The Master’s program in Marriage and Family Therapy at Central Connecticut State University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

This standing expires on May 1, 2021

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Dr. Ralph Cohen
Program Director
Marriage and Family Therapy Program
Department of Counseling & Family Therapy
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1615 Stanley Street
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(860) 832-2122
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or

Contact the Graduate Admissions Office
at
(860) 832-2350 (press ‘1’) for information regarding application procedures and an application packet.
www.ccsu.edu/grad

MFT Program Web Site:
www.ccsu.edu/MFT

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The Master's Program in Marriage and Family Therapy at Central Connecticut State University, conveniently located off major highways in the center of the state, offers both part- and full-time study opportunities for persons interested in pursuing a career in marriage and family therapy. The program is nationally accredited by AAMFT’s Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE).

The MFT program's intensive 51 credit hour core curriculum is designed to provide students with a solid theoretical background as a foundation for intensive clinical training in systemic approaches to human problems. The curriculum leads to a Master of Science (M.S.) in Marriage and Family Therapy, and is designed to meet the academic requirements for Connecticut Licensure for Marital and Family Therapists and AAMFT Clinical Membership. There are 12 credits that are taken as prerequisites, totaling 63 credit hours to complete the program.

Evening and Weekend Cohort Tracks - The program has two options: A flexible evening track that affords students to complete the program on a part-time or full-time basis and a weekend track that permits students who otherwise could not attend the evening program to complete the program on weekends. Admission to each track is separate and students take courses only within their designated tracks.

Clinical placements are available throughout Connecticut and surrounding states. Intensive weekly faculty supervision emphasize the development of effective therapeutic skills to meet the challenges of the new climate in health care service delivery. Emphasis is also placed on the development of the “person of the therapist.” A key theme of the program is respect for diversity of people and lifestyles in families.

The Graduate faculty consists of AAMFT Approved Supervisors and Licensed MFTs who are highly experienced both as teachers and as clinicians in the MFT field. All courses are taught by faculty members who are dedicated to the training of Marriage and Family Therapists. Faculty interests, which are incorporated into the curriculum, include: Use of Action Methods in family therapy, Interpersonal, Family Systems, and the Metaframeworks perspective for understanding and intervening in human systems.

William M. Boylin, Ph.D., LMFT*
Joan Calvert, Ph.D., LMFT*
Noel Castano, MS, PsyD, LMFT
Michelle Cuk, MS, LMFT*
Ralph S. Cohen, Ph.D., LMFT**
Lynn Cromwell, M.S., LMFT
Ingrid Helander, LMFT*
Joyce Hildre, LMFT*
Debbi Knox, MS, LMFT*
Kathleen Laundy, PsyD, LMFT*
Heather McNeil, LMFT*
Tatiana Melendez-Rhodes, Ph.D., LMFT**
Lauren Pedersen, LMFT*
Charlotte Rameur, MS, LMFT*
Anm Sinko, MFT, LMFT
Gail Tomala, MS, Ph.D., LMFT
Jeanne Van Schaack, LMFT
Daniel J. Wiener, Ph.D., LMFT**

* AAMFT Approved Supervisor
** Full-time faculty

** Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization (51 credit hours) - Thesis optional

MFT 541 - Intro to Theories of Family Systems (3)**
MFT 542 - Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in MFT (3)
MFT 543 - The Family Life Cycle (3)
MFT 544 - Families in Context: Gender & Cultural Dimensions (3)
MFT 551 - Structural/Strategic/Behavioral Family Therapies (3)
MFT 552 - Experiential/Intergenerational/Psychodynamic Family Therapies (3)
MFT 554 - Couples Therapy (3)
MFT 555 - Dysfunctional Family Processes (3)
MFT 556 - Systemic Perspectives on Mental Disorders (3)
MFT 557 - Action Methods in MFT (3)
MFT 583 - Marriage & Family Therapy Practicum I (3)
MFT 584 - Marriage & Family Therapy Practicum II (3)
MFT 585 - Marriage & Family Therapy Internship (9)
MFT 598 - Research Methods in MFT (3)

Notes:
* Prerequisites are taken after acceptance into the program; students who have completed equivalent graduate courses with a grade of B or better may have these courses waived.
** MFT 541 is a prerequisite for all other MFT courses and must be taken with the Prerequisite courses.
*** One (1) elective at the 500 level or above of the student’s choosing in consultation with advisor is required.

** CLINICAL TRAINING

The Practicum is a two-semester, 12 hour-per-week supervised clinical placement at a community agency during the Second Year. Students learn basic clinical skills and begin working with clients. Students process their experiences in a small group format with a faculty supervisor.

The Internship is a 12-month, 25-hour-per-week intensive clinical placement following the practicum experience in the Third Year. The Internship allows students to conduct marital and family therapy under supervision of an AAMFT Approved Supervisor. Interns conduct 300 hours of therapy with individuals, couples, and families; 250 hours must be with couples and families. Interns receive a minimum of 100 hours of individual and group supervision with a minimum of 50 hours of supervision using actual clinical material (i.e., live supervision, audio and video tapes) for intensive review.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Admissions to the Master’s program in Marriage and Family Therapy are made on a competitive basis two times per year (Fall and Spring). All applications must be completed and received by March 1 for Fall admission of the following academic year and by November 1 for admission the following Spring semester. Approximately twenty (20) students are accepted per academic semester (Fall and Spring).

The decision to admit a student into the MFT program is based on the candidate's cumulative grade point average (GPA), three recommendations by persons able to judge the candidate’s aptitude for success in the profession, and a personal statement as to the candidate’s personal background and motivation for entering the MFT field (see program website for details).*

The admission standard for this program requires a minimum of 2.70 combined undergraduate and previous graduate GPA (of at least a 3.00 for graduate work) based on a 4.00 point scale where A is 4.00. Students with grade point averages between 2.40 and 2.69 may appeal their denials for admission. Conditional admission may be considered on a space-available basis.

All students who are accepted into the department are initially granted pre-candidacy status and are assigned an academic advisor. The advisor will orient the student regarding prerequisites, course scheduling, potential course transfers and substitutions, and the planned program of study. Pre-candidacy status allows the student to begin taking classes and gives both the program and the student the opportunity to determine if the program is a good "fit" prior to making a full 3-year commitment. Students must meet the conditions of pre-candidacy in order to advance to Degree Candidate status. To qualify for degree candidacy, students must obtain a grade of B or better in each of CNSL 500, CNSL 501, MFT 505 (or PSY 512) and MFT 541. Note that All but MFT 541 are considered "prerequisite", which allows the program to waive these courses for students transferring in from other counseling or MFT programs who have already completed the equivalent courses.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Each applicant’s file will be rank-ordered according to the program’s selection criteria (based on G.P.A., references and personal essay responses). Once the top twenty candidates have been selected, the next five (5) qualified applicants will be placed on a waiting list and may be offered admission in the event that a slot opens during the decision period.

*For additional information, please see the MFT program website:

www.ccsu.edu/MFT