

LMFT CE FOCUS AREAS

A. Marriage and family studies: Courses in this area should present a fundamental introduction to marriage and family studies. The student should learn to think across a wide variety of family structures and a diverse range of issues (i.e., gender, culture, and substance abuse). Topic areas may include but not limited to family development, subsystems, blended families, gender issues in families, cultural issues in families.

B. Systems theory: Courses in this area should address the historical development, theoretical and empirical foundations, and contemporary conceptual directions of the field of marriage and family therapy.

C. Research: Courses in this area should assist the student in understanding and performing research. Topic areas may include research methodology, qualitative and quantitative methods, and statistics.

D. Professional ethics: Courses in this area must include the "American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy" (AAMFT) code of ethics, confidentiality and liabilities of clinical practice and research, professional ethics as a marriage and family therapist, professional socialization and the role of the professional organization, licensure or certification legislation, independent practice and inter professional cooperation. Religious ethics courses and moral theology courses do not meet this requirement.

E. Human growth and development: Courses in this area should provide knowledge of personality development and its normal and abnormal manifestations. The student should have relevant coursework in human development across the lifespan, which includes special issues that should be integrated with systems concepts. Topic areas may include but are not limited to human development, psychopathology, personality theory, human sexuality. Test and measurement courses do not meet this requirement.

F. Appraisal of individuals and families includes individual and family differences, methods of data gathering and interpretation, individual, family and group testing, and case study.

G. Principles of etiology, assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders and dysfunctional behavior.

H. Veterans and family members of veterans - mental health conditions common to veterans and family members of veterans may include, but not be limited to, inquiring about whether clients are veterans or family members of veterans; screening for conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder; readjustment issues; risk of suicide and prevention of suicide; military sexual assault; and depression and grief.