

DEGREE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MFT DEGREE

The MFT Program (three tracks)

Track	Credits	Practicum
1: MFT Clinical Track	72	Yes
2: LPCC Track	82	Yes
3: MFT Non-Clinical	54	No

The TUW MFT Degree consists of three options/tracks. They are as follows:

(1) M.A. in Marriage & Family Therapy Clinical Track-- The ONLY track Accredited by COAMFTE

- Minimum: 18 courses (54 credits)
- Minimum: 6 practicum courses, (18 credits)
- Total Minimum for the entire program 72 credit hours
- 300 Total Practicum Client Contact Hours*

***Note:** Students are required to check the licensure requirements for their respective state.

(2) M.A. in Marriage & Family Therapy -- Licensed Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC) Track*

- Students who select the LPCC Track must take the COAMFTE Approved Clinical track of the Marriage and Family Therapy program and achieve all the requirements before being eligible for the LPCC track.
- The four (4) additional courses for the LPCC track are outlined below:**
- Minimum: 6 practicum courses, (18 credits)
 - MFT650
 - MFT651
 - MFT653
 - MFT698

*The MFT clinical program combined with the LPCC track is approved by the [California Board of Behavioral Sciences \(BBS\)](#).

**Must be taken before or in conjunction with the MFT640 series

(3) M.A. in Marriage & Family Therapy -- Non-Clinical Track

The non-clinical track provides online MFT coursework – Not COAMFTE Accredited

- Minimum: 18 courses (54 credits)
- No practicum course requirement
- No clinical hour requirement

Note for MFT students:

- Students taking Leave of Absence (LOA) are not considered active enrolled students. MFT students acquiring the clinical practicum hours must register for Clinical Practicum or Clinical Practicum Continuation (**The cost is \$750 per continuation course, and it is a non-credit course**).
- Students in the MFT Program **will NOT** have to purchase a required manual that is accessible in the TUW library i.e., *The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5-TR)*.
- Student must stay in active status with the University to ensure the practicum is covered by the University insurance and the practicum hours officially recorded.
- TUW is not responsible to find the Practicum site and/or agency for students. The student is responsible to identify the practicum site and connect the Practicum coordinator with the site to arrange formal interview of the student.

TRACK 1: MFT CLINICAL TRACK REQUIRED COURSES & CURRICULUM

The MFT curriculum is COAMFTE approved and composed of 18 courses and 6 practicum courses for a total of 72 semester credits and 300 direct contact hours. (Each course is 3 semester credit hours).

MFT Required Core Courses (72 semester credit hours)

Course Number	Course Title	Semester Credit Hours
MFT 610	Contemporary Issues in Marriage & Family Therapy	3
MFT 611	Foundations of Psychopathology	3
MFT 612	Couples Counseling	3
MFT 613	Child-Focused Family Therapy	3
MFT 614	Development Within the Family Life Cycle	3
MFT 615	Psychopharmacology	3
MFT 616	Society, Culture and Gender: A Multi-Cultural Perspective	3
MFT 617	Research Methodology	3
MFT 618	Group Counseling	3
MFT 619	Assessment & Testing for the Marriage & Family Therapist	3
MFT 620	Human Sexuality	3
MFT 626	Substance Abuse & Recovery	3
MFT 627	Studies in Human Communication	3
MFT 628	Adolescent-Focused Family Therapy	3
MFT 629	Aging, Illness & Long-Term Care Concerns	3
MFT 630	Ethics & Law for Marriage & Family Therapy	3
MFT 635	Treatment of Trauma in Families	3
MFT 640A	Clinical Practicum Part I	3
MFT 640B	Clinical Practicum Part II	3
MFT 640C	Clinical Practicum III	3
MFT 640D	Clinical Practicum IV	3
MFT 640E	Clinical Practicum V	3
MFT 640F*	Clinical Practicum VI	3
MFT 690**	Capstone	3

Note: Students who did not complete all 300 hours during the 6 Clinical Practicum course will need to enroll in Clinical Practicum Continuation (As needed) until all hours are completed.

Also, students who complete all 300 hours prior to the completion of the 6th Clinical Practicum course, may elect to end obtaining client hours at the end of the term in which the required hours were attained. They should request to terminate by approving the hours with their Academic Advisors and/or Practicum Coordinator. Such students, upon approval and the start of their new term, will engage in Alternative Assignments to fulfill the remainder of their 6 Clinical Practicum course. This is only available to students whose state has COAMFTE Standard 12.5 requirements.

**** Please note that some states minimum requirements for licensure application may be more than 300 direct client contact hours. Therefore, students are required to check the licensure requirements for their respective state.**

Elective Courses (Taken only if the student's state requires these specific courses)

Course Number	Course Title	Semester Credit Hours
MFT 650	Counseling Theory	3
MFT 651	Advanced Counseling Theories and Techniques	3
MFT 653	Lifestyle and Career Development Counseling	3
MFT 698	Spousal/Partner Abuse Detection and Intervention	1

Notes:

****The program requires 300 hours of direct client contact, 100 of which must be relational or with couples or families. Students receive 100 hours of individual and group supervision, at least 50 hours of which are based on direct observation, videotape, or audiotape, and at least 25 of the 50 based only on live observation or videotape. This supervision mainly comes from your placement site but may be supplemented by the supervision that students receive in their practicum course. Students must be enrolled in practicum until all hourly requirements are complete and the practicum course must be taken a minimum of 6 times (12 consecutive months) for a minimum total of 18 credits. This applies to COAMFTE requirements.***

***** Note: The TUW MFT program is approved by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) for our students to seek licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) and/or Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) in California. The MFT Clinical track 1 is also approved by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE). Students applying for a clinical license in MFT, LPCC, (or any other mental health related field) outside of California must confirm that the coursework and practicum experiences at TUW will fulfill requirements for that respective state. The MFT team is here to support students with this process and help guide students, but it is ultimately the responsibility of the student. In some cases, there may be additional courses or practicum requirements that may be needed either before or after graduation, (see section within this handbook about portability).***

Material Fee:

- **Effective Fall 2023:** Students on the Clinical track are required to pay **\$116 Material Fee** during the Capstone course (MFT690), which will provide access to exam kit that prepares students for the CA Exam, National Exam and LPCC Exam. The exam kit is part of the capstone course only.
- Students in the MFT Program **will NOT** have to purchase a required manual that is accessible in the TUW library, i.e., *The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5-TR)*. This is a key clinical resource that you will use not only for your courses but for clinical application in practicum and beyond.
- **American Psychiatric Association (2013).** *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.)*. Washington, DC: Author.

TRACK 2: LPCC TRACK REQUIRED COURSES & CURRICULUM

The MFT LPCC curriculum is composed of 18 courses, plus an additional 4 courses, in addition to the 6 practicum courses, for a total of 82 semester credits and 300 direct contact hours. (Each course is 3 semester credit hours).

LPCC TRACK REQUIRED COURSES (82 semester credit hours*)

Course Number	Course Title	Semester Credit Hours
MFT 610	Contemporary Issues in Marriage & Family Therapy	3
MFT 611	Foundations of Psychopathology	3
MFT 612	Couples Counseling	3
MFT 613	Child-Focused Family Therapy	3
MFT 614	Development Within the Family Life Cycle	3
MFT 615	Psychopharmacology	3
MFT 616	Society, Culture and Gender: A Multi-cultural Perspective	3
MFT 617	Research Methodology	3
MFT 618	Group Counseling	3
MFT 619	Assessment & Testing for the Marriage & Family Therapist	3
MFT 620	Human Sexuality	3
MFT 626	Substance Abuse & Recovery	3
MFT 627	Studies in Human Communication	3
MFT 628	Adolescent-Focused Family Therapy	3
MFT 629	Aging, Illness & Long-Term Care Concerns	3
MFT 630	Ethics & Law for Marriage & Family Therapy	3
MFT 635	Treatment of Trauma in Families	3
MFT 640A	Clinical Practicum Part I	3
MFT 640B	Clinical Practicum Part II	3
MFT 640C	Clinical Practicum III	3
MFT 640D	Clinical Practicum IV	3
MFT 640E	Clinical Practicum V	3
MFT 640F	Clinical Practicum VI	3
MFT 650*	Counseling Theory	3
MFT 651*	Advanced Counseling Theories and Techniques	3
MFT 653*	Lifestyle and Career Development Counseling	3
MFT 698*	Spousal/Partner Abuse Detection and Intervention	1
MFT 690**	Capstone	3

Students must take the COAMFTE Approved Clinical track of the Marriage and Family Therapy program and achieve all the requirements before being eligible for the LPCC track. The MFT clinical program combined with the LPCC track is approved by the CA BBS. MFT 650 thru MFT 698 courses must be taken before or in conjunction with the MFT640 series

Note: Students who did not complete all 300 hours during the 6 Clinical Practicum course will need to enroll in Clinical Practicum Continuation (As needed) until all hours are completed.

Also, students who complete all 300 hours prior to the completion of the 6th Clinical Practicum course, may elect to end obtaining client hours at the end of the term in which the required hours were attained. They should request to terminate by approving the hours with their Academic Advisors and/or Practicum Coordinator. Such students, upon approval and the start of their new term, will engage in Alternative Assignments to fulfill the remainder of their 6 Clinical Practicum course. This is only available to students whose state has COAMFTE Standard 12.5 requirements.

**** Please note that some states minimum requirements for licensure application may be more than 300 direct client contact hours. Therefore, students are required to check the licensure requirements for their respective state.**

Notes:

** The program requires 300 hours of direct client contact, 100 of which must be relational or with couples or families. Students receive 100 hours of individual and group supervision, at least 50 hours of which are based on direct observation, videotape, or audiotape, and at least 25 of the 50 based only on live observation or videotape. This supervision mainly comes from your placement site but may be supplemented by the supervision that students receive in their practicum course. Students must be enrolled in practicum until all hourly requirements are complete and the practicum course must be taken a minimum of 6 times (12 consecutive months) for a minimum total of 18 credits. This applies to COAMFTE requirements.*

Please note: The TOW MFT program is approved by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) for our students to seek licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) and/or Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) in California.

Students applying for a clinical license in MFT, LPCC, (or any other mental health related field) outside of California must confirm that the coursework and practicum experiences at TOW will fulfill requirements for that respective state. The MFT team is here to support students with this process and help guide students, but it is ultimately the responsibility of the student. In some cases, there may be additional courses or practicum requirements that may be needed either before or after graduation, (see section within this handbook about portability).

Material Fee:

- **Effective Fall 2023**, students on the Clinical track are required to pay **\$116 Material Fee** during the Capstone course (MFT690), which will provide access to exam kit that prepares students for the CA Exam, National Exam and LPCC Exam. The exam kit is part of the capstone course only.
- Students in the MFT Program **will NOT** have to purchase a required manual that is accessible in the TOW library i.e., The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5-TR). This is a key clinical resource that you will use not only for your courses but for clinical application in practicum and beyond.
- **American Psychiatric Association (2013)**. Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

CLINICAL PRACTICUM COURSES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR MFT AND LPCC CLINICAL TRACKS

In addition to earning a qualifying master's degree, applicants for the MFT AND LPCC CLINICAL TRACKS emphasis must have field experience and learn how to do therapy. This training occurs when pre-licensed individuals that are called trainees see clients and receive supervision on therapy performed with those clients. For MFTs in California, a complete list of requirements may be found in BPC Section 4980.36.

Note: Students are required to check the requirements for the specific state that they want to get licensed in, as each state may be different.

NOTICES:

- **TUW is not responsible to find the Practicum site and /or agency for students. The student is responsible to identify the practicum site and connect the Program Director or Coordinator of the Practicum with the site to arrange for an MOA and a formal interview for the student.**
- ***MFT student Trainees can fulfill practicum requirements for training at sites only after TUW Coordinator of the Practicum Training has approved the site and signed an MOA Agreement with the site. Please note: criminal background checks are required by certain internship sites. Further, having a criminal background may create an additional barrier for students in securing an internship site and pursuing licensure. The student is expected to discuss any potential issues with program staff upon admission to ensure appropriate planning for the student.***
- ***Be aware that if TUW, in good faith, has approved you to earn clinical hours at a site in which hours counted by the Trainee and signed by the supervisor are subsequently denied by the Board due to misrepresentation of qualifications on the part of the supervisor and/or agency director, or the trainee, TUW cannot be held liable for loss of hours or income or for expenses incurred by the student or in any other way held liable. This makes it especially important that you consult with your Practicum Coordinator and/or the Provost Office staff if you have any questions about your site, your supervision, or issues regarding the earning of hours.***

PRACTICUM COURSE GOALS

The primary goals of the Practicum course are twofold: (1) to help students learn to integrate theory and practice, and (2) to develop interpersonal skills that are associated with effective therapy. At the clinical practicum sites, student trainees provide therapeutic services under supervision. In the Practicum class, students present and discuss cases, show video footage, complete the self-reflection assignments, and discuss overall clinical experience. Students are encouraged to reflect upon their preferred therapeutic models and modalities and the rationale for their use, and to develop the skills of critical thinking.

Practicum is a class and students will have a series of tasks to complete which will include but not be limited to participating in live group supervision each week with TUW supervisor, completing homework assignments, and submitting hours for approval. Likewise, students and their supervisors will be required to complete evaluations. If a student is having a problem at their site, the instructor, coordinator of practicum/Assistant Program Director, or the Program Director will get involved. This may be done informally or formally depending on the nature of the issue. For more on the practicum and associated requirements, see the MFT Handbook.

Before taking Practicum, students must have completed the following courses:

The above courses considered to be the basis for preparation for the Practicum courses.

Course Number	Course Title	Semester Credit Hours
MFT 610	Contemporary Issues in Marriage & Family Therapy	3
MFT 611	Foundations of Psychopathology	3
MFT 612	Couples Counseling	3
MFT 613	Child-Focused Family Therapy	3
MFT 614	Development Within the Family Life Cycle	3
MFT 615	Psychopharmacology	3
MFT 616	Society, Culture and Gender: A Multi-Cultural Perspective	3
MFT 617	Research Methodology	3
MFT 618	Group Counseling	3
MFT 619	Assessment & Testing for Marriage & Family Therapist	3
MFT 630	Ethics & Law for Marriage & Family Therapy	3
*MFT 626	Substance Abuse & Recovery	3

****For students who will be conducting their Practicum at a Drug and Substance Abuse Treatment site, MFT 626 Substance Abuse & Recovery is highly recommended prior to beginning the Practicum.***

*****Note that some states minimum requirements for licensure application may be more than 300 direct client contact hours. Therefore, students are required to check the licensure requirements for their respective state.***