

COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Masters of Arts (M.A.) Degree in Counseling Emphasis in Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy

This Marriage and Family Therapy emphasis description includes the following:

- I. Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy (MCFC/T) Program**
- II. Program of Study**
- III. Additional Program Requirements**
- IV. Accreditation, Licensure, and Certification**
- V. Additional Information**
- VI. Contacting the Marriage and Family Therapy Coordinator**

I. MARITAL, COUPLE, AND FAMILY COUNSELING /THERAPY

The Master of Arts degree with an emphasis in Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy is a 67 credit hour nationally accredited (CACREP) program. The purpose of this extensive training is to prepare graduates to be able to deal effectively with the variety of issues and family constellations that will present them. Toward that end, students will receive in-depth training in conceptualization skills as well as in the theoretical and practical application of systems theory.

Aside from formal clinical coursework, graduate students in the Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy program will have the opportunity to intern in the Downing Counseling Clinic, located within the Department's office suite. This clinic serves numerous university students as well as individuals and families from the surrounding community. Interns are assigned a variety of clients and client systems and are responsible for setting up appointments, seeing clients in the emergency and walk-in services for individuals and families. There are also opportunities to provide consultation as well as group counseling to various agencies in the community. In addition, the Clinic has cutting-edge technology that allows for ample supervision of marriage and family counseling interns.

It is important that future therapists be aware of their own family dynamics and issues. Hence, graduate students in the MCFC/T program are invited to explore their own families in terms of rules, roles, rituals, interactions, structures, and celebrations. In this manner, graduates become not only insightful into their own lives, they are better able to empathize and provide incisive help to others.

*Counseling & Educational Psychology (CEP) Department
Reno, Nevada 89557-0281 Mail Stop 281*

II. PROGRAM OF STUDY (courses required)

Pre-professional: *(Must be taken BEFORE admittance to the program)*

CEP	600	Introduction to Counseling & Guidance (3 cr.)
CEP	640	Educational Measurements & Statistics (or equivalent) (3 cr.)

GROUP ONE Course Sequence *(complete prior to enrolling in group two)*

CEP	605	Counseling & Information Technology (3 cr.)
CEP	620	Career and Lifespan Development (3 cr.)
CEP	650	Counseling Theory (3 cr.)
CEP	700	Introduction to Research (3 cr.)
CEP	705	Human Growth and Development (3 cr.)

GROUP TWO Course Sequence *(should have completed group one)*

CEP	642b	Assessment/Diagnosis in Marriage/Family Therapy (3 cr.)
CEP	651	Counseling Practicum (100 hours) (3cr.)
CEP	670	Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy I (3 cr.)
CEP	680	Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy II (3 cr.)
CEP	751	Multicultural Counseling (3 cr.)
CEP	754	Substance Abuse Counseling (3 cr.)
CEP	761	Group Counseling (3 cr.)

GROUP THREE Course Sequence *(should have completed group one and two)*

CEP	756	Sexual Issues in Counseling (3 cr.)
CEP	765	Introduction to Marriage and Family Therapy (3 cr.)
CEP	766	Advanced Marriage and Family Therapy (3 cr.)
CEP	767	Couples Counseling (3 cr.)
CEP	770f	Internship in Counseling (6 cr.)
CEP	773	Internship in Marriage and Family Therapy (need to have completed 770f prior to enrolling) (6 cr.)
CEP	780	Law and Ethics in the Profession (3 cr.)
CEP	795	Master's Degree Comprehensive Exam (1-3 cr.)

***All students must take ONE 3-credit elective (Four suggested courses listed below)
(Courses should be taken prior to Group Three)***

SOC	680	The Family (3 cr.)
HDFS	635	Child Socialization: System Perspectives (3 cr.)
HDFS	636	Family Interaction (3 cr.)
HDFS	657	Work and Family System (3 cr.)
HDFS	730	Family Systems (3 cr.)

Total Marriage and Family Therapy Credits: 67 Credit Hours (Minimum)

III. ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- a. **Complete Program of Study Form:** The program of study form must be submitted before 12 credits of course work have been completed. This form can be obtained in the CEP Department or online through the graduate school website www.unr.edu/grad. It is completed in consultation with your advisor.
- b. **Three Credits per Semester Requirement:** Students admitted to departmental programs must enroll in at least three credits per semester or they will be withdrawn from graduate standing.
- c. **Application for Internship Placement:** Students must confirm that all prerequisites have been completed. A formal, written application is required and may be obtained in the department. It is understood that the effort expended must be comparable to formal course work. This translates to 300 clock hours devoted to the internship for each six credits. Two six-credit internships totaling 600 clock hours are required for graduation.
- d. **Comprehensive Examinations:** Students must register for at least 3 credits of regular coursework and CEP 795 (1 credit) in their last semester. The comprehensive examinations are scheduled once in the spring and fall.
 - Video tape: Students are expected to present one video-taped portion of a counseling session as Part I of the Comprehensive Exam. Students are required to provide a brief introduction of the client and of the taped segment. The videotaped is evaluated by trained judges.
 - Written Examination: The comprehensive knowledge exam Part II is the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE). The CPCE consists of 160 items, multiple-choice, with 20 items per the eight CACREP areas of (1) Human Growth and Development, (2) Social and Cultural Foundations, (3) Helping Relationships, (4) Group Work, (5) Career and Lifestyle Development, (6) Appraisal, (7) Research and Program Evaluation, and (8) Professional Orientation and Ethics.
- e. **Six-year Program Completion Requirement:** Degree requirements for the M.A. degree must be completed in six calendar years from the date of the first course listed in the approved program of study form.
- f. **Application for Graduation** has to be obtained through the graduate school website at www.unr.edu/grad.

IV. ACCREDITATION, LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

The College of Education is accredited by both the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Northwest Association for Schools and Colleges (NASC). The CEP masters program in Marital, Couple, & Family Counseling/Therapy is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP).

Nevada State Licensure: After students complete the 67 hour master's degree program in Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy, they are encouraged to apply to the Nevada Board of Marriage and Family Therapist Examiners for internship status and to work toward Nevada State Licensure.

This post-masters work requires verification of an MA degree in counseling or a closely related degree and completion of the specific coursework in Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy (outlined previously in this prospectus). Upon completion of their MA degree with the concomitant course requirements, applicants apply to the Board to sit for the licensing examination. Once this examination is passed, the applicant receives "Intern" status and can then commence working toward their 3000 hours internship under the Board's supervision. The Board requires applicants who have passed the examination to present their internship plan to the board that included the naming of a primary and secondary supervisor as well as designating where the internship will be completed. The Board will count up to 20 hours per week against the 3000 required hours.

For application materials and information, contact:

State of Nevada
The Board of Marriage and Family Therapist Examiners
P.O. Box 370130
Las Vegas, Nevada 89134-0130
(702) 486-7388

Requirements for licensure in Marriage and Family Therapy vary significantly from state to state. So, students planning to pursue licensure out of Nevada are urged to gather information from those states. Graduates of the Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy emphasis are also encouraged to seek membership in the American Counseling Association (ACA) and certification from the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC).

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Prospective student meetings are held the **second Thursday in January and August at 4 p.m.** at the CEP office (call department at (775) 784-6637 to register for the meeting). To obtain a University of Nevada catalog, contact the ASUN Bookstore, Mail Stop 194, (775) 784-6597. A University of Nevada Graduate School catalog can be obtained at the Graduate School web site www.unr.edu/grad, (Graduate School Mail Stop 326, and telephone (775) 784-6869).

The CEP Home Page can be viewed at <http://www.unr.edu/educ/cep/cepindex.html>

VI. MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY COORDINATOR:

Thomas Harrison, Ph.D., MFT
Department Chair, Professor
Counseling and Educational Psychology/281
William Raggio Building, Room 3007
University of Nevada
Reno, NV 89577-0281
(775) 682-7318, FAX (775) 784-1990 and email: tch@unr.edu