

MTS – MICHIGAN PROGRAM ADDITION – March 12, 2015

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The marriage & family post-graduate certificate program is intended for those who already have a clinical master's degree and related license in a mental health field and want to specialize in marriage & family counseling. The Marriage & Family Certificate provides classes that compliment coursework already taken in one's previous degree program and can help position students to apply for the Marriage & Family Therapy license.

Students will develop an understanding of dynamic individual and family issues from a systems perspective so as to be able to counsel couples and families as they deal with the complexities of modern life. Students will take coursework that will focus on the theories of marriage & family therapy so as to help them to know what it means to be a professional, ethical marriage & family counselor. Importantly, students will integrate this understanding within a Biblical framework to help them to be able to intervene with marriages and families from a Christian perspective.

The Certificate program is comprised of six marriage & family courses that emphasize theory, intervention, and family studies. Students will also need to complete an appropriate marriage & family therapy **practicum** experience to help them put into practice that which they are learning in the program. Students must make sure that they fashion their particular practicum experience to align with the particular licensing requirements of their home state.

PROGRAM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from this program, a student must fulfill the following requirements and secure approval from the faculty:

1. Successfully complete all academic program requirements and course work described in the schedule below, with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 and within the time allotted (3 years).
2. Demonstrate professional competency (professional component) – see page 22 in the 2014-2015 MTS catalog.
3. Demonstrate mature Christian character in relationships (relational component) – see page 22 in the 2014-2015 MTS catalog.
4. Successfully complete the exit-interview process.
5. Sign a statement of agreement with the MBI doctrinal position.
6. Pay the graduation fee.

Students enrolled in the Marriage and Family Post- Graduate Certificate program must complete 16 semester credit hours. The academic requirements are divided as follows:

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

PY-5508	Families: Theory, Assessment and Therapy	2
PY-5509	Premarital Counseling & Marriage Therapy	3
PY-6604	Marriage & Family Dynamics	3
PY-6615	Children & Adolescents in the Family: Psychopathology & Therapy	2
PY-6616	Strengthening Families: Theories/Intervention Strategies	3
PY-6622	Ethics, Professional Practice and Crisis Intervention in Family Therapy	3

CURRICULUM PLAN – 1 year

FALL		SPRING	
PY-5508 Families: Theory, Assessment and Therapy	2	PY-5509 Premarital Counseling & Marriage Therapy	3
PY-6616 Strengthening Families: Theories/Intervention Strategies	3	PY-6615 Children & Adolescents in the Family: Psychopathology & Therapy	2
Total Semester Hours	5	Total Semester Hours	5
		SUMMER	
		PY-6604 Marriage & Family Dynamics	3
		PY-6622 Ethics, Professional Practice and Crisis Intervention in Family Therapy	3
		Total Semester Hours	6
		TOTAL PROGRAM CREDITS	16

PY-5508—Families: Theory, Assessment and Therapy
—2 credit hours

Students will study the Biblical foundation for the family, and will review & critique (theological & theoretical) major approaches to family therapy, with particular attention given to Systems theory. Intervention and assessment strategies will be considered.

PY-5509—Premarital Counseling & Marriage Therapy
—3 credit hours

Students will examine the place & purpose of premarital counseling and will develop resources & techniques that may be used with couples contemplating marriage. Students will also develop knowledge & skills related to the process of marriage counseling.

PY-6604—Marriage & Family Dynamics
—3 credit hours

This course is an analysis of the professional literature is examined as it relates to both normal and dysfunctional marriage and family patterns. It includes a study of assessment of family strengths and problems and strategies for counseling.

PY-6615—Children & Adolescents in the Family: Psychopathology & Therapy
—2 credit hours

Students will acquire a developmentally sensitive understanding of psychopathology, assessment & intervention of children & adolescents, with emphasis given to the relevance and impact of the family context.

PY-6616—Strengthening Families: Theories/Intervention Strategies
—3 credit hours

An examination of challenges & intervention strategies related to individual & family development over time, including marriage preparation, parenthood, work & family issues, society & family issues, chronic illness & disability, and aging.

PY-6622—Ethics, Professional Practice and Crisis Intervention in Family Therapy

—3 *credit hours*

This course is designed for Marriage and Family Therapy students. It is not a general ethics course. Content areas will include matters related to professional identity, including professional socialization, scope of practice, professional organizations, licensure, and certification for couple/marriage and family therapists. Additionally, ethical issues related to the profession of marriage and family therapy will be stressed, including the AAMFT Code of Ethics, confidentiality issues, the legal responsibilities of clinical practice and research, family law, record keeping, reimbursement, and the business aspects of practice. Critical issues related to abuse, violence in the home, and crisis intervention will be considered.