Is Prescott College accredited?
Prescott College offers accredited programs in both resident and limited-residency education delivery at the bachelor, master, and doctoral levels and is regionally accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. The College is licensed to offer all degrees by the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education. For the HLC site visit in November of 2009, Prescott College undertook an extensive examination of the current state of the College. This culminated in the creation of a Higher Learning Commission self-study, as required by the reaccreditation process. Prescott College was granted a ten year reaccreditation.

What is CACREP and why is it important?
CACREP (Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs) was formed in 1981 in cooperation with the ACA (American Counseling Association) to promote the advancement of quality educational programs in counselor training. CACREP accreditation guarantees through a multi-stage external review process that critical quality-related program components are in place in a counseling education program. Accreditation is about quality assurance, standardization, and the promotion of continuous improvement of programs.

Is Prescott College CACREP accredited?
We are in the process of acquiring CACREP accreditation for the Master of Science in Counseling Program and have turned in the official paperwork to start the steps towards accreditation. Accreditation is a multi-stage process that generally takes 12-18 months from the time an application is received, but can take up to 24 months. We are already in alignment with their standards, so we do not anticipate any problems. According to CACREP Policies Governing Recognition of Graduates, students enrolled in a program seeking accreditation are considered graduates of a CACREP program if they receive their degree within 18 months prior to when accreditation is conferred, and if the program can verify that the student completed the CACREP program requirements. In other words, if a program is accredited in July 2017, graduates of the program would be considered graduates of a CACREP-accredited program if they graduated between January 2016 and July 2017.

Can I still get licensed without CACREP?
Yes. The 60 semester credit curriculum includes required core courses and supervised clinical experiences needed for all graduates to be prepared for successful, ethical and competent practice as mental health counselors as well as eligibility to pursue licensure in most states. Without CACREP, state licensing boards require an education review of your coursework. Prescott College Counseling Department syllabi presently list how each course aligns to CACREP standards, making the process quicker and easier. If you have questions or concerns, we are happy to connect you with faculty to further discuss this.

What kind of license can I get with an MS in Counseling?
That would depend on the type of license offered in the state you choose to work in. All state licensing requirements are different. Most people who graduate from our program apply for the LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor), LMFT (Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist), or the LMHC (Licensed Mental Health Counselor). Each student makes their own personal choice of which license to pursue based on their state, their own research, and their interests and needs.