their initial license, the LMHC, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, and begin their professional careers.
10. Opportunities to complete specialized professional certificate programs in Addiction, Abuse & Recovery, Applied Interpersonal Neurobiology, Children's Mental Health, Ecotherapy, Human Sexuality, and Trauma, Grief & Renewal.
11. Opportunity to select a concentration in School Counseling and enroll in two courses which prepare students to become licensed as school counselors.

12. Opportunity to select a concentration in Consciousness in Action which includes a graduate thesis course as preparation for doctoral study.
13. Priority acceptance into the doctoral program upon completion of any of our MA degrees.
14. For students selecting the MA in Art Therapy/Counseling, an opportunity to work toward dual licensure in New Mexico for both Art Therapy (Licensed Professional Art Therapist or LPAT) and Counseling (Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor or LPCC).

SWC will provide staff and faculty of IAIA the following unique opportunities:

1. Priority in admissions for the PhD in Visionary Practice and Regenerative Leadership. For more information on this new transdisciplinary doctoral degree, contact Dr. Ann Filemyr, Ph.D., President and Founder/Director of the PhD program annfilemyr@swc.edu
2. Priority in admissions for the MA Consciousness in Action. For more information on this degree, contact Katherine Ninos, Program Director, katherineninos@swc.edu

Pre-requisites for Graduate Study

For the MA in Counseling:

- Developmental Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Psychology elective (this will be waived for NNMC graduates)

For the MA in Art Therapy/Counseling:

- Developmental Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Psychology elective (this will be waived for NNMC graduates)
- 6 Studio Art classes (one in painting and one 3-d class. Studio Arts includes Film and other Media Arts classes)

For the MA Consciousness in Action:

- Bachelor's degree in any field.

For the MA in Art Therapy for Clinical Professionals:

- 6 Studio Art classes (one in painting and one 3-d class. Media Arts classes included.)
- MA in Counseling or Master's in Social Work (MSW).

For the PhD in Visionary Practice and Regenerative Leadership:

- Master's degree in any field.

II. Continuing Education & Professional Development Opportunities

- a. SWC offers Continuing Education Credits (CECs) approved by the New Mexico State Counseling and Therapy Practice Board through certificate program

classes, public lectures, and an annual conference presented under the auspices of the New Earth Institute (NEI) of Southwestern College. Professional development for IAIA faculty and staff is available through these NEI lectures, classes, and the annual Transformation & Healing Conference. For more information, please contact NEI Assistant Director katelatimer@swc.edu

- b. IAIA faculty and/or staff may send SWC their emails to receive regular information, including i-Contact emails, regarding NEI opportunities. Please send your email to diannedeloren@swc.edu
- c. IAIA faculty and staff may enroll in one of our professional certificate programs via our website, <https://www.swc.edu/applying-to-certificate-specialty-programs/>.
- d. Certificate programs include: Addiction, Abuse & Recovery, Applied Interpersonal Neurobiology, Children's Mental Health, Ecotherapy, Human Sexuality, and Trauma, Grief & Renewal. Each Certificate offers 96 CECs through six intensive classes. For more information, please contact NEI Assistant Director katelatimer@swc.edu

III. Interns to Provide Services

- a. SWC graduate students provide art therapy and counseling services for individuals, couples, groups, families and/or children under the professional direction of SWC faculty in K-12 schools, colleges, mental and behavioral healthcare agencies, treatment facilities, hospitals, community programs, etc. SWC interns may work under the supervision of clinical staff at your site or under the clinical supervision of our faculty. To set up an internship at your institution, contact Michelle Lynn at michellelynn@swc.edu

IV. Building Relationships

- a. Tierra Nueva Counseling Center (TNCC), the field practice site for SWC graduate students, offers sliding scale counseling and art therapy services for individuals, couples, families, and groups provided by our therapists-in-training. TNCC, LLC also provides licensed clinical counselors for third party billing, including Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance. SWC would like the IAIA community to be aware of our services. To receive in-person or virtual (via telehealth to anywhere in the state of New Mexico) behavioral healthcare that is culturally sensitive, please call: 505-471-8575. For more information about TNCC, please see our website: <https://www.tierranuevacounseling.org/> and/or contact TNCC Clinical Director Denise Moore at denisemoore@swc.edu

- b. IAIA will initiate invitations for SWC Admissions staff to participate in career days, graduate school preparation programs, and/or additional student activities to occur virtually or in-person. Admissions staff look forward to opportunities to be on the NNMC campus to engage with students, answer questions, and promote SWC programs and opportunities. Contact Enrollment Services Director Dru Phoenix, admissions@swc.edu
- c. IAIA will provide a contact person for invitations to their students to visit our campus. Individual and group tours are available. Faculty may also schedule to bring classes as a field trip. Contact Enrollment Services Director Dru Phoenix, admissions@swc.edu
- d. SWC Program Chairs and faculty are available to share information and experiences about the professions of counseling and art therapy. They are available to speak in person or virtually. IAIA faculty and or staff will initiate these invitations to promote student learning in the fields of art therapy and/or counseling. Contact the Dean/CAO to arrange, Virginia Padilla-Vigil, vpvigil@swc.edu
- e. SWC will provide IAIA students with opportunities to talk with current students, including graduate assistants. Contact Enrollment Services Director Dru Phoenix, admissions@swc.edu

This agreement between SWC and IAIA, two higher education institutions located in beautiful New Mexico, continues into perpetuity. It can be updated or amended at any time by either party.

This MOU and any additional updates/amendments will go into effect once approved by both College Presidents.

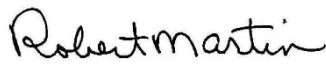
Once this Memorandum of Understanding is approved, the faculty and staff of SWC and IAIA will promote these opportunities to students, staff, and faculty on their respective campuses.

Thank you.



1/20/22

Dr. Ann Filemyr, PhD Date
Southwestern College President



1.20.22

Dr. Robert Martin, PhD Date

President, Institute of American Indian Arts