

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I = Information Item¹ R = Advise & Respond²

Course Number _____ or Degree Plan(s) _____ MMFT Online

State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

Admissions requirements for the online MFT program are suggested to be slightly different than the residential program. The suggested changes include not requiring the GRE for online applicants and requiring an interview when requested by the Program Director. Rather, students in the online program will experience a more rigorous Clinical Readiness Assessment after the first five courses in the program are completed. This is described in an attached document and will be included in the program handbook. For the time being, the GRE and interview will continue to be required for the residential program because we are differentiating the residential program as preparation for doctoral work.

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

		COUNCIL'								
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I				I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I				I	I
3.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I				A	A
4.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A				A	A
5.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I				I	I
6.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A				A	A
7.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I				I	I
8.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A	--				A	I
9.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A				A	A
10.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A				A	A
11.	Department of record	A	A	A	A				A	A
12.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A				A	A
13.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s).	A	A	A	A				A	A

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature of the issue.

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		COUNCIL ³							Board of Trustees
		Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	
Change to a Degree Plan									
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	--
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	A
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A		A		A	A
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A		A		A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A		A		A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A		A		A	A
8.	Major — Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A		A		A	A
9.	Major — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.							
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A		A		A	A
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A		I		I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A		A		A	--
13.	Minor — Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A		A		A	--
14.	Minor — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.							
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A		A		A	A
16.	Degree — Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A		A		A	A
17.	Degree — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.							
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A		A		A	--

		COUNCIL ³							Board of Trustees
		Provost	Department	Dean	TEC	UUAC	Graduate	Faculty	
Provost-Proposed Change									
1.	Major/Graduate Program — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R		A		A	A
2.	Minor — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R		A		--	A
3.	Degree — Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R		A		A	A

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COUNCIL ³									
	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--		A		A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--		A		A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--		A		A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--		A		A	A
5.	Other academic policy changes	--	--	--		A		A	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about "Information" items. These items are approved as "Consent Agenda."

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost's recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU's University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and "not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession" (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that "general requirements for graduation" means the enumerated items in the "General Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees" section of the catalog.

Revised 10-16-13

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

College Academic Council(s)	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Dean(s)	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Teacher Education Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

General Education Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Undergraduate Academic Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Graduate Council	
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Provost	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Faculty	
_____ <i>Chair of faculty senate</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

President	
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Marriage and Family Therapy Online

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Web: <http://www.acu.edu/graduate/degree-programs/marriage-family-therapy-online/index.html>

Introduction

The Graduate School at Abilene Christian University offers an online Master in Marriage and Family Therapy (MMFT) degree.

The 60-hour Marriage and Family Therapy degree plan is designed to be completed in 30 consecutive months. Students will register for one online 7-week course at a time.

The primary objective of the degree is to provide professional training for persons intending to occupy positions in community mental health agencies, child and family service agencies, church ministries, institutional settings, and private practice, as well as those desiring advanced academic degrees. The Marriage and Family Therapy program is committed to a value system that espouses a Christian worldview in terms of human nature, the development of interpersonal or intrapersonal problems, and the context within which those problems can be solved.

The curriculum is intended to prepare graduates for membership in the AAMFT and state licensure in marriage and family therapy. Students may elect to complete a general MFT track or a Medical Family Therapy track. Students selecting the general MFT track may pursue licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor in Texas with elective selections of Group Psychotherapy and Career Counseling.

Each graduate will receive a minimum of 500 hours of direct clinical experience and 100 hours of approved supervision, both of which are graduation requirements. Students are responsible for identifying their own internship sites and for providing their own recording technology to record samples of their clinical work.. Supervision is provided by departmental faculty and local supervisors identified by the student. Group supervision provided by the MFT faculty will utilize video and case presentation approaches. The supervision experience focuses on integrating the student's academic training with the clinical skills of marriage and family therapy.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the program is on a competitive basis. The admission requirements for the online MMFT are:

1. Complete an application and application fee (see online link to admission);
2. An official transcript(s) in English (or translated to English) of all previous colleges attended. The transcript must indicate an earned bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university or equivalent;
3. A cumulative undergraduate approximate B average or above in the area of focus or related area and evidence of an overall productive GPA;
4. Three letters of recommendation;
5. A written purpose statement declaring why the applicant wishes to study marriage and family therapy at ACU and what he or she plans to do professionally upon graduation;
6. Completion of a psychosocial history;
7. A quality of life that reflects high moral standards;
8. A video-conferenced interview with the Program Director may be requested.

When all required materials are assembled, the application will be reviewed by the MFT Program Director. Students are admitted three times a year and begin their program of study in the spring, summer, or fall semesters. All application materials MUST be completed at least two weeks in advance of when the student would like to begin the program.

No specific undergraduate major is essential for admission. Applicants are encouraged to have undergraduate credit in subjects that embrace human development, family relations, theology, sociology, psychology and statistics.

Applicants without adequate preparation may be accepted upon the condition that they register for additional courses deemed necessary by the Program Director.

MASTER OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY (MMFT)

Major Code: MFTH

The degree plan for the online Marriage and Family Therapy program consists of 48 credit hours in the Foundational Curriculum and 12 credit hours in the student's choice of specialization: general MFT or Medical Family Therapy (MedFT). Upon completion of the first 15 credit hours, students will be evaluated to determine whether or not they may proceed into the clinical training portion of the program. Students must earn a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA in the first 15 credit hours; receive a minimum grade of B in BMFT 601 Pre-Internship; and pass a Clinical Readiness Assessment completed by program faculty. No more than 12 semester hours may be transferred into the program with the approval of the Program Director.

Requirements for the MMFT, General MFT track, are:

1. Marital and family systems, 3 hours:
BMFT 639 Family Theory/General Systems Theory
2. Marital and family therapy, 15 hours:
BMFT 610 Couples Therapy
BMFT 641 Family Therapy I
BMFT 645 Systemic Diagnosis and Assessment
BMFT 651 Sexual Therapy
BMFT 661 Family Therapy II
3. Individual development, 9 hours:
BMFT 662 Family Life Cycle
BMFT 663 Cultural Diversity in Marriage and Family Therapy
BMFT 665 Family Therapy Across the Life-Cycle
4. Professional studies, 3 hours:
BMFT 643 Professional Ethics and the Law
5. Supervised clinical practice, 15 hours:
BMFT 601, 602, 603, 604, 605
6. Research, 3 hours:
BMFT 615 Research Methods in Family Therapy
7. Additional courses, 6 hours:
BIBM 696 Theological Perspectives on Human Behavior
BMFT 634 Addictive Disorders
8. Two electives from a related area in the university with the approval of the Program Director.
9. Capstone Project.

Requirements for the MMFT, Medical Family Therapy track, are:

1. Marital and family systems, 3 hours:
BMFT 639 Family Theory/General Systems Theory
2. Marital and family therapy, 18 hours:
BMFT 610 Couples Therapy
BMFT 641 Family Therapy I
BMFT 645 Systemic Diagnosis and Assessment
BMFT 651 Sexual Therapy
BMFT 661 Family Therapy II
BMFT 634 Addictive Disorders
3. Individual development, 6 hours:
BMFT 662 Family Life Cycle
BMFT 663 Cultural Diversity in Marriage and Family Therapy
4. Professional studies, 3 hours:
BMFT 643 Professional Ethics and the Law
5. Supervised clinical practice, 15 hours:
BMFT 601, 602, 603, 604, 605

6. Research, 3 hours:
BMFT 615 Research Methods in Family Therapy
7. Medical Family Therapy, 12 hours:
BMFT 670 Introduction to Medical Family Therapy
BMFT 671 Theory, Practice, & Research in Medical Family Therapy
BMFT 673 Illness, Disability, Death, & Dying across the Lifespan
BMFT 675 Interventions in Medical Family Therapy
8. Capstone Project.

POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY The Post-Graduate Certificate in Medical Family Therapy is offered for students who are seeking advanced clinical training in medical family therapy. The certificate is a 15-credit hour program including a 6-month practicum. The majority of coursework will be completed online with two 3-day residencies required, one at the beginning and one at the end of the program. Students will be responsible for identifying their own practicum site according to guidelines established by the program. In addition, students must have access to mobile video recording technology to record samples of their clinical work.

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements for the Post-Graduate Certificate in Medical Family Therapy are as follows:

- ☐ Graduate school application and application fee
- ☐ Official transcript indicating the successful completion of a Master's degree from a COAMFTE-accredited Marriage and Family Therapy program. If a Master's degree was earned from a MFT degree not accredited by COAMFTE, the transcript must be evaluated by the Program Director to demonstrate the student's achievement of the COAMFTE foundational curriculum requirements.
- ☐ Purpose statement
- ☐ Two professional recommendation letters attesting to the applicant's clinical competence

Certificate Program Requirements

Requirements for the Post-Graduate Certificate in Medical Family Therapy are:

Certificate Program Sequence
Semester I
Residency – January Term
BMFT 670: Introduction to Medical Family Therapy
BMFT 671: Theory & Practice of Medical Family Therapy
Semester II
BMFT 672: Illness, Disability, Death, & Dying across the Lifespan
BMFT 675: Interventions in Medical Family Therapy
BMFT 611: MedFT Practicum*
Semester III
BMFT 611: MedFT Practicum, continued*
Residency

*Course description and title pending final approval.