



Online Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Child and Adolescent Therapy Concentration

60 Credit Hours

Admission Requirements:

- Completed application and application fee
- Official transcripts from accredited undergraduate degree
- Overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Three letters of recommendation
- Written purpose statement
- A video conference interview with the program director may be requested
- Apart from students living overseas on military bases, all applicants must reside in the United States to complete the required internship

Cost:

- Per Credit: \$799
- Per Internship Credit: \$470
- Resource Fee: \$200 in each enrollment term (enrollment under 3 hours is exempt from resource fees)
- Total Tuition: \$47,192*

*Total tuition varies based on state-by-state internship requirements.



Graduation Requirements:

Students must earn a 3.0 GPA or higher to meet graduation requirements.

Job Outlook in Texas:



4,800 Jobs
Open in 2020*



3,689
Unique Postings (9/16-12/21)



\$36,900 per year
Median Earnings

*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Bachelor's degree. Source Emsi Analyst 2022.

Acquired Skills:

Top Hard Skills

- Social Work
- Psychology
- Mental Health
- Family Therapy

Top Common Skills

- Communications
- Planning
- Coordinating
- Management

Restricted States

Students who reside in California will not be admitted to ACU's online MFT program due to restrictions from state licensure organizations.

Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Child and Adolescent Therapy Concentration



Core Curriculum:

MFTO 601: Pre-Internship

Combined practicum and lecture format. Students gain counseling experience through role-playing with each other. Emphasis is placed on basic counseling skills as well as awareness of students' own family of origin.

MFTO 610: Couples Therapy

An introduction to the theories and techniques of marriage and family therapy as applied to the work of those persons who deal primarily with couples.

MFTO 615: Research Methods in Family Therapy

This course will introduce students to both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies utilized in marriage and family therapy research. Students will critique the use of these methodologies and engage in making research decisions as they design their own research proposal. Students will understand ethical issues in conducting research with human subjects and be introduced to data analysis procedures.

MFTO 622: Systemic Play Therapy

An introduction to systemic play therapy.

MFTO 624: Family Therapy with Children and Adolescents

Survey of systemic approaches and techniques for child and adolescent problems with an emphasis on empirically supported theories.

MFTO 628: Assessment and Treatment of Childhood and Adolescent Disorders

A study of childhood and adolescent psychopathology, with an emphasis on diagnosis and assessment informed by a biopsychosocial-spiritual paradigm.

MFTO 634: Addictive Disorders

This course will address the spectrum of addictive disorders from a systemic perspective with a focus on the biological, social, spiritual, and psychological aspects of the addictive process. Diagnosis and treatment strategies will be considered through a systemic lens.

MFTO 639: Family Theory

A comprehensive exploration of theory in family studies and therapy. The role of theory in empirical investigation, conceptual framework, and strategies of theory building useful in the interdisciplinary study of marriage and family behavior will be examined.

MFTO 641: Family Therapy I

A study of supportive counseling principles and methodology in the area of functional family problems and needs. A systems approach will be utilized.

MFTO 643: Professional Ethics and the Law

A survey of the professional ethics and laws relative to the practice of marriage and family therapy.

MFTO 645: Systemic Diagnosis & Assessment

This course is a study of psychopathology, diagnosis, and assessment in a biopsychosocial-spiritual context. Students will learn how to use the DSM and assessment instruments in diagnosing and assessing psychopathology, as well as learning systemic ways of assessment in individual, couple, and family contexts.

MFTO 651: Sexual Therapy

The Christian-oriented implementation of contemporary sexual therapy in formal and informal settings.

MFTO 661: Family Therapy II

Intense exposure to at least three currently-practiced modalities of Family Therapy.

MFTO 662: Family Life Cycle

Equipping the marriage and family student with an understanding of how to integrate the individual, marital and family developmental cycles into clinical case conceptualization, diagnosis and treatment.

MFTO 663: Cultural Diversity in Family Therapy

This experiential course will explore areas of cultural diversity relevant to gender, ethnicity, and class in psychotherapy practice, with an emphasis on developing cultural competence, sensitivity, and awareness. Other dimensions of diversity may be covered to a lesser extent.

MFTO: 697 Ecology of Crisis & Trauma for the Therapist

A study of the interrelationship between systemic explanations of trauma and crisis and how they impact the psychotherapeutic practice and world view of the therapist.

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MFTO 647: Spirituality in Marriage and Family Therapy

Students will consider self-of-the-therapist issues and examine their spiritual journey, understand several faith traditions, and learn to incorporate faith into the therapeutic process in an ethical manner.

MFTO 651: Sexual Therapy

The Christian-oriented implementation of contemporary sexual therapy in formal and informal settings.

MFTO 661: Family Therapy II

Intense exposure to at least three currently-practiced modalities of Family Therapy.

MFTO 662: Family Life Cycle

Equipping the marriage and family student with an understanding of how to integrate the individual, marital and family developmental cycles into clinical case conceptualization, diagnosis and treatment.

MFTO 663: Cultural Diversity in Family Therapy

This experiential course will explore areas of cultural diversity relevant to gender, ethnicity, and class in psychotherapy practice, with an emphasis on developing cultural competence, sensitivity, and awareness. Other dimensions of diversity may be covered to a lesser extent.

MFTO 665: Family Therapy across the Life Cycle

Individual and family developmental stages with therapy skills emphasis for families, children, youth, and older adults.

MFTO: 697 Ecology of Crisis & Trauma for the Therapist

A study of the interrelationship between systemic explanations of trauma and crisis and how they impact the psychotherapeutic practice and world view of the therapist.

ELECTIVE

MFTO 616: Life Planning and Career Development

Students will learn and critically evaluate major career counseling theories. The social contexts of career development will be examined, and students will learn to integrate career counseling with psychotherapy. Students will learn to design, deliver, and evaluate comprehensive guidance programs.

ELECTIVE

MFTO 635: Group Psychotherapy

This course serves as an introduction to group psychotherapy as an effective therapeutic tool. The focus of the course is comprised of two main areas: (1) group formation, group dynamics, and group psychotherapy theories and principles, and (2) the development and role of the group psychotherapist him/herself. Topics such as spirituality, ethics, diversity, self-of-therapist issues, leadership, and theoretical frameworks for facilitating group psychotherapy will be presented.

Master of Marriage and Family Therapy



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Online Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Medical Family Therapy Concentration

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Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Medical Family Therapy Concentration



Core Curriculum:

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MFTO 610: Couples Therapy

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A study of supportive counseling principles and methodology in the area of functional family problems and needs. A systems approach will be utilized.

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Intense exposure to at least three currently-practiced modalities of Family Therapy.

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MFTO 643: Professional Ethics and the Law

A survey of the professional ethics and laws relative to the practice of marriage and family therapy.

MFTO 615: Research Methods in Family Therapy

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MFTO 601: Pre-Internship

Combined practicum and lecture format. Students gain counseling experience through role-playing with each other. Emphasis is placed on basic counseling skills as well as awareness of students' own family of origin.

MFTO 670: Introduction to Medical Family Therapy

This course consists of an introduction to the field of medical family therapy including a review of its history of development, current practice and research, an overview of medical terminology, and social trends and public policy that impact the practice of medical family therapy.

MFTO 671: Medical Family Therapy Theory, Practice and Research

This course builds on the foundation of MFT theories and explores the theoretical foundations of Medical Family Therapy and collaborative healthcare. Models of Medical Family Therapy are presented, and students are expected to demonstrate conceptual understanding of each. Emphasis is on an understanding of the biopsychosocial-spiritual model.

MFTO 675: Interventions in Medical Family Therapy

This course will focus on specific interventions utilized in the practice of medical family therapy including those that emphasize the mind-body-spirit connection. Emphasis will be given to establishing successful collaborative working relationships with others in the treatment system, including doctors, nurses, social workers, and psychiatrists.

MFTO 697: Ecology of Crisis and Trauma for the Therapist

This course is designed to explore crisis theory and trauma. Emphasis will be placed upon the influence of crisis and trauma to the family system. The therapist's spiritual praxis and vocation will be examined.

MFTO 602: Internship I

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Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Medical Family Therapy Concentration

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Online Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Therapy with Military Families Concentration

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2026-2027 Academic Year

Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Therapy with Military Families Concentration



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MFTO 663: Cultural Diversity in Family Therapy

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MFTO 682 Dynamics of Military Families

A survey of the life cycle and other nodal events common to military families.

MFTO 684 Family Therapy with Military Families

An introduction to the theories and techniques of marriage and family therapy as applied to the work of those persons who deal primarily with military families.

MFTO 657 Assessment and Treatment of Family Violence

A study of family violence with an emphasis on assessment and treatment informed by a biopsychosocial-spiritual paradigm.

MFTO 697: Ecology of Trauma and Crisis for the Therapist

A study of the interrelationship between systemic explanations of trauma and crisis and how they impact the psychotherapeutic practice and world view of the therapist.

MFTO 602: Internship I

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Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Therapy with Military Families Track



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Online Master of Marriage and Family Therapy Treatment of Trauma Concentration

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MFTO 630: Trauma Intervention Models

A study of the common interventions used in treating trauma.

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The Christian-oriented implementation of contemporary sexual therapy in formal and informal settings.

MFTO 655: Systemic Trauma and Violence

This course will provide students with a systemic approach to the presence of trauma and violence in relationships. Emphasis will be placed on intimate partner violence and abuse across the life cycle. Issues of spirituality and resiliency will also be explored.

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