

CHS PERSPECTIVE ON JESUIT EDUCATION

Many core beliefs and practices of the Counseling and Human Services professions complement the Jesuit tradition and Ignatian mission of the University of Scranton.

We know that an active and positive regard for each person creates an environment conducive to high-quality clinical care and positive human development. Caring for each unique person – mind, body & spirit – and assisting each one to reach her or his human and God-given potential is highly honored in the Ignatian tradition. This is called “*cura personalis*,” both in ministry and education.

We know that the building blocks of human wholeness and dignity come from the quality of relationships that surround the developing human being. For persons to reach their full God-given potential, society has a vested interest in the quality of our families, our parenting, our facilitating structures. Counseling and Human Service professionals work at the nexus of these issues, assisting individuals, families, and human systems to grow and mature. Engaging in advocacy and social justice, with a mutually local and global perspective, are intrinsic parts of this work and in keeping with the Jesuit vision of God’s working alongside companions in service “*to set the world on fire.*”

As professional counselor educators, we value the contributions that empathic care, critical thinking, deep personal reflection, sensitivity to diversity, and systemic leadership make to our clients and wider society. St. Ignatius and his companions also valued these activities, highlighting the importance of discernment and the leadership of “*magis*,” always searching for “*the more universal good.*”

These are hallmarks of Ignatian spirituality. (Crafted by Dr. Oliver Morgan)