



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY'S

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COLLEGE *of* HUMANITIES *and* SOCIAL SCIENCES

MASTER *of*  
CLINICAL MENTAL  
HEALTH COUNSELING

CONVOCATION

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TWENTY NINTH OF APRIL, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

# MASTER OF CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

Utah Valley University

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1:00 pm, Tuesday, April 29, 2025  
Grand Ballroom, Sorensen Center

**Introduction** ..... Carrie Merino, Ph.D.  
CMHC Program Director

**Welcoming Remarks** ..... Acacia Overono, Ph.D.  
Department Chair,  
Psychology and Counseling

**Reflecting on the Journey** ..... Abigail Morrison  
CMHC Class of 2025

## **Musical Selection by Members of Class of 2025**

**Looking Forward** ..... Yuliya Black  
CMHC Class of 2025

**CMHC Graduate Excellence Award** ..... Carrie Merino, Ph.D.

**Presentation & Hooding of Graduates** ..... CMHC Faculty

**Closing Remarks** ..... Steven C. Clark, Ph.D.  
Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

*A CMHC cohort photo, celebration, and reception for graduates and guests will immediately follow the ceremony in SC 206 A, B, C.*

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

## DEAR GRADUATING CLASS OF 2025,

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Congratulations on reaching this impressive milestone in your academic journey! As the Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, I am proud of your achievements.

Your path to graduation has been marked by resilience, determination, and growth. You've mastered academic, personal, and professional challenges and are now ready to make meaningful contributions to society.

Throughout your time here, you've developed critical thinking skills and an understanding of human behavior and social dynamics. These tools will serve you well in your next chapter. Remember, learning is a lifelong journey. I encourage you to stay curious, seek new experiences, and continue to challenge yourselves both intellectually and personally. As you leave our campus, know you carry with you the support and pride of our entire academic community. We're excited to see the impact you'll make in your fields.

To the families and supporters of our graduates: thank you for your invaluable support and encouragement. Your role in this achievement cannot be overstated.

Class of 2025, as alumni, you'll always be part of our college family. We look forward to hearing about your future successes and hope you'll stay connected with us. Congratulations once again on your well-deserved success. Go forth with confidence and determination to make a positive difference in the world!

Sincerely,

**STEVEN C. CLARK, PH.D.**

*Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences*



# MESSAGE FROM THE CMHC FACULTY

## DEAR GRADUATING COUNSELING STUDENTS,

Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone in your academic and professional journey! Today, we celebrate your hard work, dedication, and the countless hours you have invested in becoming skilled and compassionate counselors.

Throughout your time in the program, you have demonstrated a deep commitment to understanding and supporting the mental health and well-being of others. You have honed your skills, engaged in meaningful discussions, and participated in hands-on experiences that have prepared you to make a positive impact on the lives of those you will serve.

As you step into your roles as professional counselors, remember the importance of empathy, active listening, and continuous learning. The field of counseling is ever-evolving, and your willingness to grow and adapt will be key to your success. Trust in the knowledge and skills you have gained, and never underestimate the power of your presence and support in the lives of your clients.

Congratulations once again on your graduation. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors and look forward to hearing about the positive impact you will undoubtedly make in the world. Welcome to the counseling profession!

Warmest regards,

**CARRIE MERINO, PH.D., RUSS BAILEY, PH.D.,  
JAMISON LAW, PH.D., PAIGE LOWE, PH.D., AND  
MS. ASHLEY HANSEN**





## CMHC FACULTY & STAFF

### **Carrie Merino, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor  
CMHC Program Director*

### **Jamison Law, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor  
Director of Clinical Education*

### **Russ Bailey, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor  
CMHC Faculty*

### **Paige Lowe, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor  
CMHC Faculty*

### **Ashley Hansen**

*CMHC Program Manager*



# GRADUATING CLASS OF 2025

**The following individuals have earned or are completing a  
Master of Clinical Mental Health Counseling:**

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Alexis Acosta  
Benjamin Anderson  
Angela Baird  
Brennan Bellon  
Yuliya Black  
Adena Campbell  
Cameron Hopkin  
Lauren Mackay  
Nancy Martinez  
Malia McCulloch  
Abigail Morrison  
Shannon Morrison  
Marianna Nibley  
Aliza Opfar  
Iris Prescott  
Halie Schreiber  
Emma Smith  
Melissa Soper  
Helen Sullivan  
Julia Toomey  
Sarah Vlach  
Katelyn Williams  
Brent Wright



## WITH APPRECIATION

**The CMHC program sincerely thanks the following community agencies for supporting our students' learning and growth:**

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Alliance Counseling Utah  
Arcadia Counseling  
The Bradley Center for Grief  
BYU Sexual Assault Survivor Advocates  
Flourish Therapy Inc.  
The Green House Center for Growth and Learning  
Gumtree Therapy  
LDS Family Services  
Lifted Anxiety & OCD Treatment  
Magellan Academy Inc.  
Meadowbrook Counseling  
Modern Eve  
Monarch Family Counseling  
Mountain Ridge Behavioral Health Center  
Odyssey House of Utah  
Psychological Preventative Health  
Sandstone Psychology  
Solace Emotional Health  
Trek Counseling  
True Self Counseling  
Utah State Hospital  
UVU Community Mental Health Clinic  
Wasatch Behavioral Health  
UVU Department of Psychology and Counseling  
UVU College of Humanities and Social Sciences

