Marital and Family Therapy — M.S.

Program director
Mary E. Moline

The Master of Science degree curriculum in marital and family therapy is designed to give students a broad academic background; as well as professional practice for working with individuals, couples, and families in a variety of settings. These include but are not limited to medical, legal, educational, mental health, managed care, church setting, and private practice.

Mission, vision, and values

The program's mission: Educating MFT students to provide effective and competent care to diverse families in local, national, and international communities.

The program’s vision: MFT students will learn how to “make diverse families whole.” The definition, configuration, and experience of family vary widely; and students are trained to regard, respect, and value human difference and family types so as to work successfully with all those who seek the services of a marital and family therapist.

The program has adopted five Loma Linda University values as central to the values of this program:

Compassion—The sympathetic willingness to be engaged with the needs and sufferings of others. Among the most memorable depictions of compassion in Scripture is the story of the Good Samaritan.

Integrity—The quality of living a unified life in which one’s convictions are well-considered and match one’s actions. Integrity encompasses honesty, authenticity, and trustworthiness.

Excellence—The commitment to exceed minimum standards and expectations.

Freedom—The competency and privilege to make informed and accountable choices and to respect the freedom of others. God has called us not to slavery but to freedom.

Justice—The commitment to equality and to treat others fairly, renouncing all forms of unfair discrimination.

Licensure and program accreditation

Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). The national commission functions to ensure that academic and clinical training programs adhere to the highest standards of the profession.

Conduct or disciplinary actions

The applicant should view “instruction for completing application for registration as a marriage and family intern” at the Board of Behavioral Science Examiner’s Website for possible issues that may prevent someone from obtaining a marital and family therapy license in the state of California or any state in which a license is may be sought. A person who completes a graduate degree in MFT may be denied licensure due to prior convictions; and this has to be clearly considered before pursuing studies or such license.

Clinical training

In addition to successful completion of 90 quarter units of academic course work, students in the Marital and Family Therapy Program must complete field experience at clinical placement sites. Upon completion of 18 quarter units, the student will be evaluated by all the teaching faculty to determine if s/he would be allowed to continue the program and/or be permitted to enter the clinical phase of the program. Students have numerous choices of placement sites across Southern California in which to gain required clinical experience. These sites include community mental health centers, private and public agencies, school and hospital settings, and the department’s counseling and family sciences clinic.

Some stipends are available for trainees. The clinical training includes a seven-quarter practicum sequence and supervision of trainees at a clinical site.

Students must take 18 units of practicum and complete a minimum of 500 clinical hours and 100 direct supervision hours. Of the direct client contact hours, at least 250 hours must be with couples and families. Of the direct supervision hours, at least 50 hours must be with raw data (video, audio, and live supervision). For every week in which clients are seen, the student must have at least one hour of individual supervision. The ratio of supervision hours to treatment hours must not be less than one hour of supervision to five hours of clinical contact. Students enrolled in the program should consult the clinical training manual regarding clinical training requirements.

Degree completion

The M.S. degree in marital and family therapy may be completed in either two years of full-time study or at least three years of part-time study. Students have up to five years to complete the degree. In order to maintain full-time status, students must take a minimum of 8 units during the Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer quarters. Mostly, first-year students attend classes on Tuesday and Thursday; and second-year students attend classes on Monday and Wednesday. Full-time employment is discouraged when a student is enrolled for full-time study. Clinical traineeships are usually on days students are not in class. In order to participate in the June commencement exercises, students must complete all the required 500 clinical hours and the 90 units of required courses.

Counseling and Family Sciences Clinic

Loma Linda University Counseling and Family Sciences (CFS) Clinic, formerly known as the Marriage and Family Therapy (MFAM) Clinic, is operated by the Department of Counseling and Family Sciences. Located on the second floor of the Loma Linda University Behavioral Health Institute (BHI), it is one of the participating academic clinics. The BHI is
an innovative endeavor undertaken by Loma Linda University to offer community members easy access to all behavioral health disciplines in one location. The second floor is the location for an integrated, interdisciplinary clinic staffed by students and residents from psychiatry, psychology, social work, child life, counseling, and marriage and family therapy.

Financial assistance

Students accepted into the Marital and Family Therapy Program may receive financial assistance through the MFT Stipends Award; merit-based awards, such as teaching fellowships and a variety of research and student service assistantships; or through need-based financial aid, such as a loan or the University's work-study program. On a limited basis, students receive financial assistance during their clinical traineeship. Students must apply for financial aid by writing to:

Student Financial Aid Office
Student Services
Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA 92350
909/558-4509

Stipend award

Some students may benefit from a financial award provided to support graduate education in marital and family therapy. The MFT Stipends Award is intended to help support the training of persons to work in public mental health and to be able to integrate the values of wellness, recovery, and resilience promoted by the Mental Health Services Act. The purpose of the award is to increase a diverse, culturally sensitive, and competent public mental health workforce.

Educational outcomes

The program's educational outcomes include program outcomes and student learning outcomes. These outcomes are congruent with the University's and program's missions and are appropriate to the profession of marriage and family therapy.

1. Program outcomes

Program outcomes integrate this University's commitment to diversity and quality training of health-care professionals with the need for diverse master's-level practitioners in the field of MFT. These outcomes are as follows:

• Prepare students to engage in the MFT profession by being eligible for MFT licensure in California, with a 65-to-80 percent pass rate for students who sit for the examination; and by being eligible for membership in AAMFT.
• Maintain a 75-to-90 percent graduation rate.
• Provide a learning environment and resources that allow students to collaborate with other health-care providers and multiple community services (or contexts).
• Graduate a diverse student population who are prepared to practice in the field of marriage and family therapy.

2. Student learning outcomes

The University emphasizes whole person care. Each of the seven student learning outcomes for the M.S. degree in MFT supports this mission with a specific emphasis on advancing systems/relational theory and practice in diverse societal contexts. The student will learn to promote the emotional health and well-being of individuals, couples, families, organizations, and communities. Upon completion of the program, the student will have achieved and will be evaluated based on the following learning outcomes:

• Student will be able to apply a systemic framework to his/her clinical practice as a marital and family therapist.
• Student will be able to identify him/her as a systemic marital and family therapy trainee.
• Student will be familiar with a variety of MFT therapies and demonstrate clinical language and practices that enable him/her to work with diverse populations within a multidisciplinary context.
• Student will be able to demonstrate the ability to analyze and present a clinical case using one of the major MFT models.
• Student will demonstrate awareness of contextual issues in therapy, such as gender, religion/spirituality, sexual orientation, age, and socioeconomic status.
• Student will be knowledgeable of the legal and ethical standards relevant to the field of marital and family therapy and apply his/her knowledge to their clinical practice.
• Student will be qualified to apply for internship status and subsequent licensure as an MFT professional aligned with practice standards.

The M.S. degree in marital and family therapy engages in ongoing review of student outcomes and uses this information to improve program effectiveness. Data on student outcomes are collected through aggregate scores on quarterly evaluations of clinical competency and results of final oral and comprehensive examinations; client session and outcome data; and exit surveys and interviews of students at graduation. Alumni surveys are also conducted every two years to track graduates' attainment of marital and family therapy licensure, data on employment, and feedback regarding how well the program prepared graduates for their job responsibilities. The program faculty also maintains regular contact with community agencies and educational institutions in the region to obtain input into curriculum planning and improvements in clinical training.

Accreditation

The program is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), the accrediting body for the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). The national commission functions to ensure that academic and clinical training programs adhere to the highest standards of the profession.

Admissions

In addition to Loma Linda University (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/admission-policies-information/#admissionrequirements) admissions requirements, admission to the MS in Marital and Family Therapy Program is governed by the policies and procedures established by the School of Behavioral Health (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/behavioral-health/#generalregulation). Additional admission requirements include:

• Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college. The department assesses the liberal arts preparation of each of its applicants in the balance of course work, in three liberal arts (see Liberal Arts Preparation).
• Applicants must submit at least three letters of recommendation (one from an academic source and one from a work supervisor).
• Applicants must meet the minimum academic and professional compatibility criteria established by the program.
• Applicants should have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) in bachelor's coursework for at least the final 45 units prior to graduation. Applicants with lower grade point averages will be considered if the last 45 quarter credits (30 semester units) of coursework shows significant improvement or if they have additional attributes that demonstrate preparedness and an appropriate fit for Marital and Family Therapy education. Work and volunteer experiences must be verified by employer/supervisor statements on official agency stationery. Further consideration will also be given to individuals who provide evidence of additional certifications and/or training that illustrate commitment to a career in Marriage and Family Therapy. Anyone who is admitted to the MS in Marital and Family Therapy program with a cumulative G.P.A. below 3.0 will be required to participate in individualized academic assessment and a targeted learning assistance program.
• Special consideration may be given to applicants with grade point averages as low as 2.75 if the last part of their college work shows significant improvement.
• Applicants whose cumulative grade point average does not meet the minimum requirements stated above may receive further consideration for admission by demonstrating background experience(s) that provide evidence that the applicant has the potential to successfully complete the program. The student might verify work or volunteer experience that demonstrates their commitment to working in a Marital and Family Therapy field.
• Interviews are scheduled with department faculty; on-campus group interviews are scheduled during Winter and Spring quarters; other on-campus and telephone interviews are scheduled individually.
• Applicants must show evidence of professional compatibility, personal qualifications, and motivation to complete a graduate program by obtaining a passing score on the admissions interview with the department's admissions committee. Evaluation criteria for the interview include:
  • verbal communication skills
  • congruent with the values and mission of Loma Linda University
  • critical thinking ability
  • comfort/willingness to work with people from diverse backgrounds, language, culture and abilities
  • intuitive judgment & skill, talent, and self-awareness
  • understanding of the field
  • commitment to the field

No academic credit is given for life experiences or previous work experience for any part for the Marriage and Family Therapy degree program.

Pre-entrance clearance (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/admission-policies-information/#preentrancerequirementstext):
  • A background check
  • Health clearance

Program requirements

Theoretical foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 551</td>
<td>Family Therapy: Foundational Theories and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 552</td>
<td>Couples Therapy: Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Clinical knowledge

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 515</td>
<td>Crisis Intervention and Client-Centered Advocacy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 524</td>
<td>Psychopharmacology and Medical Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 528</td>
<td>Culture, Socioeconomic Status in Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 556</td>
<td>Psychopathology and Diagnostic Procedures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 567</td>
<td>Treating the Severely and Persistently Mentally Ill and the Recovery Process</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 604</td>
<td>Social Context in Clinical Practice: Gender, Class, and Race</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 624</td>
<td>Individual and Systems Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 638</td>
<td>Family Therapy and Chemical Abuse</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 644</td>
<td>Child Abuse and Family Violence</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 674</td>
<td>Human Sexual Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
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Individual development and family relations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COUN 675</td>
<td>Dynamics of Aging</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 547</td>
<td>Social Ecology of Individual and Family Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 584</td>
<td>Advanced Child and Adolescent Problems</td>
<td>3</td>
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Professional identity and ethics

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 535</td>
<td>Case Presentation and Professional Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 614</td>
<td>Law and Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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Supervised clinical practice

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 536</td>
<td>Case Presentation Seminar and Documentation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 537</td>
<td>Case Presentation Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 635</td>
<td>Case Presentation Seminar and Legal Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 636</td>
<td>Case Presentation Seminar and Client-Centered Advocacy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 637</td>
<td>Case Presentation Seminar and Global Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 731</td>
<td>Clinical Training</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 732</td>
<td>Clinical Training</td>
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Religion

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELR 564</td>
<td>Religion, Marriage, and the Family</td>
<td>3</td>
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Group

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 568</td>
<td>Groups: Process, and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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Research

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 501</td>
<td>Research Tools and Methodology: Quantitative</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 502</td>
<td>Research Tools and Methodology: Qualitative</td>
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Electives

One course in theory required. Select 8 units of the following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COUN 574</td>
<td>Educational Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUN 575</td>
<td>Counseling Theory and Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUN 576</td>
<td>Exceptional and Medically Challenged Children</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUN 577</td>
<td>Assessment in Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUN 578</td>
<td>College and Career Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUN 678</td>
<td>Consultation and Program Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUN 680</td>
<td>Field Experience in Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMST 524</td>
<td>Family Resource Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 516</td>
<td>Play Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 525</td>
<td>Therapeutic Group</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 526</td>
<td>Theory and Practice of Group Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>
### Normal time to complete the program

2 years (7 academic quarters) based on full-time enrollment

### Post-master's courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 651</td>
<td>AAMFT-Approved Supervisor Training</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 704</td>
<td>Marital and Family Therapy State Board Written Examination Review</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 744</td>
<td>Clinical Internship</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Units: 6**

### Courses

**MFAM 416. Theories of Personality. 3 Units.**
Covers genetic and environmental factors, such as personality detriments, theories of personality, personality development, structure and assessment of personality, personality dynamics, and the complex process in implementation.

**MFAM 417. Abnormal Behavior. 3 Units.**
Introduces the psychology of behavioral disorders, with emphasis on etiology and symptomatology. Provides an overview of treatment modalities. Prerequisite: A course in personality theory; or consent of instructor.

**MFAM 501. Research Tools and Methodology: Quantitative. 3 Units.**
Current social research methods, practice in the use of techniques, consideration of the philosophy of the scientific method, and familiarization with MFAM test instruments. Prerequisite: An introductory course in statistics as an undergraduate research methods course.

**MFAM 502. Research Tools and Methodology: Qualitative. 3 Units.**
Qualitative methodology. Prepares students to undertake research projects using the intensive interview method of qualitative research. Explores practical and epistemological issues and problems in qualitative research in a workshop format.

**MFAM 515. Crisis Intervention and Client-Centered Advocacy. 3 Units.**
Experiential course that includes theory, techniques, and practice of crisis intervention and client-centered advocacy. Gives special attention to development of the basic skills of counseling, including: confidentiality, interprofessional cooperation, working with consumers, professional socialization, and collaboration with resources that deliver quality services and support needed in the community. Presents therapeutic tapes and covers topics such as suicide, substance abuse, domestic violence, incest, spousal abuse, rape, treating the severely mentally ill, and disaster and trauma response. Examines the principles of mental health recovery-oriented care and methods of service delivery in recovery-oriented practice environments. Cross-listing: COUN 515.

**MFAM 516. Play Therapy. 2 Units.**
Experiential course that teaches practitioners and graduate students to apply play therapy techniques in dealing with childhood problems such as molestation, physical abuse, depression, trauma, and family conflict.

**MFAM 524. Psychopharmacology and Medical Issues. 3 Units.**
Introduces common physical and medical issues that relate to the practice of marriage and family therapy. Students learn a biopsychosocial-spiritual model to assess and intervene—with emphasis given to psychopharmacology, neuroanatomy, the mind-body relationship, and research relative to the field of medical family therapy.

### Degree requirements

Requirements for the M.S. degree in marital and family therapy from Loma Linda University include the following:

- Residence of at least two academic years.

- A minimum of 90 quarter units of graduate work, which includes credit received for core courses, electives, and a 3-unit religion course.

- Clinical training in marriage and family counseling. At a minimum, 500 clinical hours and 100 direct supervision hours are required. Of the direct client contact hours, at least 250 hours must be with couples and families. Of the direct supervision hours, at least 50 hours must be with raw data (video, audio, and live supervision). For every week in which clients are seen, the student must have at least one hour of individual supervision. The ratio of supervision hours to treatment hours must not be less than one hour of supervision to five hours of clinical contact. Students enrolled in the program should consult the clinical training manual regarding clinical training requirements.

- Successful completion of a written comprehensive examination (taken before advancement to candidacy) and an oral examination (taken at the end of the program).

- To be counted toward the graduate degree, foreign language courses must be numbered at 400 and above.

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 527</td>
<td>Training/Supervision Workshop in Group Counseling</td>
</tr>
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<td>MFAM 538</td>
<td>Theory and Practice of Conflict Resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 539</td>
<td>Solution-Focused Family Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 544</td>
<td>Family and Divorce Mediation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 548</td>
<td>Men and Families</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 549</td>
<td>Christian Counseling and Family Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 555</td>
<td>Narrative Family Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 557</td>
<td>Object Relations Family Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 559</td>
<td>Cognitive-Behavioral Couples Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 564</td>
<td>Advanced Bowen Theory and Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 566</td>
<td>Psychopathology and Diagnostic Procedures: Personality</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 569</td>
<td>Advanced Group Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 580</td>
<td>Internship in Family Mediation</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 605</td>
<td>Gestalt Family Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 606</td>
<td>Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 615</td>
<td>Reflective Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 659</td>
<td>Current Trends</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 664</td>
<td>Experiential Family Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 664</td>
<td>Structural and Multidimensional Family Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 670</td>
<td>Seminar in Sex Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFAM 675</td>
<td>Clinical Problems in Marriage and Family Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 694</td>
<td>Directed Study: Marriage and Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFAM 695</td>
<td>Research Problems: Marriage and Family</td>
</tr>
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**Total Units: 90**

1 700-numbered courses do not count toward total didactic units required for the degree.
MFAM 525. Therapeutic Group. 2 Units.
A process group that provides opportunities for self-exploration, with particular emphasis on personal concerns likely to influence one's ability to function as a professional. Students learn more about their style of relating to others. Helps trainees identify potential blocks to their effectiveness as counselors and provides the tools to develop strengths.

MFAM 526. Theory and Practice of Group Counseling. 3 Units.
Critically evaluates ten major models of group counseling, as well as overviews stages in the development of a group. Uses didactic and experiential methods to apply diverse theories and techniques to actual group sessions. Theories explored include psychodynamic approaches, existential/humanistic and relationship-oriented approaches, psychodrama, and action-oriented approaches.

MFAM 527. Training/Supervision Workshop in Group Counseling. 3 Units.
Opportunities for supervised practice in cofacilitation of the classroom group. Students function in the role of group members and also co-lead the group several times during the quarter. An experiential course that studies group process in action and teaches ways to apply diverse techniques to an ongoing group.

MFAM 528. Culture, Socioeconomic Status in Therapy. 3 Units.
Addresses current information and historical narratives related to cultural diversity that impact belief systems, communication patterns, roles, and expectations within human relationships and systems. Examines SES and a wide range of social, racial, and ethnic factors that create meanings for individuals, couples, families, and mental health counselors. Emphasizes populations that become professional partners or clients served within this geographic region. Cross-listing COUN 528.

MFAM 529. Culture, Socioeconomic Status in Therapy. 3 Units.
Introduces the principles of mental health recovery-oriented care and encourages students to develop the personal qualities related to practices within this type of health-care system. Students explore their personal biases toward and understanding of various cultures/ethnicities, as well as how poverty and social stress impact their understanding of consumers in the mental health system. Reviews marriage and family therapy ethics according to the Board of Behavioral Science, the American Counseling Association, and the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. Examines how spirituality and client-centered advocacy is a process important to the field. Explores the interface between MFTs, counselors, and other professionals. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 530. Case Presentation and Professional Studies. 3 Units.
Teaches student trainees applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, aging population, the severely mentally ill, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including recovery process, health promotion, evaluation from a systems perspective, and illness prevention. Trains students, through observation of live cases, to examine the cultural, social, and psychological implications of consumers’ socioeconomic position, legal and ethical issues, biological implications, and how to collaborate with other mental health resources in order to advocate for the severely mentally ill population. Documents cases from a public mental health, systems, and medical model perspective. Student receives an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 531. Case Presentation Seminar. 3 Units.
Formally presents ongoing individual, marital, and family cases by clinical trainees. Taping, video playbacks, and verbatim reports with faculty and clinical peers. Examines and trains in applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including health promotion and illness prevention. Limited to students in clinical training. Students learn client-centered advocacy and special needs services. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 532. Case Presentation Seminar. 3 Units.
Formally presents ongoing individual, marital, and family cases by clinical trainees. Taping, video playbacks, and verbatim reports with faculty and clinical peers. Examines and trains in applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including health promotion and illness prevention. Limited to students in clinical training. Students learn client-centered advocacy and special needs services. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 533. Case Presentation Seminar. 3 Units.
Formally presents ongoing individual, marital, and family cases by clinical trainees. Taping, video playbacks, and verbatim reports with faculty and clinical peers. Examines and trains in applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including health promotion and illness prevention. Limited to students in clinical training. Students learn client-centered advocacy and special needs services. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 534. Case Presentation Seminar. 3 Units.
Formally presents ongoing individual, marital, and family cases by clinical trainees. Taping, video playbacks, and verbatim reports with faculty and clinical peers. Examines and trains in applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including health promotion and illness prevention. Limited to students in clinical training. Students learn client-centered advocacy and special needs services. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 535. Case Presentation Seminar and Documentation. 3 Units.
Teaches student trainees applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, aging population, the severely mentally ill, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including recovery process, health promotion, evaluation from a systems perspective, and illness prevention. Trains students, through observation of live cases, to examine the cultural, social, and psychological implications of consumers’ socioeconomic position, legal and ethical issues, biological implications, and how to collaborate with other mental health resources in order to advocate for the severely mentally ill population. Documents cases from a public mental health, systems, and medical model perspective. Student receives an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 536. Case Presentation Seminar and Documentation. 3 Units.
Teaches student trainees applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, aging population, the severely mentally ill, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including recovery process, health promotion, evaluation from a systems perspective, and illness prevention. Trains students, through observation of live cases, to examine the cultural, social, and psychological implications of consumers’ socioeconomic position, legal and ethical issues, biological implications, and how to collaborate with other mental health resources in order to advocate for the severely mentally ill population. Documents cases from a public mental health, systems, and medical model perspective. Student receives an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 537. Case Presentation Seminar. 3 Units.
Formally presents ongoing individual, marital, and family cases by clinical trainees. Taping, video playbacks, and verbatim reports with faculty and clinical peers. Examines and trains in applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including health promotion and illness prevention. Limited to students in clinical training. Students learn client-centered advocacy and special needs services. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 538. Case Presentation Seminar. 3 Units.
Formally presents ongoing individual, marital, and family cases by clinical trainees. Taping, video playbacks, and verbatim reports with faculty and clinical peers. Examines and trains in applied psychotherapeutic techniques, assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships. Examines dysfunctional and functional aspects, including health promotion and illness prevention. Limited to students in clinical training. Students learn client-centered advocacy and special needs services. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 539. Solution-Focused Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Provides an in-depth understanding of solution-focused family therapy and practice. Focuses on the work of de Shazer and Berg, along with the foundational constructs of MRI.

MFAM 540. Family and Divorce Mediation. 4 Units.
Comprehensive coverage of concepts, methods, and skills in family and divorce mediation. Includes the relational and legal aspects of property division and child custody. Substantial experience in role plays.

MFAM 541. Gender Perspectives. 2 Units.
Explores the identities, roles, and relationships of women and men in light of social, cultural, and historical perspectives. Explores implications for the family therapist.

MFAM 542. Brain and Behavior. 3 Units.
Provides general background information in neuroanatomy, neurochemistry, neurophysiology, and psychopharmacology; and expands the student's understanding of basic physiological mechanisms and how they influence behavior. Studies physiological mechanisms, including: nerve cells and neural transmission, the central and peripheral nervous systems, the peripheral neuromuscular system, the sensory systems, and the endocrine system. Examines behaviors influenced by these systems including: addictions, emotional behavior, human communication, ingestive behavior, learning and memory, mental disorders, movement, perceptual processes, reproductive behavior, and sleep. Introduces special topics, including: neuropsychology and neuropsychological assessment, the effects of traumatic brain injury on cognition and behavior, and therapy with brain-injured clients. Gives student general information on methods and strategies of research in the field of brain and behavior.

MFAM 543. Social Ecology of Individual and Family Development. 3 Units.
Studies human individual development and its relationship to the family life cycle from birth through aging and death of family members. Discusses biological, psychological, social, and spiritual development in the context of family dynamics involving traditional two-parent families, alternative partnerships, single parents, blended families, and intergenerational communities.

MFAM 544. Men and Families. 2 Units.
Surveys the experience of contemporary men in American and global contexts. Examines the reciprocal influences of society, men, and their families in the contexts of close relationships—including friendships, marriages, parenting, and therapeutic relationships.

MFAM 545. Christian Counseling and Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Integrates Christian concepts and family therapy in a conceptual and clinical context.
MFAM 551. Family Therapy: Foundational Theories and Practice. 3 Units.
Provides an overview of the major theories in marriage and family therapy. Explores systems theory concepts in light of the major models of family therapy. Exposes students to the recovery process and consumer advocacy. Examines evidence-based models—such as cognitive behavioral, multidimensional family therapy (MDFT), and emotional-focused therapy. Though MDFT, exposes students to the treatment of addicted adolescents and their families.

MFAM 552. Couples Therapy: Theory and Practice. 3 Units.
Overview of the couples/marital therapy literature—including divorce, child rearing, parenting, step parenting, and blended families. Evidence-based practices studied relevant to consumer treatment and recovery. Examines how culture, SES, poverty, social, stress and addiction affect clinical practice.

MFAM 553. Family Systems Theory. 3 Units.
Reviews Bowen theory of family systems. Introduction to family psychotherapy as an outgrowth of the theory. Students examine their own families of origin.

MFAM 554. Advanced Bowen Theory and Practice. 2 Units.
Provides advanced knowledge and training in leading structured groups. Based on a therapeutic, psychoeducational, and/or educational model, students design a structured group treatment to be used in a community setting. Prerequisite: MFAM 553.

MFAM 555. Narrative Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Narrative therapy and social construction as important developments in social theory and in clinical practice. Uses narratives and the role they play in a person's life through language and meaning systems. Examines issues of power, collaboration, culture, community, and re-authoring narratives, particularly in the works of Michael White and David Epston.

MFAM 556. Psychopathology and Diagnostic Procedures. 3 Units.
Explores the history and development of psychopathology and how it relates to current clinical practice in general and marriage and family therapy in particular. Utilizes the multi-axial classifications of the DSM-IV as a practical basis for diagnostics. Prerequisite: A course in abnormal psychology.

MFAM 557. Object Relations Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Seminar format that acquaints students in marriage and family therapy with the basics of object relations theory. Emphasizes the unique properties of object relations-systems theory in bridging intrapsychic and environmental forces.

MFAM 558. Advanced Human Growth and Development. 3 Units.

MFAM 559. Cognitive-Behavioral Couples Therapy. 2,3 Units.
Experiential course that surveys major cognitive-behavioral family therapy therapists, and integrates treatment techniques into practice in laboratory.

MFAM 560. Family Therapy: Advanced Foundational Theories and Practice. 3 Units.
Comprehensively surveys more recent therapy models, such as narrative, collaborative language systems, and solution-focused therapy. Using these models, student learns to assess and consider diagnosis; as well as learn the role of language, meaning, and process in relationships. Class examines the theoretical strengths and limitations of these models in relation to culturally diverse populations.

MFAM 561. Advanced Bowen Theory and Practice. 2 Units.
Provides advanced knowledge and training in Bowen theory as it applies to couples and family therapy. Prerequisite: MFAM 553.

MFAM 562. Psychopathology and Diagnostic Procedures: Personality. 2 Units.
Focuses on the etiology of marital dysfunction, specifically from a dual function of individual and systems psychopathology. Prerequisite: MFAM 556.

MFAM 563. Treating the Severely and Persistently Mentally Ill and the Recovery Process. 3 Units.
Identification, treatment, and referral procedures for consumers identified as severely mentally ill. Examines the phenomenon as it relates to a diverse consumer population (culture, age, gender, and SES). Treatment section focuses on the recovery process and on evidence-based or agreed-upon approaches in the mental health field, particularly the marriage and family therapy field. Includes principles of etiology, diagnosis, treatment planning, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders and dysfunctional behavior.

MFAM 564. Social Context in Clinical Practice: Gender, Class, and Race. 3 Units.
Introduces social inequalities that result in unfairness, health disparities, assaults to personal dignity, and family stress. Focuses on how one's position within social hierarchies—such as gender, socioeconomic status, race, and sexual orientation—affects psychological and relational health. Students learn how family therapists and counselors address these social contextual factors as part of a recovery-based approach that empowers people within their relationships and social systems. Cross-listing: COUN 604.

MFAM 565. Gestalt Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Principles of Gestalt psychology and therapy; the relationship between the individual and the physical, emotional, societal, and spiritual environment. Group experience that permits the spiritual and affective aspects of Gestalt therapy to be expressed and integrated with systems theory.

MFAM 566. Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy. 2 Units.
Students examine the theory of emotionally focused therapy and concentrate on the work and research of Susan Johnson.
MFAM 614. Law and Ethics. 3 Units.
Examines laws pertaining to the family: child welfare, separation, divorce, and financial aspects of family maintenance. Case management, referral procedures, professional and client interaction, ethical practices (AAMFT, ACA, BBS), ethical relations with other professions, legal responsibilities, abilities, and confidentiality. Current legal patterns and trends in the mental health profession. Exploration between the practitioner's sense of self and.

MFAM 615. Reflective Practice. 2 Units.
Develops narrative-therapy ideas and emphasizes a reflective process in both therapy and research. Focuses on developing the student's skills as an active agent in therapy and research. Prerequisite: MFAM 555.

MFAM 616. Cognitive Assessment. 4 Units.
Reviews major psychometric instruments in the area of intelligence; verbal and nonverbal skills; academic, motoric, and adaptive behavior skills. Supervised administration, scoring, and report preparation.

MFAM 617. Personality and Behavior Testing. 4 Units.
Introduces administration and interpretation of standard nonprojective instruments and personality/behavior inventories that function primarily in the assessment of children and adolescents. Offers some application to adults but focuses primarily on testing minors. In addition to scoring and evaluation of test protocols, facilitates the writing of an integrated clinical report based on instruments designed to measure personality or behavioral components of the person's functioning. Initial practice on all the instruments considered part of the laboratory component of the course. Students expected to have field activity where, at a clinical site, they complete a test protocol on identified subjects. Requires further supervision in the administration, scoring, and interpretation of these instruments for chartering as a psychologist in Alberta. Course meets the instructional requirements for personality and behavioral assessment of individuals.

MFAM 624. Individual and Systems Assessment. 3 Units.
Applies psychological testing methods in the diagnostic assessment of individual, family, and group behavioral dynamics as encountered in marriage and family counseling. Observations and/or laboratory experience.

MFAM 635. Case Presentation Seminar and Legal Issues. 3 Units.
Clinical trainees normally present ongoing individual, marital, and family cases. Requires completion of an epistemology paper that demonstrates a systems approach. Students' presentations must demonstrate an understanding of legal, ethical, cultural, SES, spiritual, and developmental issues. Students required to discuss how their cases support consumer advocacy, as well as collaboration with other mental health practitioners. Examines the recovery process in relation to selected epistemology. Covers legal and ethical issues for marriage and family therapist. Limited to students enrolled in clinical training. Students receive an IP while case criteria are being met.

MFAM 636. Case Presentation Seminar and Client-Centered Advocacy. 3 Units.
Examines the recovery process in relation to case write-ups. Clinical trainees formally present ongoing individual, marital, and family cases—discussing how cases support consumer advocacy, as well as collaboration with other mental health practitioners. Requires an in-depth case write-up on a couple or family that demonstrates an understanding of legal, ethical, cultural, SES, spiritual, client-centered advocacy, recovery model, disability act and services, and developmental issues. Students rehearse their final oral case in group. Limited to students enrolled in clinical training. Students receive an IP grade until case criteria are met.

MFAM 637. Case Presentation Seminar and Global Practices. 3 Units.
Student presents a final clinical case to a panel. Selected couple/family case required to be relational and demonstrate selected core competencies supported by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). Students provide videotapes of a couple/family case, an epistemology paper, a case write-up; and discuss a case vignette before a panel of three MFT clinical experts. Final case presentation demonstrates an understanding of legal, ethical, cultural, SES, spiritual, the recovery process, and developmental issues. Students learn how marriage and family therapists practice worldwide and develop a deeper understanding of global practices. Requires trainees to discuss how their relational case supports consumer advocacy, as well as collaboration with other mental health practitioners. Students receive an IP until course criteria are met.

MFAM 638. Family Therapy and Chemical Abuse. 3 Units.
Examines current theories of etiology of substance use disorders and the effects of psychoactive drug use. Emphasizes assessment and evaluation strategies; impact on mental, biological, relational, and community systems; evidence-based prevention and treatment approaches within a recovery process orientation. Explores issues of regional multicultural competence, human diversity, and access to care.

MFAM 639. Interdisciplinary Professional Seminar. 1 Unit.
Designed from different mental health disciplines to orient the student to the arena of professional issues regarding family counseling.

MFAM 644. Child Abuse and Family Violence. 3 Units.
Definition and incidence of physical and emotional abuse, neglect, sexual molestation, dynamics of family violence; offender and nonoffender characteristics. Treatment of children, adolescents, the family and adults abused as children. Treatment modalities, including individual, group, and family therapy. Ethical and legal issues, community resources, multidisciplinary approach to child abuse, assessment, interview techniques, and confidentiality. Examines how cultural, SES, poverty and/or social stress impacts a family's mental health and recovery. Minimum of thirty contact hours. Cross-listing: COUN 644.

MFAM 645. Advanced Substance Abuse-Treatment Strategies. 3 Units.
Presents information about addictions treatment for adults, adolescents, families, groups, and those with multiple diagnoses. Prerequisite: MFAM 638.

MFAM 651. AAMFT-Approved Supervisor Training. 3 Units.
Postgraduate: The didactic component requirement for AAMFT-approved supervisor designation.

MFAM 658. Reality Theory and Family Therapy. 2 Units.
A clinically oriented seminar where students learn the theory of reality therapy and how to integrate it into the practice of marriage and family therapy. Emphasizes practice and therapeutic skills in using reality therapy with clients.

MFAM 659. Current Trends. 2 Units.
Acquaints students with the field of health-care management by analyzing the important areas about which the manager should be concerned. In addition to the basic functions of health-care manager—planning, organizing, directing, and controlling—emphasizes growing concerns regarding external environmental changes, rising health-care costs, emergence of new types of health-care providers, medical and legal issues, and quality assurance.
MFAM 664. Experiential Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Examines various experiential family theories. Laboratory experience included.

MFAM 665. Structural and Multidimensional Family Therapy. 2 Units.
Enhances observational, conceptual, planning, and intervention skills. Increases ability to understand verbal and nonverbal communication and evidence-based family therapies. Broadens understanding of structural and multidimensional family therapy.

MFAM 670. Seminar in Sex Therapy. 2 Units.
Discusses major male and female sexual dysfunctions. Therapeutic processes of treatment. Prerequisite: MFAM 674.

MFAM 674. Human Sexual Behavior. 3 Units.
Sexuality in contemporary society from the sociopsychological viewpoint. Anatomy and physiology of human sexuality: reproduction, normal and abnormal sexual response, psychosexual development, human fertility, human sexual dysfunction. Integrates systems theory. A minimum of thirty contact hours.

MFAM 675. Clinical Problems in Marriage and Family Therapy. 1,2 Unit.
Sexuality in contemporary society from the sociopsychological viewpoint. Anatomy and physiology of human sexuality: reproduction, normal and abnormal sexual response, psychosexual development, human fertility, human sexual dysfunction. Integrates systems theory. A minimum of thirty contact hours.

MFAM 679. Universal Psychiatric Care. 1,2 Unit.
Provides opportunity to participate in an international institute featuring world leaders in psychiatric care. Topics include: world diagnostic guidelines, psychotropic medications and issues in treating ethnic populations, spirituality and psychiatry, transpersonal psychiatry in theory and practice, multidisciplinary teams in the practice of mental health services, and problems of mental health in immigrant populations. Students registering for 1 unit participate in ten hours of lecture, including a pre- and postsession. Those taking 2 units also develop a major paper on one of the institute topics.

MFAM 694. Directed Study: Marriage and Family. 1-4 Units.
Individual study in areas of special interest concerning the family and its problems. May be repeated for credit at the discretion of the faculty.

MFAM 695. Research Problems: Marriage and Family. 1-4 Units.
Directed research in the student's special field of interest in the family. Prerequisite: MFAM 501; or concurrent registration with consent of the coordinator.

MFAM 697. Project. 1 Unit.
Student submits a written modality paper and a case description, and makes a videotape presentation of a final case project to a three-member committee selected by the student. Oral response to a case vignette required. Prerequisite: Advancement to candidacy.

MFAM 704. Marital and Family Therapy State Board Written Examination Review. 2 Units.
Training for candidates preparing to take the written examination for MFT licensure.

MFAM 705. Marital and Family Therapy State Board Oral Examination Review. 2 Units.
Provides training to candidates preparing to take the oral examination for MFT licensure.

MFAM 731. Clinical Training. 6 Units.
For MFT students beginning their clinical training. An IP grade will be assigned until student completes 200 hours at an approved site.

MFAM 732. Clinical Training. 9 Units.
For students who have completed MFAM 731 and are at an approved clinical site. Students register for 9 units and receive an IP grade until 500 hours or five consecutive quarters have been completed.

MFAM 734. Professional Clinical Training. 1.5,3 Unit.
Supervised clinical counseling of individuals, couples, families, and children. At least one hour of individual supervision per week and two hours of case presentation seminar per week. Continuous registration for this portion of the clinical training until completion of at least fifty clock hours.

MFAM 734A. Professional Clinical Training. 1.5-6 Units.
Supervised clinical counseling of individuals, couples, families, and children. At least one hour of individual supervision per week and two hours of case-presentation seminar per week. Continuous registration for this portion of the clinical training until completion of at least 300 clock hours.

MFAM 744. Clinical Internship. 1 Unit.
Supervised clinical counseling of individuals, couples, families, and children. One hour of individual supervision per week. Postgraduates only. Approved by internship coordinator.