

The Master of Science in Counseling degree program with a specialization in Marriage, Family and Child Therapy provides the required knowledge and skills for students to become competent and ethical practitioners. The MSC/MFCT specialization provides a needed service to the community through collaboration with agencies and institutions and their personnel and through the provision of continuing counselor education and programming. Students are involved in a variety of educational and clinical activities that prepare them to help their clients to achieve their potential. The program encompasses foundations of counseling and guidance including theories and their application with groups and individuals; assessment and evaluation; counseling and consultative relationships; career planning for students; and program development, implementation, and evaluation. The program addresses critical issues facing counselors and offers supervised clinical experiences. (54 credits)

**CNSL 502 Graduate Portfolio I**

Portfolio I is an admission assessment that samples and evaluates the student’s cognitive, affective, and behavioral skills in critical areas of the learning and practice of counseling. Portfolio I is a six-workshop, 24-hour, noncredit assessment that helps determine student appropriateness for the program. The purpose of the assessment process is twofold: 1) to help the potential student evaluate his or her aptitude for the counseling program, and 2) to objectively evaluate the candidate’s readiness for admission. Portfolio I must be passed before a student may be admitted to any Master of Science in Counseling program. (0 credits)

**CNSL 504 Life Span and Family Development**

This course presents students with theoretical frameworks to foster an understanding of the various dimensions of human development. Emphasis is placed on biological, cognitive, and psychosocial development within the context of gender, family systems, social roles, and culture. Students evaluate clinical situations and assess potential therapeutic interventions in context. (3 credits)

**CNSL 506 Personality Theories and Counseling Models**

This course enables students to differentiate among the primary theoretical models of personality theory and counseling practice, such as psychodynamic, affective, cognitive-behavioral, and systems. Emphasis is on the importance of students recognizing belief systems that accurately reflect their own personal style and to recognize strategies and approaches likely to be most successful with a particular client population. Students have opportunities to establish a strong theoretical foundation as the basis of clinical practice and to evaluate and assess clinical situations for implementation of therapeutic interventions that are gender- and culturally-appropriate. (3 credits)

The U.S. Department of Education requires the University to provide the following information about each of our programs that lead to gainful employment in a recognized profession.

15% of students who completed this program during the most recent federal award year did so within normal time.<sup>1</sup>

**Related occupations<sup>2</sup>**

**Marriage and Family Therapists #21-1013.00**

Program costs <sup>3</sup>		Median graduate debt <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Tuition and fees</b>	\$26,145 to \$42,245	<b>Federal</b>	\$53,789
Includes cost per credit, application fee, and fees for resources (books/eResources) for students completing the program in normal time.		<b>Private</b>	\$0
		<b>Institutional</b>	\$0

<sup>1</sup> The on-time completion rate identifies the percentage of students completing this program during the most recent federal award year who completed it within “normal time.” The term “normal time” means the length of time it would take a student to complete this program if the student is continuously enrolled, takes one course at a time, and successfully completes each attempted course. Students enrolled in this degree program are typically nontraditional students. Students may exceed “normal time” for a variety of reasons, including, but not limited to, internships, practicums, clinical rotations, student teaching or administrator experiences required for licensure.

<sup>2</sup> Graduates of this program will be educationally qualified to enter the occupations listed. Visit onetonline.org for job descriptions.

<sup>3</sup> The range provided represents the sum of tuition and typical fees required to complete the program within normal time, based on the University’s 2011/2012 tuition levels. The actual costs that will be incurred by a particular student to complete this program will depend upon factors specific to that student. Tuition rates for this program may vary due to factors such as: (i) geographic location of the student; (ii) modality of coursework; (iii) military service; and (iv) future changes in tuition rates. The number of credits required for a particular student to complete the program will be dependent upon various factors, including: (i) transfer credits available; (ii) repeated coursework; and (iii) completion of additional specializations within this program. Please contact an Enrollment Advisor for additional information.

<sup>4</sup> The figure represents the median amount of debt incurred by students who completed the program during the relevant federal award year. The actual amount of debt a particular student will incur to complete this program is dependent on various factors specific to the student. Please contact an Enrollment Advisor for additional information.

# Master of Science in Counseling/ Marriage, Family and Child Therapy

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## **CNSL 526 Introduction to Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis**

This course introduces students to models and tools for assessment and diagnosis for the purpose of developing competency in evaluation and treatment planning for professional counseling practice. Students learn and practice intake assessment techniques, mental status examinations, using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), outcome-based treatment planning, and behavioral analysis. Emphasis is placed on writing clear, accurate, and useful assessments and treatment plans. This course also explores issues and techniques related to couples/families, multicultural considerations and ethics in assessment. (3 credits)

## **CNSL 547 Individual Counseling**

This course provides students with intensive skill building in individual counseling. The relationship between theory, strategy and intervention, setting goals with clients, closure, and referral are included as essential to the counseling environment. Emphasis is also placed on treatment plans, ethics, comprehensive guidance, and cultural diversity. (3 credits)

## **CNSL 561 Group Counseling**

This course provides students with intensive knowledge, awareness, and skill building in group counseling. The content emphasizes such areas as different types of groups, group dynamics, group norms and boundaries, leadership styles, leading and co-leading, and treatment plans. Confidentiality, selection procedures, ethics, and multicultural diversity are included as key components to an effective group counseling practice. (3 credits)

## **MFCC 536 Child Therapy**

This course exposes students to a variety of models in the treatment of children and adolescents, including the developmental variables that may have an effect on behavior and family intervention. Systemic approaches to the treatment of chronic illness, incest, delinquent behavior, adolescent chemical dependency, child suicide, psychosomatic disorders, families in crisis, fire setting, school phobia, and other behavior and learning problems are explored. (3 credits)

## **MFCC 551 Legal and Ethical Issues in Marriage and Family Therapy**

The course emphasizes the legal and ethical responsibilities of the marriage and family counselor. Codes of ethics and laws governing mental health professionals are used to interpret and act upon situations appropriately and effectively. Emphasis is given to principles governing client rights, the duty to warn and protect, dual relationships, and the application of ethics in special situations and with special populations. (3 credits)

## **CNSL 563 Counseling Psychometrics**

The focus of this course is on tests used in counseling and test reports. It emphasizes learning how to integrate testing as an additional tool in counseling. The tests most commonly encountered in the counseling field are identified and reviewed. This course discusses basic descriptive statistics, the psychometric properties of tests, test selection criteria, administration, interpretation, and test-result reporting. (3 credits)

## **CNSL 556 Portfolio II**

Portfolio II assists students in the process of integrating and evaluating their learning in the Master of Science in Counseling Program in both academic and experiential studies. Portfolio II is an assessment process that requires students to draw from and integrate material from previous courses in the program and demonstrates the application of that learning both professionally and personally. Students must successfully pass all areas to move forward in the program. (0 credits)

## **MFCC 556 Family Systems Theory**

This course provides an overview of the development of family systems theory as a discipline and the therapeutic approaches that have emerged. Fundamental assumptions and concepts of general systems theory are introduced and contrasted with individual theories of psychology. The historic development of family systems thinking is explored. Evolving therapeutic models are introduced and contrasted with family systems concepts. In this course, students will explore the major systems theories' approaches to diagnosis, treatment, and change and explore ethnic differences in family patterns and attitudes toward therapy. Critiques of systems theory and research issues are discussed. (3 credits)

## **MFCC561 Family Interventions**

This course introduces fundamental concepts and practices that underlie family therapy in human systems. It teaches an integrative approach to assessment and diagnosis in family therapy with an emphasis on strategies for a wide range of populations and clinical problems. The course will introduce culture-specific interventions used for the treatment of culturally different families. (3 credits)

## **CNSL 573 Critical Analysis in Research**

This course is an overview of the fundamentals of counseling and family therapy research and evaluation, including research methods, statistical analysis, and needs assessment. The goals of the course are to help students understand the difficulty of conducting research in the counseling profession and become critical evaluators of specific research considerations involved in developing a program evaluation. (3 credits)

# Master of Science in Counseling/ Marriage, Family and Child Therapy

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## **CNSL 557 Social and Multicultural Foundations**

This course is designed to be a foundation for understanding diversity among clients in a pluralistic society. Emphasis will be on integrating awareness, knowledge, and skills related to counseling differences and similarities based on the client's age, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliations, gender identification, sexual orientation, physical/mental limitations, social class, etc. (3 credits)

## **CMHC 561 Dependency and Addictions**

This course addresses substance-abuse-dependency concepts and counseling practices. Topics include an overview of dependency theories, major substances of abuse, assessment, diagnosis, treatment modalities, special topics, and working with diverse populations. (3 credits)

## **CMHC 546 Psychopharmacology**

This course examines the history, biochemistry, main effects and side effects of prescription psychotropic medication. The goal of the course is to learn to work with clients who are taking psychotropic medication and monitor them for side effects and contraindications. Ethics and methods of working with medical personnel are included. (3 credits)

## **CMHC 551 Human Sexuality and Sex Therapy**

The goal of this course is to learn about the many facets of human sexuality and the treatment of sexual dysfunctions in a safe and respectful environment. Topics include the physiology, psychology, and sociology of sexuality, including the effects of sexual attitudes and functioning on individuals and families. Clinical applications, including the treatment of sexual difficulty and dysfunction will also be explored. Students will develop familiarity with the language and terms of sexology and demonstrate an ability to apply this knowledge to clinical situations. (3 credits)

## **MFCC 566 Advanced Marriage and Family Therapy**

This course requires students to apply marriage and family therapy theories and skills acquired throughout the program and allows them to gain a deeper understanding of working with diverse families and those with special needs. Students will go through the process of working with a family, in role-play, from intake to termination, and will incorporate practical applications of assessment, treatment planning, therapeutic interventions, progress notes, and termination summaries. Therapeutic interventions for the complex families of today will be emphasized, including interventions for families in acute and chronic crisis, and for various ethnic family systems. (3 credits)

## **MFCC 597A Internship**

This course is the first component of a 300-hour (minimum) clinical experience divided into two fifteen-week parts (A and B), and comprises Portfolio III of the counseling portfolio series. Student interns are placed in an approved mental health site and receive supervision from an approved site supervisor. In addition, interns meet weekly with their faculty supervisors and internship groups to review their clinical work and to receive instruction and share information on related professional issues, including the role and function of supervision, clinical intakes, terminations, case notes, case presentations, and services offered by their internship sites. Interns will also evaluate their growth through the internship and develop a professional resumé. (3 credits)

## **MFCC 597B Internship**

This course is the second component of a 300-hour (minimum) clinical experience divided into two fifteen-week parts (A and B), and comprises Portfolio III of the counseling portfolio series. Student interns are placed in an approved mental health site and receive supervision from an approved site supervisor. In addition, interns meet weekly with their faculty supervisors and internship groups to review their clinical work and to receive instruction and share information on related professional issues, including the role and function of supervision, clinical intakes, terminations, case notes, case presentations, and services offered by their internship sites. Interns will also evaluate their growth through the internship and develop a professional resumé. (3 credits)