Course Description:

Students enrolled in the M.A.in MFTC program receive clinical experience in Marriage and Family Therapy functioning as student therapists in the RTS Center for Marriage and Family Therapy or other approved practicum sites. Student therapists are supervised in accordance with the supervisory standards of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. This course is to be repeated in consecutive terms for a minimum of twelve months and nine semester hours to meet M.A. in MFTC graduation requirements. Thereafter, PSY 656 may be repeated with instructor approval.

During their clinical practica students work closely with supervisors on case assessment, management, and therapeutic intervention. Students do not meet with clients or manage cases alone during their first 100 clinical contact hours. They are paired with advanced student therapists for their first 50 contact hours, junior or advanced student therapists for 51-100 hours, and may engage in solo therapy unless instructed otherwise by clinical faculty.

With written permission from the Clinical Director student therapist may engage in at most 125 off site client contact hours after having accrued at least 100 contact hours in the CMFT.

Course Objectives:

The PSY 656 course objective is that students reach a level of competence to assess family and individual systems, conduct marriage and family/systems therapy and handle case management as primary therapists. Students focus on development of various clinical competencies including the ability to recognize family process and relationship patterns, empathize and join with clients and client systems, intervene, and prepare task assignments.

Course Process:

Clinical supervision typically will be evenly divided between individual (group of 2 or less) and group (group of 3-10 student therapists) modalities.

It is generally desired that student case load steadily grow to an average of 10 therapy hours per week by the end of the first 6 weeks in clinic. Students should average 5 hours per week by the end of the third week of their first Practicum. Students desiring to extend their clinical experience beyond 15 months and/or maintain less than a full case load must receive written permission from the Clinical Director.

PSY 656 continues through class breaks, between terms until graduation. Students are encouraged to take 3 weeks break in one week intervals during their 15 month clinical experience.
PSY 656 Course Process ctd.

Students must prepare clients for such interruptions and provide alternatives for emergency situations.

The last supervision session of each 3 month supervision term will be devoted to private discussion of the professor's assessment of student performance.

**Course Requirements:**

Practicum students should:

1. Be familiar with and comply with clinic policies as listed in the current version of the Clinical Handbook for the Center for Marriage and Family Therapy.
2. (In order to facilitate requirement 1), above, Reread the most current Clinical Handbook and successfully complete (a grade of 95% or above) the Handbook test before the last day of class each Spring semester (2 attempts permitted).
3. Remain current in case notes documentation and delivery. Case notes must be TYPED and placed in Supervisors' Control Room mailboxes within 48 hours of each session (do not count Weekend hours). Each set should specify date of session, date handed in, and “days late” in writing notes. "Days late" is also to be reflected in the hand written Note Log.
4. Participate in weekly peer review procedures as per Handbook specifications.
5. Attend all clinical supervision class meetings unless prior excuse granted by supervisor.
6. Come to each non-live supervision session with a current (less than one week old) video tape cued to a 5-10 minute segment to show to the class.
7. Participate in at least one live supervision per 3 month supervision term.
8. Keep current records via computer system and hand written Note Log.
9. Function as FT 522 Behavioral Rehearsal Consultant during each Spring Term enrolled in PSY 656 in lieu of 6 weeks of required peer review.

**Course Grading:**

Please note that complete fulfillment of course requirements is a necessary, but insufficient cause for passing the course. Failure to complete requirements will be reflected in grades or result in failure.

Clinical supervisors assign grades based on performance in clinic and fulfillment of course requirements. They will take into account quality of case management, completion of peer review, appropriate class preparation, attendance and participation, live supervision, and effectiveness as a therapist. The "Therapist Rating Scale" will be referenced in the grading process each term. Students should be familiar with its contents.
### MAMFTC Student Learning Outcomes

In order to measure the success of the MAMFTC curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MAMFTC outcomes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAMFTC Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion of Curriculum Requirements</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Program Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensure Requirements</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Meets pre-masters state licensure requirements for all typical LMFT and LPC regulatory boards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theoretical/Philosophical Concepts</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Theory considered as per clinical application supervision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Development/Family Relations</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Use of the information is expected to have been gained in other course work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Knowledge</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This course is directly focused on application via client contact practica hours and weekly meetings with clinical supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Identity &amp; Ethics/Ethical Conduct</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Ethical, legal and professional considerations are a regular part of the supervisory experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Theoretical and research underpinnings inform much of the supervisory experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary Culture</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Less development of cultural values and diversity, but definitely regularly addressed in supervision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biblical Worldview</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Less development of such understanding, but definitely its application in therapy regularly addressed in supervision</td>
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