

**Master of Arts
Marriage and Family Therapy**

Mission

The Marriage and Family Therapy Program (MFT) develops multiculturally-informed, ethically competent therapists, grounded in Christian principles, to join with families in identifying life challenges, empowering the restoration of broken bonds, and cultivating healthy and satisfying relationships.

Program Goals

Upon completion of the MA in MFT degree, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate essential knowledge (1) of systemic theory and the principles of marriage and family therapy, (2) related to clinical case conceptualization, diagnosis, intervention, and the use of community mental health resources and, (3) to write and articulate their personal theoretical model for therapy. (Knowledge)
2. Demonstrate skills that reflect high standards of professionalism and commitment to ethical and professional behavior consistent with the standards of marriage and family therapy and Christian principles. (Professionalism)
3. Demonstrate clinical skill and the ability to apply effective therapeutic techniques to meet the diverse needs of individuals, couples, and families. (Clinical)
4. Conduct and evaluate research to ensure high standards of therapeutic application and contribute to the field of marriage and family therapy. (Research)

**Core Educational Outcomes (Program Goals)
MFT Program Goals and Student Learning Outcomes**

Graduates of the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in marriage and family therapy are prepared to:

Program Goal 1. Knowledge: Students will be able to demonstrate essential knowledge (1) of systemic theory and the principles of marriage and family therapy, (2) related to clinical case conceptualization, diagnosis, intervention, and the use of community mental health resources and, (3) to write and articulate their personal theoretical model for therapy.

Student Learning Outcome 1.1: Students articulate a theoretical and conceptual systems framework and personal therapeutic approach for marital and family issues.

Student Learning Outcome 1.2: Students demonstrate knowledge and application of key concepts related to systems thinking, contextual factors, human

development, psychological, social, biological, and spiritual factors affecting human relationships.

Student Learning Outcome 1.3: Students demonstrate awareness of issues of diversity and practice multiculturally-informed family therapy.

Program Goal 2. Professionalism: Students will be able to demonstrate skills that reflect high standards of professionalism and commitment to ethical and professional behavior consistent with the standards of marriage and family therapy and Christian principles.

Student Learning Outcome 2.1: Student will demonstrate personal qualities and behaviors including integrity, sensitivity, flexibility, insight, compassion, and personal presence consistent with the practice of marriage and family therapy.

Student Learning Outcome 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of ethical and legal standards in marriage and family therapy.

Student Learning Outcomes 2.3: Students will contribute to the global community through community service to underserved and marginalized communities.

Program Goal 3. Clinical: Students will be able to demonstrate clinical skill and the ability to apply effective therapeutic techniques to meet the diverse needs of individuals, couples, and families.

Student Learning Outcome 3.1: Students will use appropriate clinical and family systems-oriented language in oral and written communication.

Student Learning Outcome 3.2: Students will identify and incorporate into treatment psychological, biological, social, and spiritual factors that influence relationships.

Student Learning Outcome 3.3: Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the value of multicultural perspectives and its impact on the therapeutic process.

Student Learning Outcome 3.4: Students will be able to identify and apply Christian principles to the practice of marriage and family therapy.

Program Goal 4. Research: Students will be able to conduct and evaluate research to ensure high standards of therapeutic application and contribute to the field of marriage and family therapy.

Student Learning Outcome 4.1: Students will demonstrate knowledge of current trends and research methods in the field of marriage and family therapy.

Student Learning Outcome 4.2: Students will conduct and critique research that directly impacts the practice of marriage and family therapy.