Masters Program Overview

The MFT Program is committed to training Marriage and Family Therapists for clinical work in a variety of settings. The program is offered annually at the Hayward Campus and every other year at the Concord Campus.

Degree Requirements

In addition to completing the program’s required course of study, each student’s progress is reviewed quarterly by the program’s faculty. Reviews involve student's academic and clinical progress and appropriate professional behavior.

The Marriage & Family Therapy Profession

If possible, visit and talk to professional Marriage and Family Therapists before applying. Find out what they love about their work. CSUEB promotes ethical practice and encourages active professional participation and engagement.

Marriage & Family Therapy Option

The Master’s in Counseling offered by the Department of Educational Psychology MFT option is designed to meet the requirements of Section 4980.37, 4980.40 and relevant subdivisions of Chapter 13 regarding Marriage and Family Therapy in Business and Professions Code of the State of California. Prospective students are advised to acquire and read the laws governing MFT licensure from the Board of Behavioral Science in Sacramento.

Field work experience is required as part of all Counseling programs. This requirement allows students actual clinical, assessment, and counseling experience under the supervision of department faculty and qualified licensed professionals working in the field.

Marriage & Family Therapy License Preparation

The Department does not issue licenses. Our Counseling Programs is designed to meet the educational requirements for the California State MFT License issued by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. This license requires additional experience beyond degrees, as well as written and oral exams administered by the Board of Behavioral Sciences.

Marriage and Family Therapy License
• 3,000 hours of supervised experience
• Standard Written examination and Written Clinical Vignette examination
Program Overview

Prerequisite Coursework

Applicants must complete the following or equivalent courses prior to admission:

1. Statistics (3 units); STAT 1000
2. Abnormal Psychology (3 units); PSYC 4410
3. Human, child, or adolescent development (3 units); PSYC 4420 OR
4. Learning (3 units); PSYC 4210 OR
5. Personality (3 units); PSYC 4610

Admission Requirements

Students are admitted once annually to commence studies during Fall Quarter. Students are encouraged to attend a program orientation prior to submitting and application. Information about orientation dates and additional program descriptions including a program handbook can be viewed on the Department website.

1. Completion of the prerequisites
2. The University Application (separate application)
3. The Department Application for Admission to the Program
4. Official transcripts; no specific major required; BA/BS must be completed before beginning program
5. Three professional references (1 from a professor)
6. A personal statement
7. Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

Prospective students who submit complete applications will be contacted during spring quarter. Students are admitted into cohorts that begin during fall quarter only.

Information Sessions

Prospective Applicants are invited to attend our information sessions conducted by our Program Coordinators on various dates and times, followed by an open forum after. For more information or questions about the Information Session, contact the Educational Psychology Department or search our website.

Clinical Work and Fieldwork

Marriage and Family Therapists trainees are prepared for clinical work with people who are struggling with both normal life problems and more severe pathologies. We orient trainees to promote resilience and practice strength-based interventions. Coursework training, combined with actual practice in fieldwork and clinical placement sites, prepares Marriage and Family Therapist trainees to work from a relational perspective.

Marriage and Family Therapist trainees begin working in their placement sites during their second year of training. Fieldwork Placement sites are available throughout the Bay area. Students complete their fieldwork training while completing course-related assignments.

Candidates successfully completing the program may apply for an MFT Intern License with the California Board of Behavioral Science; additional hours and an exam are required for licensure. Please refer to www.bbs.ca.gov for additional information.

Program and Course Structure

The M.S. in Counseling with the MFT Option is a full-time, two-year program. Courses are offered in a defined cohort sequence during fall, winter, and spring terms, during the day, evening, and on some weekends.

Cohort

A “cohort” is a group of professionals who enter, move through, and graduate from the program in the same group, at the same time. Cohorts foster learning communities where students and marriage and family therapist trainees support each other.