

**The Master's program in  
Marriage and Family  
Therapy  
at Central Connecticut State  
University  
is accredited by the  
Commission on  
Accreditation for Marriage  
and Family Therapy  
Education of the American  
Association for Marriage  
and Family Therapy. This  
status expires on  
December 31, 2002.**

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Contact Dr. Ralph Cohen  
Program Director**

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**Contact the Graduate Admissions Office  
at  
(860) 832-2350 (press '1')  
for information regarding application  
procedures and an application packet.  
(e-mail [abraham@ccsu.edu](mailto:abraham@ccsu.edu))**

**Web Site:**

**[http://www.ccsu.edu/counselingtherapy/Programs/  
MARRIAGE.htm](http://www.ccsu.edu/counselingtherapy/Programs/MARRIAGE.htm)**

**The  
Master's  
Program  
in  
Marriage &  
Family  
Therapy**

**Department of Health  
& Human Service  
Professions**



## 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 both part- and 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 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.

**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 program also offers a **specialty practicum track in Community Family Therapy**, in collaboration with the City of Hartford.

**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 Metaframeworks perspective for understanding and intervening in human systems.

## PROGRAM OF STUDY

### Prerequisites (12 credit hours)

PSY 512 - Seminar in Developmental Psychology (3)  
CNSL 500 - Dynamics of Group Behavior (3)  
CNSL 501 - Theories & Techniques in Counseling (6)

### Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization (51 credit hours) - Thesis optional

CNSL 504 - Professional Studies in Counseling (3)  
MFT 541 - Intro to Theories of Family Systems (3)\*  
MFT 543 - The Family Life Cycle (3)  
MFT 544 - Families in Context: Gender & Cultural Dimensions (3)  
MFT 551 - Structural/Strategic/Behavioral Family Therapies (3)  
MFT 552 - Experiential/Intergenerational/Psychodynamic Family Therapies (3)  
MFT 554 - Couples Therapy (3)  
MFT 555 - Dysfunctional Family Processes (3)  
MFT 556 - Systemic Perspectives on Mental Disorders (3)  
MFT 557 - Action Methods in MFT (3)  
MFT 583 - Marriage & Family Therapy Practicum I (3)  
MFT 584 - Marriage & Family Therapy Practicum II (3)  
MFT 585 - Marriage & Family Therapy Internship (9)  
PSY 598 - Research Methods (3)  
Elective (3)  
Capstone Project: Case Presentation

\* **Note:** MFT 541 is a prerequisite for all other MFT courses and must be taken with the other prerequisite courses.

## CLINICAL TRAINING

**The Practicum** is a two-semester, 12 hour-per-week supervised clinical placement 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 a 12-month, 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., audio and videotapes) for intensive review.

## ADMISSION PROCEDURES

A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.7 is required for admission to the University and provisional acceptance into the MFT Program. Candidates first apply to the university for provisional acceptance into the program and then must apply directly to the Department of Health and Human Service Professions and the MFT program after completing all prerequisite courses and MFT 541 with a minimum grade of "B" for each course. On completion of the above courses, the candidate will meet with his or her advisor, review progress, determine the acceptability of the student to continue into the program, and complete a planned program of study. The program's formal acceptance process includes: Completion of a the Application for Degree Candidacy form, submission of two letters of reference, and demonstration of satisfactory completion of the necessary prerequisite courses.

In addition to meeting academic criteria, a successful MFT student is expected to be mature, motivated for graduate studies, and invested in the welfare of others. Training in MFT is a process of learning to apply theory to practice and of learning to use oneself as an instrument of change with people who are in distress. The faculty assesses each candidate's adherence to the departmental "Attitudes and Attributes" during the prerequisite courses. This tool assesses a student's values and ability to relate to others. The Attitudes and Attributes forms are reviewed with the student by his or her advisor as part of the Degree Candidacy application process. Meeting with the faculty advisor at this juncture provides an opportunity for frank dialog regarding the student's goals and progress in the program as well as the appropriateness of the student's continuing in the program.