

Program Goals & Outcomes

The MFT program faculty has designed its academic curriculum, clinical experiences, and elements of its program to meet the standards of the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), the specialized accrediting body of the MFT profession. The MFT program initiated and received accreditation from COAMFTE in the Spring of 2016 and was re-accredited in 2023, thus, meeting the highest standards in the MFT field.

COAMFTE requires MFT programs to create program goals and student learning outcomes that describe broad aspirations for the program and its students and graduates. Program goals are clearly derived from the program's mission and promote the development of marriage and family therapists (including knowledge, practice, diversity, research, and ethics competencies). Measurable student learning outcomes for each program goal set standards of student and graduate achievement that are appropriate to the program's mission and serve as targets and benchmarks for the program.

Program Goal 1

To prepare students for MFT licensure and a sustainable career as marriage and family therapists.

Student Learning Outcome 1.1

90% of students will become student members of AAMFT by the end of their first semester in the program as demonstrated by proof of AAMFT membership submitted to the program secretary.

Student Learning Outcome 1.2

80% of students will score 132 or higher on a simulated licensure exam in their final semester of the program.

Student Learning Outcome 1.3

80% of students will earn 500 face-to-face client contact hours including 200 relational hours by the end of their sixth term in the program.

Student Learning Outcome 1.4

80% of admitted students will graduate from the program within 24 months.

Program Goal 2

To cultivate a systemic orientation within students that strengthens their identity as marriage and family therapists.

Student Learning Outcome 2.1

80% of students will score an average of 40 or higher on each of their five Theory of Change papers (Practicum-SCP IV).

Student Learning Outcome 2.2

80% of students will demonstrate proficiency in one or more preferred models of therapy as measured by a score 4 or higher on each of Section E. "assumptions of change" and Section F. "interventions" portions of their Theory of Change papers.

Program Goal 3

To equip students for work with clientele from diverse cultural, ideological, and demographic backgrounds.

Student Learning Outcome 3.1

80% of students will demonstrate an understanding of the issues associated with working with diverse clientele by earning 80% or more of points on any exams and written assignments in the Cultural Diversity in MFT course.

Student Learning Outcome 3.2

80% of students will demonstrate appreciation, awareness, and competency regarding cultural diversity issues as demonstrated by scoring an average of 4 or higher on the 5 items within the human diversity section of the clinical evaluation in their final semester.

Student Learning Outcome 3.3

80% of students will demonstrate awareness in how issues such as gender, culture, race, ethnicity, economic status, sexual orientation, religion, and spirituality inform their clinical work with clients by scoring an average 3 out of 4 on the content portion of Section G., "How does cultural diversity inform your theory of change?" on their five theory of change papers.

Program Goal 4

To produce ethical practitioners who are capable of treating mental and emotional disorders, health and behavioral problems, and relationship issues.

Student Learning Outcome 4.1

80% of students will score 80% or higher on an ethics exam using vignettes highlighting ethical issues on a variety of clinical settings.

Student Learning Outcome 4.2

80% of students will score an average of 4 or higher on the legal and ethical issues section of their clinical evaluation in their final semester.

Program Goal 5

To produce practitioners who are capable of scientific evaluation and evidence-based practice and treatment of mental and emotional disorders, health and behavioral problems, and other relationship issues.

Student Learning Outcome 5.1

80% of students will demonstrate their proficiency in using research to guide their practice with clients by earning 80% or more of points on the final assignment in the Research and Statistics course.