

Counseling Services

Marygrove College

We are happy that you chose to attend Marygrove College, and we plan to offer you services that are of high quality and relevant to your educational time with us!

One of these services includes counseling and psychotherapy services. As an institution that offers almost all of our graduate school educational programs and classes online, this presents challenges and concerns for our students attending Marygrove College who may seek counseling services. Therefore (see a sample of our concerns below), we have decided to provide you relevant materials on our [Website](#), and we highly encourage you to seek professional counseling where you may meet face-to-face with a trained professional.

Concerns with virtual counseling modes:

- E-mail/electronic communications can be intercepted by someone who is not the intended recipient.
- Intercepted e-mail/electronic communications can be stored and/or printed by the unauthorized recipient.
- Your identity can be determined from knowing your e-mail/electronic address.
- E-mail/electronic communications are easily and sometimes accidentally forwarded to unintended recipients.
- E-mail/electronic communications can transport computer viruses and other malicious software.
- Receipt of E-mail/electronic communications sometimes are not immediately noticed (e.g., being filed as SPAM by e-mail providers) and/or not responded to in a timely manner.
- Detailed and identifying information, diagnoses, and treatment information about you should not be put in the subject line or body of an e-mail/electronic communication, nor be transmitted as an attachment to an e-mail.
- E-mail/electronic communications should never be used to communicate emergency, urgent, or other time-sensitive information. If you need immediate assistance, call 911, 1-800-273-TALK/8255, or visit [Mental Health America](#) to find a 24-hour crisis hotline in your area.
- Phone communications could be overheard by an unintended party in the immediate vicinity of counselor and counselee.
- Phone communications may not be on a secured line and overheard by an unintended party within the phone communication.
- Your identity can be determined from a phone display or overheard during conversation.
- Receipt of phone call communications sometimes are not received and/or not responded to in a timely manner.

Informed Consent for E-Mail/Electronic (including Facsimile) and Phone Communications

If you choose to use e-mail/electronic and/or phone communications as a way to communicate with your counselor, please read and sign below – signifying your consent to receive counseling via these modes of communication.

- I understand that licensed professional counselors are required by Federal and State law to try to protect confidential and private health care information of counselees, which is why I am being informed of the potential risks of using e-mail/electronic and phone communications in a counseling relationship – hereafter referred to as virtual counseling.
- I understand that there are exceptions to the limits of my confidentiality: if I indicate 1) the intent to harm myself or another; 2) actual or suspected child or elder abuse; and/or 3) if my counselor is required by court order.
- I understand that I am not required to participate in e-mail, electronic, phone-based, or any form of counseling but, if I consent to do so, I may withdraw this consent at any time by notifying my counselor.
- I understand that, if I am not meeting my counseling goals, my counselor may refer me to a more appropriate referral source.
- I have read and understand the information provided regarding the risks involved with using e-mail/electronic and phone communications as a mode of communication in a counseling relationship.
- I have read and understand the information provided in Steven M. Coddington’s [Professional Disclosure Statement](#).

I give my informed consent to use virtual modes of counseling communication (i.e., e-mail and phone), and I acknowledge that I am a currently-enrolled student of Marygrove College.

Counselee Name (Please Print)

Student ID#

Date

Counselee Signature

Return completed form to: Steven Coddington, MA, LPC, via fax at 313-927-1399 or scan and e-mail it to scodding@marygrove.edu.

Questions about this form or the counseling process may be directed to Mr. Coddington at 1-313-927-1474 or scodding@marygrove.edu.