

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PHD

Contact

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Program Description

The 72-credit doctoral program in Marriage and Family Therapy at Syracuse University seeks to prepare scholars who will advance research, theory, and teaching in the field of marriage and family therapy. Students are prepared primarily for research, teaching, and supervisory positions in graduate degree-granting institutions, training institutes, and health care settings. The program builds upon a clinical master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy, and is designed to provide students with an understanding of advanced theory in marriage and family therapy with expertise in process and outcome research methodology in marriage and family therapy.

Accreditation

The Doctoral Program in Marriage and Family Therapy is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)

Admission

A completed master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy, or the equivalent, is required. GRE's are required for all students applying to the PH.D. program. An admissions committee consisting of MFT faculty members will consider requests for admission to the program.

Doctoral Degree Requirements

The Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy requires 72 credits. Students are allowed to transfer up to 33 credit hours from an M.A. in MFT or equivalent¹. Additional requirements include 12 credits of advanced theory and practice; 12 credits of advanced research methodology; 3 credits of elective; 6 credits of advanced practicum; and 6 credits of dissertation. Some research courses have prerequisite knowledge requirements that may need to be met by taking a statistics course as the elective (e.g., HFS 621 Statistical Concepts I). Requirements also include a 9-month clinical internship and satisfactory completion of the doctoral qualifying examination and the doctoral dissertation and related oral examination.

¹ If during the admissions review process it is found a student lacks certain content areas that may not be fully satisfied by the doctoral program (such as ethics), those students would be required to complete additional coursework above and beyond their master's coursework.

Transfer Credit

Up to 33 credits may be transferred from an accredited master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy (or its equivalent).

Financial Support

Assistantships are offered for four years and cover the credits required for degree completion. If 33 credits from an M.A./M.S. in MFT or equivalent are transferred in, then this would be equal to 39 scholarship credits.

Funding is dependent on satisfactory standing in the program as determined by the faculty through annual reviews of academic performance and scholarship. Annual reviews are completed at the end of summer semester each year.

Additional information regarding graduate financial aid can be found at <https://graduateadmissions.syr.edu/funding/> (<https://financialaid.syr.edu/typesofaid/graduatestudentaid/>)

Part-Time Study

Part-time students are not admitted into the PhD program.

Satisfactory Progress

Per University Rules and Regulations, graduate students must earn a minimum average of 3.0 for work comprising the program for the degree or certificate and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate competence in theory building
2. Students will demonstrate research competence
3. Students will demonstrate supervisory competence
4. Students will demonstrate professional teaching competence (at least one)
5. Students will demonstrate ethical clinical competence
6. Students will demonstrate awareness and engagement with cultural and contextual difference

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Advanced Theory and Practice		
Select four courses (12 credits) from the following:		12
MFT 773	Family Violence: Theory and Therapy	
MFT 777	Family Perspectives on Gender Roles and Socialization: Theory & Therapy	
MFT 778	Loss Across the Life Cycle: Family Theory and Therapy	
MFT 861	Supervision in Marriage and Family Therapy	
MFT 862	Advanced Family Therapy with Children and Adolescents	
MFT 863	Advanced Couple Therapy	
MFT 865	Advanced Family Therapy Theory	
MFT 875	Cultural Diversity: Family Theory and Therapy	
Advanced Research Methodology		
HFS 622	Statistical Concepts II	3
HFS 732	Research Methods/CFS II	3
MFT 882	Assessment and Research Methods in Marriage and Family Therapy	3
MFT 885	Qualitative Research Methods in Family Therapy (must take prior to, or concurrently with MFT 882)	3
Electives		

Complete 3 credits of Electives.	3
Advanced Practicum	
MFT 860 Advanced Family Therapy Practicum	6
Masters Courses (Transferred) (Maximum)	
Complete 33 credits.	33
Internship	
(1,000 Hours of client contact)	
MFT 960 Internship in Marriage and Family Therapy	0
Dissertation	
MFT 999 Dissertation	6
Total Credits	72

Up to 33 credits may be transferred from an accredited master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy (or its equivalent) (*see note below).