

How To Apply

Contact a program representative at a location near you or apply online at www.friends.edu/application-0

E-MAIL learn@friends.edu
WEB SITE www.friends.edu
WICHITA 316-295-5901
LENEXA 913-233-8700
TOPEKA 785-272-9595
TOLL FREE 800-794-6945

Credit Transfer Policies

- Official transcripts must be mailed directly from the educational institution to Friends University.
- Transcripts stamped “issued to student” cannot be accepted as official transcripts.
- Please have transcripts sent to:
Admissions Processing
Friends University
2100 W. University Ave.
Wichita, KS 67213

Technical Requirements

PC Minimum Recommendations

- Current version of Microsoft Windows operating system
- Current version of Microsoft Office
- Antivirus Protection (McAfee Antivirus available free to students)
- High-speed Internet access
- Active email account (available free to students)

MAC Minimum Recommendations

- Current version of MAC operating system
- Current version of Microsoft Office for MAC
- High-speed Internet access
- Active email address (available free to students)

*Academic programs may have specific technology requirements that exceed these listed

Program Overview

The Master of Science in Family Therapy (MSFT) program is a 52 credit-hour program that provides academic and clinical training for persons seeking competence in the professional discipline of marriage and family therapy. A sustained and intense experience, described as a transformative journey, unfolds over the length of the program of studies. Students entering into this systemic and culturally informed clinical psychotherapy degree are immersed into the steams of personal change identified by the program’s three core educational outcomes: interpersonal, theoretical, and clinical domains of transformation. This degree meets the education requirements for licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist in most states including Kansas and Missouri.

Students complete 52 credit hours earned through 19 academic courses and three semesters of continuous clinical internship completed within a 23-month period. Two comprehensive examinations are required, occurring within Term 2 and Term 4.

By the program’s completion, students prepare and submit a portfolio of professional skill development for review by selected community professionals as well as receive final approval by the Program Director.

Admissions Requirements

Friends University staff and faculty are dedicated to supporting working adults and full-time students alike. Completed applications are reviewed in February and April for selection of applicants to attend a half-day interview process. Applicants are selected by the following standards and students are admitted to one degree-start annually in August.

- Completed application for admission and a non-refundable fee of **\$45** (\$65 international fee)
- Signed Transcript Request form for official transcript from the institution granting bachelor’s degree.
- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution with a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- Minimum prerequisite coursework as follows: a) one course in research methods, research design or statistics; and b) two upper division courses in any of the following areas: family studies, human development, psychology or sociology.
- Completion of personality inventory as selected by program director.
- A five to seven page autobiography and statement of goals.
- Four letters of recommendation - two academic/professional and two personal recommendations on forms provided by the admissions office.
- Admissions interview upon review of completed application, approval of prerequisite courses by MSFT faculty and MSFT faculty invitation.

Mode of Delivery

- One night a week
- Cohort model

Hours/Length

- 52 credit hours
- 23 months

About the Program Director



Steven W. Rathbun

Program Director

Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy

B.A. Mid-America Nazarene College

M.A. University of Northern Colorado

Ph.D. Kansas State University

(316) 295-5621 or (800) 794-6945 ext.5621

rathbun@friends.edu

The Master of Science in Family Therapy at Friends University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), 112 S. Alfred St., Alexandria, VA 22314, (703) 838-9808.

COURSE LISTINGS

FMTH 503 Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy

Presents the historical development of the MFT profession. Includes overview of major theoretical influences and in-depth examination of the family systems paradigm. (Taught as a one-week intensive course during the first week of August on the Wichita campus and at the Lenexa site). *3 credit hours*

FMTH 511 Research in MFT 1

Introduces the role of research in professional practice and the scientist-practitioner model. Students will learn the importance of research in clinical practice and will develop skills needed to be informed consumers of MFT research by examining basic research processes and practices. *1 credit hour*

FMTH 512 Clinical Foundations 1

Occurs across Term 1 to address self-awareness, primary interpersonal skills, multicultural sensitivity, and basic elements of professionalism. Includes observation of psychotherapy and practice in leading the helping interview. Concludes with a review of readiness to proceed with clinical training in Term 2. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 520 Emotion, Attachment, and Trauma

Creates a working knowledge of neuroscience to explore the power of primary human bonds. Introduces emotion and attachment theory as frameworks for adaptive relationship competence. Examines the impact of trauma on memory, physiology, and the emotion of interpersonal encounter. *3 credit hours*

FMTH 543 Intergenerational Family Dynamics

Studies the influence of intergenerational forces upon individuals and relationships. Examines primary concepts from Bowen's natural systems theory, Nagy's relational justice approach, and other related theorists. Introduces clinical uses of the genogram. *3 credit hours*

FMTH 565 Diagnostic Assessment of Psychopathology and Relational Functioning

Presents an integrated approach to diagnostic assessment of individuals, couples and families seeking mental health services. Addresses affective, cognitive, and behavioral problems of individuals in the context of marital and family systems. Includes training in DSM-IV and common assessment measures. *5 credit hours*

FMTH 572 Clinical Foundations 2

Occurs in the first months of Term 2 leading to the beginning of supervised client contact. Addresses the clinical processes supporting psychotherapy including informed consent, negotiating the treatment plan, and writing the treatment record. Includes instruction on use of supervision, consultation, and referral. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 581 Ethical and Professional Issues in MFT Practice, I

Part one of three credit hours dedicated to ethical and professional issues. Introduces guidelines of ethical behavior for the MFT profession and explores primary responsibilities of assuming the role of therapist. Examines the AAMFT Code of Ethics and Kansas MFT regulations with specific application to the clinical internship. *1 credit hour*

FMTH 593 Structural/Solution Approaches to Therapy

Presents the structural and solution schools of MFT practice. Focuses on the organizing elements of family life that help regulate personal and relationship behavior and how relational problems are often composites of habits, patterns, and misguided viewpoints. Addresses family roles, subsystem boundaries, interactional patterns and strength-based and solution oriented thinking as forces for therapeutic change. *3 credit hours*

FMTH 591 Pharmacology in Mental Health Services

Introduces medications used in biological psychiatry and other medical treatments commonly associated with affective, cognitive, and behavioral concerns. Includes skills for effective collaboration with physicians. *1 credit hour*

FMTH 603 Clinical Internship - Entry

Beginning segment of clinical training initiated in Term 2. Requires faculty review and approval of student's readiness to begin client contact. Clinical experience begins in April with 3-5 client contact hours concurrent with weekly dyadic or group supervision sessions and increases to a full caseload of 10-12 hours by August. Videotape of student's clinical work and live observation utilized in the supervisory process. A defined conceptual framework of clinical skills guides learning and supervisory evaluation. *3 credit hours*

FMTH 611 Intimacy, Sexuality and Couples

Explores the human experience of shared self in couple relationships. Theoretical concepts and clinical interventions promoting meaningful expressions of intimacy addressed. Includes examination of treatment of sexual dysfunction. *1 credit hour*

FMTH 621 Treating Addictive Disorders

Addresses a spectrum of addictive disorders including chemicals, food, sex, and relationships with focus on the biological, social, and psychological aspects of the addictive process. Application to the family systems paradigm with emphasis on diagnosis and treatment strategies. *1 credit hour*

FMTH 622 Cognitive/Behavioral Approaches to Therapy

Presents the cognitive and behavioral schools of MFT practice. Focuses on the integration of values, beliefs and behavioral experiences that comprise the matrix of decision making guiding individual and interpersonal behavior. Addresses cognitive strategies, belief identification, and behavior modification as tools for therapeutic change. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 625 Clinical Internship - Intermediate

Middle segment of clinical training beginning in August addressing intermediate clinical skill development. Requires a full caseload of 10-12 client contact hours concurrent with dyadic and group supervision weekly. Videotape of students' clinical work and live observation utilized in the supervisory process. Defined skill level learning objectives guide student learning and supervisory evaluation. *5 credit hours*

FMTH 631 Violence in Couples and Families

Examines forms of violence and related systemic dynamics most common in abusive relationships. Domestic violence, child abuse, incest, and sexual exploitation are addressed. Includes multisystemic assessment and treatment approaches. *1 credit hour*

FMTH 633 Narrative Approaches to Therapy

Presents an examination of therapeutic approaches informed by the postmodern epistemological paradigm in the practice of MFT. Emphasis is given to an overview of the historical philosophical and ideological aspects of the narrative/social constructionist paradigm. Students are guided through the process of externalizing problem-saturated metanarratives and locating problems within sociocultural contexts. The heart of the course is devoted to opening space for developing alternative stories that represent the preferred narratives clients have for their lives. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 642 Research in MFT 2

Reengages the scientist-practitioner model and role of research in clinical practice. Focuses on clinical application of research by developing skills to evaluate treatment outcomes. Promotes integration of research and practice by examining evidence-based treatment approaches and common factors in MFT models. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 662 Emotion-Focused Approaches to Therapy

Examines the theoretical approaches of Marriage and Family Therapy practice which emphasize the affective/emotional aspect of human relationships. The course focuses on how emotion informs the relational patterns of therapeutic process in MFT. Experiential activities are examined that facilitate the exploration and repair of attachment bonds. Emotion awareness, emotion regulation, and emotional response patterns are also investigated as areas for therapeutic change. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 654 Clinical Internship - Advanced

Concluding segment of clinical training beginning in January addressing advanced clinical skill development. Requires a full caseload of 10-12 client contact hours concurrent with dyadic and group supervision weekly. Videotape of student's clinical work and live observation utilized in the supervisory process. Defined skill level learning objectives guide student learning and supervisory evaluation. (NOTE: If COAMFTE clinical training criteria are not met within this final internship segment, fees for additional clinical supervision will be charged). *4 credit hours*

FMTH 663 Developmental Perspectives of Change

Examines individual and family developments and integral variables such as stress, gender, cultural context, spirituality, and diverse family forms. Addresses perspectives of change defined by the major MFT models and introduces a meta view of the change process. Explores use of a developmental approach in clinical assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. *3 credit hours*

FMTH 672 Ethical and Professional Issues in MFT Practice, II

Part two of three credit hours dedicated to ethical and professional issues. Explores ethical behavior and decision-making for the MFT professional. Includes topics related to standards of care, collaboration, practice/reimbursement issues, and court testimony. Examines MFT regulation and the process of state licensure. Concludes with presentation of the student's personal theory of therapy to external panel of evaluators. *2 credit hours*

FMTH 691 Clinical Internship/Extended

Provides additional clinical supervision to MSFT clinical students unable to complete client contact hour requirements within the program's 23-month schedule. Includes two hours weekly of supervision in individual, dyad or group formats over 8 weeks per section. Course awards no additional credit toward degree. Tuition charge for 1 credit hour is nonrefundable. *1 credit hour*