

2016

Doctor of Marriage and Family Therapy Overview

Nova Southeastern University

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Doctor of Marriage and Family Therapy (DMFT) 2016

Overview

The Doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy (D.M.F.T.) is a practitioner oriented terminal degree. The primary emphasis of the D.M.F.T. degree program is different from the Ph.D. program in that it seeks specifically to produce professionals whose chief contributions will be in the clinical rather than academic sphere. Still, there is some overlap in the core curriculum between the two programs.

The D.M.F.T. is a 78 credit-hour program designed for individuals holding master's degrees that prepares graduates for careers as private practitioners, agency administrators, clinical supervisors, and senior clinicians. The D.M.F.T. program is designed to expand and enhance a student's existing clinical skills in order to become top level practitioners, while at the same time demonstrating the place of program/clinical research in this pursuit.

To this end, the D.M.F.T. degree requires students to complete an Applied Clinical Project (APC) rather than a dissertation. The APC requires a student to conceive, propose, implement, and evaluate the effectiveness of a particular clinical program under the supervision of a faculty member. The clinical program under review should be grounded in a systems based approach to family psychotherapy, yet may include large educational and/or consultation components.

The Department of Family Therapy has full and part time faculty and supervisors that represent diversity in race, cultural, gender, age, sexual orientation, and religion. The student body reflects the rich cultural diversity of the University and South Florida as far as race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and age.

Students entering the D.M.F.T. program are required to have the following core curriculum or closely related equivalent courses prior to entering this advanced systems program. When students need to take any of these prerequisites, these courses must be completed prior to beginning the core D.M.F.T. curriculum.

- Introduction to Marriage and Family Therapy
- Legal, Ethical and Professional Issues in MFT
- Theories of Marital and Family Therapy
- Human Development across the Life Cycle
- Theories of Personality and Psychopathology
- Human Sexuality and Gender
- Diversity and Psychosocial Skills
- Research in Marriage and Family Therapy
- Assessment in Marital and Family Therapy