

School of Education  
Department of Counseling Psychology

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT FOR  
M.A. IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY WITH AN EMPHASIS IN MARRIAGE  
AND FAMILY THERAPY (MFT)

**I. Program Goals:**

1. Become academically and professionally competent in the counseling psychology theories and practices required to serve the mental health needs of diverse populations.
2. Become academically, personally, and professionally competent Marriage and Family Therapy clinicians.
3. Understand and utilize issues of social justice as a personal orientation
4. Gain personal awareness and engage in a process of lifelong self-development learning.
5. Understand and comply with the Counseling Psychology/Marriage and Family Therapy Professional Code of Ethics.

**II. Learning Outcomes:**

- 1a. Demonstrate academic competence in all coursework.
- 1b. Demonstrate understanding of problem solving and goal oriented methodologies and application in a clinical setting.
- 1c. Demonstrate understanding of family systems theories and application in a clinical setting.
- 1d. Demonstrate understanding of human lifespan development and application in a clinical setting.
- 1e. Evidence understanding of the principles and practices of multicultural counseling and application in a clinical setting.
- 2a. Complete at least 400 hours of documented fieldwork experience in a approved community setting.
- 2b. Communicate effectively with persons from other cultures, ethnic backgrounds, and socioeconomic status.
- 2c. Relate psychological theory to clinical practice.
- 2d. Demonstrate ethical decision-making.
- 2e. Apply evidence based outcome research to clinical practice.
- 2f. Collaborate with colleagues in their field.
- 3a. Demonstrate sensitivity to the underserved populations.
- 3b. Give service through traineeship and/or volunteer work to underserved populations.
- 3c. Utilize language and demonstrate behavior consistent with peace and social justice.
- 3e. Advocate for social justice with all clients.
- 4a. Develop and awareness of personal beliefs and values.
- 4b. Join and/or attend professional associations and meetings.

- 4c. Recognize a *Counselor as a Person* (personal and professional awareness) in all clinical interactions.
- 4d. Understand the need to seek personal assistance when necessary.
- 4e. Develop a personal stress and coping plan of resources.
- 5a. Evidence awareness of ethics code knowledge.
- 5b. Exemplify ethical and moral decision-making and behavior in all areas of clinical work.

### **III. Assessment Methods:**

- 1. For each course there are a series of assignments and class participation requirements that result in a final grade
- 2. All faculty complete additional mandatory performance evaluations for each student at end of every semester.
- 3. On site Traineeship supervisors complete evaluations of their trainees two times each semester (Midterm and Final evaluations for Fall and Spring).
- 4. Students complete site (informal) evaluations.
- 5. The MFT program coordinators continually gather data from on site supervisors, students, and faculty regarding program efficacy.
- 6. CPY faculty will determine tasks associated with upcoming program revisions and make choices regarding program changes in line with new BBS regulations.\*\* (Please see Footnote at end of report)

### **IV. Timeframe:**

- 1. All students are given grades each semester.
- 2. Faculty assessments of student overall performance in program are completed at the end of each semester and recommended interventions for students are designated in language containing timeline for intervention implementation.
- 3. All on site supervisor evaluations are completed two times a semester, at mid and end of semester.
- 4. Students' informal written assessments of training sites are completed at end of each semester.
- 5. CPY faculty conducts ongoing discussions regarding proposed curriculum and program changes during monthly meetings.\*\*

### **V. Who Will Do the Assessment?**

- 1. Individual instructors assess performance of all assignments and assign final grade.
- 2. USF Traineeship instructors and on-site group and individual supervisors jointly assess performance for Traineeship classes (637 & 638).
- 3. All USF instructors complete written evaluation forms for each student at the end of every semester to determine if learning objectives are being met.
- 4. All instructors are invited to a formal meeting each semester to discuss the needs of any student where there is a significant concern, in order to design specific interventions to support the student.
- 5. Students in Traineeship complete an informal evaluation of their traineeship site once a semester.

## **VI. How Data Will Be Used to Improve Program or Revise Curricula:**

The following represents a three-year plan of action with the purpose to continuously review and revise the curriculum for the Marriage and Family Therapy Program as it stands *at present*. Please see the important note below.:\*\*

### A. Year One Plan:

1. Instructor review of individual course syllabi with the intent to refine stated outcomes and assessments.
2. Program analysis of stated outcomes and assessments for the first, second, and third semester courses
3. Construction of rubrics, as appropriate, for all first through third semester courses.

### B. Year Two Plan:

1. Instructor review of individual course syllabi with the intent to refine stated outcomes and assessments.
2. Program analysis of stated outcomes and assessments for the fourth, fifth and sixth semester courses.
3. Construction of rubrics, as appropriate, for all fourth through sixth semester courses
4. Review Year One outcomes

### C. Year Three Plan:

1. Instructor review of individual course syllabi with the intent to refine stated outcomes and assessments.
2. Program analysis of stated outcomes and assessment for the following courses: CPY 637 and CPY 638. These are Traineeship/Fieldwork specific courses.
3. Construction of rubrics, as appropriate for the above listed courses.
4. Review Year Two outcomes

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** The Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology with an Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy has a curriculum driven by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. The M.A. program meets the academic criteria for the overall California State MFT licensing process. In July 2008, Senate Bill 1218 was passed; It defines the *extensive* program changes (number of units, goals of program, focus of curriculum) that will be mandated for all MFT academic programs in California by 2012. The Counseling Psychology faculty will continue to deliver, assess and revise the current program while *immediately* beginning the task of incorporating the mandated, state required revisions. Therefore, a significantly new and revised program will need to be in place for the Fall 2012 entering class.