

Master's MFCT FAQs

What is a Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT)?

- A MFT is a mental health professional that sees presenting issues as derived not only from within the individual (intrapersonal), but more so from within the relationships between people (interpersonal).
- Many MFTs further see presenting issues as deriving from not only current relationships, but also from prior relationships and earlier life experiences.
- For more information about the MFCT profession, see American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy www.aamft.org

Is the program accredited?

- Yes, the program has 2 accreditations:
 - COAMFTE: Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education <http://coamfte.org/iMIS15/coamfte/>
 - CACREP: Council on Accreditation for Counseling Related and Education Programs <http://www.cacrep.org/>

Why is the advantage of having 2 accreditations?

- There are very few programs that offer dual accreditation in the nation.
- The dual accreditation allows graduates to apply for 2 clinical licenses, which opens up additional employment opportunities for graduates from our program (for more information about licensure, see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Clinical%20FAQ%20-%20broken%20down%20by%20section.pdf>).

Do you have a on-site clinic?

- Yes, students participate in their first clinical experience at our on-site clinic: Clinic for Individual and Family Counseling. For more information about the Clinic, see <http://www.uakron.edu/cifc/index.dot>

How long does the program take if I am full-time?

- 3 years

What do those 3 years look like?

- 5 semesters of course-work (3-4 courses or approximately 9-12 credit hours per semester)
- In your 4th and 5th semester, you will begin “pre-practicum” in addition to your didactic courses, which is a pre-clinical course. For more information, see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Clinical%20FAQ%20-%20broken%20down%20by%20section.pdf>
- 1 semester of “practicum”
- 2 (or more) semesters of “internship”
- For more information on Practicum and Internship – see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Clinical%20FAQ%20-%20broken%20down%20by%20section.pdf>

What kind of experience will I receive during my time in the MFCT program?

- Our program is focused on training students as a clinicians. The coursework is focused on general requirements to prepare you professionally for providing clinical services, as well as self-reflective/introspective competent to prepare you personally for clinical work.

How many courses and/or credits is the program?

- The curriculum is 21 courses and 63 credits.

Can I be a part-time student?

- Yes – you have a maximum of 6 years to complete the program as a part time student

Can I switch between being full-time and part-time or vice versa?

- Yes. Many students switch between full and part time due to change in life circumstances. Please consult with your advisor about any changes in your life circumstances that impact scheduling?

Do you require a GRE?

- No, not at the Master’s level.

Can I take any courses prior to being admitted as a student?

- Yes, student may take up to 9 credit hours as a nondegree seeking student. Financial aid is not available to nondegree seeking students. Please speak with the MFCT Program Director for more information.

Once I apply, what does the interviewing process look like?

- We conduct in person group interviews, involving group Q and A’s, role-plays, and a writing segment.

When do you admit students?

- We accept applications for fall start student March 15th and applications for spring start students October 1st.

Do you require a final project/thesis?

- No. Our students complete a comprehensive exam in place of a final project/thesis. For more information, see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Clinical%20FAQ%20-%20broken%20down%20by%20section.pdf>

How much does it cost to attend?

- See <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Cost%20of%20Attendance.pdf>

Are there opportunities for assistantships?

- Yes, but at the Master’s level there are very few. We are unable to hire Master’s level students in the School of Counseling because we do not have undergraduate students in our programs.
- When you apply, complete an assistantship application and return it to Sandra White in the School of Counseling. When departments across campus request our student Sandra White will forward applications that are on file for their consideration. We encourage you to be proactive and check across campus on your own to be more successful in obtaining a position.
- For more information about additional financial aid opportunities, see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Financial%20Assistance.pdf>

Can I work while I am a student?

- Yes, due to the timing of courses in the evening and the flexibility of allowing a enrollment part-time option, many of our students choose to maintain full-time employment while enrolled in the program.

What will my schedule look like while I am a student?

- The didactic courses offered in the fall and spring semesters meet once per week in the evening (generally after 5pm).
- Students should expect to be on campus in the evening between 1-3 evenings per week in the fall and spring semesters, depending on class scheduling and how many courses taken in a given semester.
- Courses offered during the summer vary in terms of the time of day and day of the week due to the condensed sessions offered during the summer term.

Will classes be located on the UAkron Campus?

- Yes, all in person courses are offered on the Uakron campus.

Do you have an online degree option?

- No, although some of our courses do offer hybrid designs.

What is the average class size?

- All of our didactic courses have between 10-30 students, depending on the class.
- The MFCT program is housed within the School of Counseling, which offers 2 additional counseling programs. We share some courses with these additional programs, so those course tend to be larger than MFCT-specific courses.
- All of our clinical courses have between 3-6 students to allow for individualized attention during supervision of clinical cases.

How is scheduling of courses determined?

- All first semester student will receive an email from Sandra White and their advisor advising them of courses they should enroll in that semester.
- During their first semester, student will meet with their advisor to complete their Program Course Description (PCD), which outlines the courses they will take throughout their time in the program based on their individual needs.

Can I deviate from my PCD in scheduling courses?

- Not without your advisor’s approval. The courses in the MFCT program are only offered during specific semesters and if students become creative in scheduling, they can add significant time to their program (up to an additional year).

What are the topics of the courses?

- Marriage and Family Therapy Theories, Individual counseling theories, Group Therapy, Personality, Individual and Family development, Sexuality, Techniques, Diagnosing, Assessment, Multiculturalism, Ethics, Research, Career, Pre-practicum, Practicum, Internship

Can I transfer in credits?

- Yes, some credits can be transferred in. Please talk with your advisor to discuss your specific circumstances.

How many clinical hours do I complete?

- You will complete 500 direct client contact hours before graduation. For more information, see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/documents/policies/Clinical%20FAQ%20-%20broken%20down%20by%20section.pdf>

Are there research opportunities?

- There is no research requirement at the Masters level.
- Students who are interested in research should talk with their advisor about opportunities for getting involved in research projects in the department.

Do you have a student organization?

- Yes, we have an international honor society: Delta Kappa Lambda (DKL)
- For more information on DKL, see <http://uakron.edu/soc/deltakappalambda.dot>

What if I am interested in a doctoral program after I complete my Master’s?

- Our program prepares students well for doctoral programs, whether that be in house, or elsewhere.
- For more information on the in house doctoral MFCT program, see <http://www.uakron.edu/soc/doctoral/mft-doctoral/index.dot>

What do career opportunities look like post-graduation?

- The majority of our students are offered clinical jobs at their internship locations.
- Our graduates are able to obtain employment at community-based outpatient and in-home service agencies, residential treatment facilities, schools, hospitals, private practice, etc.