

MSCP Core and School Counseling Emphasis Comprehensive Exams Validity Study

In order to establish the construct validity of the MSCP Core and School Counseling emphasis exams, the total score from these exams were correlated, during the Spring 2009 term, with the total scores from the National Praxis School Guidance Exam, the Praxis PLT, and the Praxis PPST. For construct validity to be established both convergent and divergent validity must be determined.

Total scores from 32 MSCP students on Praxis School Guidance National Exam, the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam were utilized to determine convergent validity. There were significant high correlations between the Praxis School Guidance National Exam and the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam. Thus, convergent validity for the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam was determined.

Total scores from 32 MSCP students on the National Praxis PLT, the Praxis PPST, the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam were also utilized to determine divergent validity. There was no significant correlation between these Praxis exams and the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam. Thus, divergent validity for the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam was established.

Convergent Validity

Core Comprehensive Exam

Correlation with Praxis School Guidance National Exam = .648 (.000)

School Counseling Emphasis Comprehensive Exam

Correlation with Praxis School Guidance National Exam = .589 (.000)

Divergent Validity

No significant correlation between Core and School Counseling emphasis exams with Praxis PLT (Principles of Learning and Teaching) and Praxis PPST (Pre-Professional Skills Test).

The results indicate that the MSCP Core exam and the School Counseling emphasis exam have good construct validity for assessing theoretical and content competencies in counseling.