FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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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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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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 flexible 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 full-time options: A flexible evening track with many scheduling options and a weekend cohort track with a fixed schedule 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 emphasizes 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, Internal Family Systems Therapy, and the delivery. Emphasis is also placed on the development of the four-hour internship. The student must complete 200 hours of supervised experience during the practicum experience. The second year, the student must complete 300 hours of supervised experience during the internship experience. The third year, the student must complete 400 hours of supervised experience during the internship experience. The fourth year, the student must complete 500 hours of supervised experience during the internship experience. The student must complete a total of 800 hours of supervised experience during the practicum and internship experiences.

Weekend classes are scheduled to be offered on Friday evenings and all day on Saturdays on an approximately every-other-week basis during the first two years (3 courses per semester, taught sequentially Fall and Spring in Years 1 and 2). All students in a cohort go through the program full-time together as a group.

Courses in the Weekend Cohort Track are taken in the following sequence:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Basic CNSL Skills</td>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>Models/Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CNSL 500*</td>
<td>MFT 505*</td>
<td>MFT 551</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CNSL 501* (6 cr)</td>
<td>or PYS 512*</td>
<td>MFT 552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 credits</td>
<td>MFT 541**</td>
<td>MFT 554</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Research/Action Methods</td>
<td>Family Dysfunction/Assessment/Practicum</td>
<td>Family Processes/Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MFT 588</td>
<td>MFT 583***</td>
<td>MFT 584***</td>
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<td>MFT 557</td>
<td>MFT 555</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Internship</td>
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<td>Internship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MFT 585****</td>
<td>MFT 585****</td>
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<td>Elective T</td>
<td>Capstone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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** Notes:**
*Program prerequisites taken after admission; can be waived if have equivalent graduate-level courses with grade of B or better
** MFT 541 is a prerequisite for all other MFT courses and must be taken with the Prerequisite courses.
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**** Weekly throughout semester – 12-hour placement, 1.5 hour seminar per week.
***** Weekly throughout semester – 20 – 25 hours/week placement; 2.5 hours/week Supervision

** Required elective - any graduate-level course with consultation with advisor. May be taken anytime during program.

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 an 12-hour, 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 500 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.

NOTE: Students enrolled in the Weekend Cohort Track should expect to participate in their practicum and internship during the work week (day and/or evening, as most clinical placements operate during

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Admissions to the Weekend Cohort Track of the Master’s program in Marriage and Family Therapy are made on a competitive basis once per year (Summer). All applications must be completed and received by May 1. Approximately twenty (20) students are accepted per cohort.

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 (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 PYS 512) and MFT 541. Note that all but MFT 541 are considered to be “program prerequisites”, which allows the program to waive these courses for students transferring in from other counseling or MFT programs who already have completed the equivalent courses.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process includes filling out the university graduate application, submitting all undergraduate and graduate transcripts to date and an application fee. Please go to www.ccsu.grad for access to the on-line application form and detailed instructions.

In addition, the program requires an essay and three letters of recommendation, to be submitted directly to the program. The instructions and forms for the letters of recommendation can be found at www.ccsu.edu/mft and are to be sent to MFT Program, CCSU, Department of Counselor Education and Family Therapy, 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050-4010. They can also be e-mailed to Marian Rosario at marian.rosario@ccsu.edu.

Admission procedures, including the application process and requirements, can be found on the CCSU website. Students are encouraged to review the program website for detailed information.