

CHFD 9070 Practicum in Marriage and Family Therapy
The University of Georgia

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Class Location:	McPhaul MFT Clinic	Cell Phone:	706-340-5643
Office Hours:	By appointment	Class Time:	

Course Description:

CFD 9070 is a 3 credit course that provides students the opportunity to obtain Direct Client Contact (DCC) hours with individuals, couples, and families and to receive weekly supervision designed to prepare the student to practice marriage and family therapy.

Session Format:

To be determined the first class:

Note: Students should bring DVD's of their work in the event that there is an open hour due to a cancellation. The instructor may provide individual supervision each week in addition to that obtained in the practicum session as needed.

Course Goals:

1. To provide supervision in marriage and family therapy.
2. Increase clinical skills appropriate to doctoral level education and clinical experience.
3. Appropriately apply MFT theory and technique to clinical cases.
4. Perform clinical work in a professional and ethical manner.
5. Assess issues of age, gender, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, health and physical disability, SES, and religious orientation in treatment.
6. Present cases in an appropriate manner for clinical review (including such aspects as diagnosis and systemic assessment, development of a case summary and a systemic treatment plan).
7. Work as a supervision team and when possible work as a reflecting team.
8. To receive supervision on the financial counseling/couples therapy project (if involved)

Course Requirements:

- Formally present **at least three** cases during the semester (either live or DVD).
- Maintain an adequate caseload
- Provide an ongoing written summary of each case (including client(s) characteristics, systemic context, presenting problem(s), treatment plan, progress, concerns, theoretical model(s) employed
- Maintain an update on your progress towards the clinical rubric assessment
- Complete and submit a statement of clinical goals at the beginning of the semester and an update of progress toward these goals at the end of the semester.
- Maintain responsibility for assigned cases through the course (scheduling, appointments, correspondence, paperwork, monitoring client progress, referrals, follow-up, and termination).
- **Attend ALL practicum classes**, actively engage in group supervision by providing colleagues with honest, respectful, critical, and encouraging feedback on their clinical work, and respect the confidentiality at all times. If you are unable to attend a class or will be late, it is necessary that you inform the instructor prior to class.
- Conduct therapy for observation during practicum. Everyone must schedule clients every week and observe colleagues when you are not doing therapy.
- If you are involved in the financial counseling/couple's therapy project, attend additional meetings as needed.

- Conduct a final evaluation in individual supervision to review your goal statement, and give and receive feedback regarding the supervisory experience.

DVD supervision will be conducted in the event of client cancellations. Additional case supervision will be provided as needed, such as in the case of emergency or crisis situations.

Grading:

Letter grades (A-F) will be assigned based on attendance, performance, preparedness for supervision, presentation of cases, scheduling live observations, accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of all documentation, and achievement of goals to improve your work as therapists. If there is a reason why any of the below requirements need to be changed (e.g. due to other commitments), please arrange an alternative contract with the instructor.

Grades will be based on student's fulfillment of the course requirements, practicum participation, professionalism, and progress toward goals. Professionalism includes professional dress, consistent attendance and being on time for practicum, maintaining clinic files in a timely manner, professional demeanor toward clients, and case management. This is a major factor in determining grades. Plus and minus will be assigned according to the fulfillment of the following:

A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend all practicum classes. • Present at least 3 sessions during practicum. • Apply basic MFT theories and systems thinking every time you discuss a case, regardless if it is your own. Know the difference between process, content, and context. • For students with an MFT masters degree, demonstrate knowledge of all major MFT theories and offer a deeper understanding, critique, and application of specific models. • Give direct and honest feedback to peers and support peers' progress. • Openly discuss self-of-the-therapist issues (family of origin, growth areas, emotional reactivity, etc.) and be clear about clinical and personal goals. • Be willing to learn by taking risks, applying new models or ideas to therapy, and being receptive to feedback. • Be responsible and professional in your demeanor, dress, and work ethic. • Complete goal statement and demonstrate efforts to work toward goal(s). • Complete all required paperwork and assignments in a timely manner.
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss 2 practicum classes regardless of reason. • Present at least 2 sessions during practicum. • Be open with self-of-the-therapist issues and clear about clinical and personal goals. • Demonstrate competence and ability to apply MFT theories and systems thinking, however more vaguely than for the criteria listed for the A grade. • Professional demeanor, dress, and work ethic; however, improvement is needed in these areas. • Complete most required paperwork and assignments in a timely manner.
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss more than 3 practicum classes regardless of reason. • Present only 1 case during practicum. • Do not demonstrate competency in systems thinking and basic MFT theories. • Refrain from discussing self-of-the-therapist issues. • Demonstrate a lack of willingness to learn, take risks, apply new models or ideas to

	<p>therapy, and discount feedback provided in practicum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional demeanor, dress, and work ethic; however, considerable improvement is needed in these areas. Complete required paperwork and assignments, but not in a timely manner.
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miss more than 4 practicum classes. Fail to bring in a case to observe during practicum. Do not demonstrate competency in systems thinking or basic MFT theories. Refrain from discussing self-of-the therapist issues. Unprofessional demeanor and work ethic. Neglect required paperwork and assignments.
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miss more than 5 practicum classes. Do not demonstrate competence in family systems theory or basic MFT theories. Clearly unprofessional demeanor and work ethic. Neglect required paperwork and assignments.

Goal Statement: You must give a copy of your goals to the supervisor by the due date.

- Describe your strengths and areas for growth as a therapist.
- List personal goals you wish to accomplish in practicum this semester.
- List group goals you wish to accomplish in practicum this semester.
- Provide a behavioral description for each goal of how you will strive to meet those goals.
- Briefly list resources you can use to meet your goals or how you plan to overcome any obstacles that may interfere with achieving your goals.

End of Semester Goal Review:

- Use a behavioral description of how you saw yourself meeting your goals (or an explanation for why you may have not fully met your goals). Use scaling questions or other means to measure your progress.
- Describe what you learned about yourself as a therapist as a result of working toward your goals.

Outline for Case Presentations

- State your **purpose** for presenting the case and what you want from the team.
- Briefly outline **therapy progress** to date (number of sessions, context of therapy).
- Give your **analysis of the case**, mentioning the major theories you have used to conceptualize the case in systemic terms.
- Discuss any **self-of-the-therapist issues** that may be affecting your work.
- Provide an overview** of how you see the case progressing toward therapeutic goals.
- Tell the team what you want from supervision. How can we help you reach your goals?

Required Paperwork and Assignments:

Client Intake Materials and Research Protocol

Students are required to complete all intake materials in a timely manner and to administer the current MFT Clinic Research Protocol throughout treatment.

Client Case Notes

Students are required to complete a case note on all sessions/significant interactions with the client. These are to be signed by the supervisor and discussed in supervision. Case notes must be completed and signed in a timely manner. Students who do not complete their case notes and other clinical materials may receive a deferred grade until notes are completed.

Monthly Direct Client Contact Supervision Logs

Students are expected to keep records of all client contact and supervision hours.

Semester Evaluations

Evaluations of students will be according to the developmentally-based evaluation form. The supervisor and student will meet individually to complete and discuss student evaluations at the end of the semester to include perceptions of strengths, weaknesses and goal completion. Both supervisor and student must sign the evaluation forms. It is advisable for students to make and keep a copy of their own and the supervisors' evaluations after they have been signed. Students will also be asked to evaluate their supervisors formally at the end of the semester using a Supervisory Experience Evaluation Form. These will be completed anonymously and provided to the supervisor only after grades have been submitted.

Case Presentations

Students will take turns presenting their cases. Case presentations will address chief complaints, symptoms (individual and relational), DSM-IV diagnosis as appropriate, and a treatment plan.

Emergency Coverage: Your **MUST** contact me (or the supervisor providing coverage) in case of an emergency, especially concerns about violence, child abuse and neglect, or suicide.

Academic Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty". Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The academic honesty policy website is:

http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm

Students with Special Needs:

Students with special needs or a disability should schedule an appointment to discuss this with the professor immediately.

Protection of Private Information:

If you have requested a restriction of your personal information please call or email the instructor as soon as possible and we will have another way of taking role and addressing names in class.