Medical Family Therapy
Doctoral Handbook
2017-18
East Carolina University

Permission to Establish January 2004
First Cohort August 2005
COAMFTE Accredited January 1, 2007
COAMFTE Re-Accredited May 1, 2013

STUDENTS ARE HELD TO THE CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS OF THE HANDBOOK THEY ENTERED THE PROGRAM UNDER; HOWEVER, THEY ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE MOST RECENT HANDBOOK REVISIONS REGARDING ANY POLICY AND PROCEDURE CHANGES.
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Doctor of Philosophy in Medical Family Therapy
In January 2004, the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina approved East Carolina University’s proposal to offer the first doctoral degree in Medical Family Therapy through the Department of Child Development and Family Relations in the College of Human Ecology. The first class began doctoral study in the fall of 2005. The first doctoral students graduated from the Medical Family Therapy program in May of 2008. In 2015, the program and its’ Department moved to a new college, the College of Health and Human Performance and the name of the Department was renamed Human Development and Family Sciences.

ECU Mission Statement

To be a national model for student success, public service and regional transformation, East Carolina University:
- Uses innovative learning strategies and delivery methods to maximize access;
- Prepares students with the knowledge, skills and values to succeed in a global, multicultural society;
- Develops tomorrow’s leaders to serve and inspire positive change;
- Discovers new knowledge and innovations to support a thriving future for eastern North Carolina and beyond;
- Transforms health care, promotes wellness, and reduces health disparities; and
- Improves quality of life through cultural enrichment, academics, the arts, and athletics.

We accomplish our mission through education, research, creative activities, and service while being good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

Approved by the Board of Trustees in July, 2013
Approved by the Board of Governors in February 2014

ECU College of Health and Human Performance (HHP) Mission Statement

The mission of the College of Health and Human Performance is to improve health, well-being, and quality of life. By providing instruction, conducting research, and performing service in health, exercise science, recreation, and leisure, the college strives to advance and disseminate knowledge concerning enhancement of health, physical performance, and quality of life of individuals and communities, particularly those is eastern North Carolina.
HHP Department of Human Development and Family Science Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Human Development and Family Science is to educate future leaders and professionals to enrich the wellbeing of individuals, children, families, and communities through innovative teaching, research, service and community engagement.

MedFT Mission Statement

The mission of the doctoral program in Medical Family Therapy (MedFT) is “to prepare leaders in the advancement of science, practice, and policy in the field of Medical Family Therapy via a relational, biopsychosocial-spiritual, and multiculturally-informed framework.”

Approved by MedFT Community of Interest January 22, 2015
Approved by MedFT Faculty May 18, 2015

Core Faculty & Leadership Team

The Core Faculty are those who have a full-time faculty contract and are appointed as graduate faculty assigned to the MedFT doctoral program. Core faculty may teach graduate and undergraduate courses but retain specific primary responsibilities for the instruction, supervision and advising of the MedFT doctoral students. Core faculty have received doctoral training in marriage and family therapy or a closely related degree, have research, teaching, and/or clinical expertise in Medical Family Therapy, and have a primary identity as a Marriage and Family Therapist and/or Medical Family Therapist. Descriptions of Director and Coordinator duties are listed in Appendix D.

Core faculty for the MedFT doctoral program:
Jennifer Hodgson, PhD, LMFT- Program Director & Professional Development Coordinator (PhD)
Angela Lamson, PhD, LMFT- Global and Diversity Awareness Coordinator
Damon Rappleyea, PhD, LMFT-Master’s Program Director & Professional Development Coordinator (MS)
Andrew “Andy” Brimhall, PhD, LMFT - Teaching Coordinator
Katharine “Kit” Didericksen, PhD, LMFT-Research Coordinator
Jakob “Jake” Jensen, PhD, LMFT-Supervision Coordinator

Family Therapy Clinic Director:
Erin Roberts-ECU Family Therapy Clinic Director/MS Internship Coordinator
Program’s Educational Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

The doctoral program in MedFT at East Carolina University (ECU) is designed to prepare academicians who will advance the art and science of MedFT. Its curriculum is built upon an accredited clinical master’s degree in marriage and family therapy and honors the standards outlined by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE).

The overall goal is to prepare students to be well grounded in a biopsychosocial-spiritual systems framework with an application to research, training, policy, and clinical practice. However, several program goals guide the student learning outcomes described below. Our mission, goal, and educational outcomes reflect the following professional influences: (1) Professional Marriage and Family Therapy Standards and Educational Guidelines; (2) AAMFT Core Competencies; (3) AAMFT Code of Ethics; (4) AMFTRB (regulatory board) Guidelines; and (5) the North Carolina Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Act and Administrative Rules. In addition, the MedFT faculty collaboratively co-authored the AAMFT Competencies for Family Therapists in Healthcare Settings (2018) that are used to guide the program’s curriculum and training (see Appendix C). Those that apply are listed on the syllabi for each required program course.

Program Goals

The MedFT doctoral program has six program goals (PG). Each corresponds with the same numbered Student Learning Outcome in the section below.

PG 1: Train students to have expertise in Medical Family Therapy literature and relevant health-related theories and frameworks.
PG 2: Train students to demonstrate Medical Family Therapy skills in a variety of health-related contexts.
PG 3: Train students to be globally minded and sensitive to social location factors in all applications of their work.
PG 4: Train students to be competent independent researchers.
PG 5: Train students to be ethical in their applications of Medical Family Therapy.
PG 6: To graduate students to meet the direct client contact hour requirement, who are eligible for American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor Candidacy Status, and graduate by the advertised length to completion.

Initial Draft approved by MedFT Community of Interest January 22, 2015
Initial Draft approved by MedFT Faculty May 18, 2015

Medical Family Therapy Doctoral Program’s Student Learning Outcomes
The student learning outcomes that are used to guide the MedFT doctoral program at East Carolina University are presented below. Associated with each student learning outcome are the corresponding commitments aligned to the East Carolina University strategic plan (Maximizing Student Success, Serving the Public, Leading Regional Transformation).

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. **Knowledge** - Examine and synthesize the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings of MedFT with current literature through the use of the biopsychosocial-spiritual, systemic, and biomedical paradigms.

   **Leading Regional Transformation. ECU Guiding Principle 5.1. Improve health.** A major component of ECU’s mission is to improve the health of eastern North Carolina. We have developed superior programs in all dimensions of understanding human health and delivering services to a dispersed, rural population.

2. **Practice** - Ability to translate MedFT knowledge, empirical support, and skills into a variety of healthcare and academic contexts, specifically through collaborative and integrated behavioral health care, research/program evaluation, supervision, and leadership.

   **Serving the Public. ECU Guiding Principle 2.1. Produce graduates ready to work and serve.** From its beginning as a school for teachers, ECU has focused on producing a workforce to meet the needs of our region and state. Through cooperation with business and industry, we are redoubling our efforts to produce graduates who are ready to go to work and to serve their communities.

3. **Diversity** - Evaluate and design models of research, training, and/or practice that recognize multicultural systems embedded within communities of interest.

   **Leading Regional Transformation. ECU Guiding Principle 7.1. Keep our commitment to diversity and inclusiveness.** ECU welcomes all people to be part of our living, working, and learning community. We grow in strength as we diversify our students, staff, and faculty.

4. **Research** - Design, analyze, and report findings from independent research using a variety of methods relevant to the field of MedFT.

   **Maximizing Student Success. ECU Guiding Principle 4.1. Discover and innovate.** East Carolina will champion mission-driven research and innovation. We will increase research funding and strengthen our research infrastructure to address the region’s challenges and opportunities.

5. **Ethics** - Interpret and discuss legal and ethical issues affecting healthcare research, supervision, practice, and policy.
Serving the Public. ECU Guiding Principle 5.1. Improve health. A major component of ECU’s mission is to improve the health of eastern North Carolina. We have developed superior programs in all dimensions of understanding human health and delivering services to a dispersed, rural population.

6. Student Achievement- To graduate students who meet the 500 direct client contact hour requirement, are eligible for American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor Candidacy Status, and graduate by the advertised length to completion.

Serving the Public. ECU Guiding Principle 2.1. Produce graduates ready to work and serve. From its beginning as a school for teachers, ECU has focused on producing a workforce to meet the needs of our region and state. Through cooperation with business and industry, we are redoubling our efforts to produce graduates who are ready to go to work and to serve their communities.

** See Appendix F for the MedFT Program Mission, Goals, and Outcomes Chart

*Initial Draft approved by MedFT Community of Interest January 22, 2015
Approved by MedFT Faculty May 18, 2015
Revised Draft approved by MedFT Community of Interest August 1, 2016
Approved by MedFT Faculty August 9, 2016

Diversity Statement

The Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) and Medical Family Therapy (MedFT) programs at East Carolina University are committed to equality and prohibit the unlawful discrimination on the following protected classes: race, ethnicity, color, genetic information, national origin, citizenship, religion and spiritual beliefs and/or affiliation, sex (including pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity, age, relationship status, socioeconomic status, disability, health status, political affiliation and veteran status.

Approved by MedFT Faculty November 27, 2017
Academic Requirements

Prerequisites

The doctoral program is a 59-semester hour program. Prior to admittance, students must have completed a Master’s degree in a human service field. If students did not graduate from a COAMFTE-accredited MFT master’s degree program, prior to graduation from the MedFT program they must complete the Master program’s marriage and family therapy standard curriculum described below unless they can demonstrate having successfully completed graduate coursework in each required competency area (See Table 1) and successfully passed the marriage and family therapy competency exam or the North Carolina marriage and family therapy licensure exam. Doctoral students may petition the program director to receive an approval for a course equivalency on a master’s program course if mastery of content has been achieved in another graduate education or clinical context. Permission to receive an approval for a course equivalency may only be conducted by the program director in agreement with the faculty member who teaches the equivalent course at ECU. Course catalog descriptions are required for any courses students wish to transfer into the program or request to be approved as course equivalent. Syllabi are recommended as well and may be requested for any courses that remain uncertain for equivalency upon reviewing the course catalog descriptions. All courses must be approved by each student’s permanent advisor and/or the program director, as well as instructors who teach “equivalent” courses at ECU.

All students preparing to enter the doctoral program should also have a Candidacy Project (i.e., thesis or thesis equivalency) near completion by the start of the PhD program. Students are given until the end of their second semester of their first year in the program to provide proof of a completed Candidacy Project. Evidence of the current status of the Candidacy Project (must be at least 75% completed) must be ready to submit to the program director prior to the start of the first day of classes. All theses must include the title page, signature page, and abstract. All thesis equivalencies must include a letter from an editor, permanent advisor, or co-author who was directly involved with the thesis equivalency stating that the student completed at least 50% of the contribution to the project. An abstract of the document must also be submitted along with the letter. Form D should be completed to confirm the project and its due date, as well as its successful completion.

Table 1. ECU/COAMFTE Masters Curriculum Didactic Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundational Curriculum Areas</th>
<th>Minimum Requirements</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FCA 1</td>
<td>HDFS 6407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HDFS 6408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HDFS 6412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCA2</td>
<td>HDFS 6300</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>HDFS 6415</td>
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Doctoral Program Requirements

The doctoral program includes coursework in theory and philosophy, research and statistics, clinical practice and supervision, and internship and dissertation. See Table 2 for a description of the curriculum.

Table 2. ECU/COAMFTE Doctoral Curriculum Didactic Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advanced Curriculum Areas</th>
<th>Minimum Requirements</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| ACA 1 –Advanced Research (total 23 required credits) | ACA1a-Statistics I and II –PSYC 6430 or PSYC 7431 AND PSYC 6327 or PSYC 7505  
ACA1a-Qualitative Research Methods-HLTH 7100  
ACA1b-Advanced Research Methods in MedFT-HDFS 8400  
ACA1b-Qualitative Research Methods—HLTH 7100  
ACA1b-Advanced Research Methods in MedFT-HDFS 8400  
ACA1c-Advanced Research Methods in MedFT-HDFS 8400  
ACA1c-Advanced Theory in MedFT-HDFS 8402  
ACA1d-Research Ethics-HUMS 7004*  
ACA1d-Advanced Research Methods in MedFT-HDFS 8400  
ACA1d-Advanced Theories in MedFT-HDFS 8402  
ACA1d- Gender & Ethnicity in Medical Family Therapy-HDFS 8403  
ACA1e-Introduction to Medical Family Therapy-HDFS 7401*  
*these courses are shared with ACA3 |
| ACA2- Advanced Relational/Systemic Clinical Theory (total 6 required credits) | ACA2- Illness & Disability Across the Lifespan-HDFS 7409  
ACA2- Medical Family Therapy Practicum I-HDFS 8404 |
| ACA3- Advanced Relational/Systemic Applications to Contemporary Challenges (total 8 required credits) | ACA3-Research Ethics-HUMS 7004*  
ACA3-Introduction to Medical Family Therapy-HDFS 7401*  
ACA3-Family Therapy Supervision Methods and Practice-HDFS 7502* |
**these courses are shared with ACA1 or ACA4

ACA4- Foundations of Relational/Systemic Teaching, Supervision, Consultation, and/or Leadership (total 3 credits)

*these courses are shared with ACA3

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*these courses are shared with ACA1 or ACA4</td>
<td>ACA4- Family Therapy Supervision Methods and Practice-HDFS 7502*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Required for Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>32 semester hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32 semester hours</td>
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</table>

**Additional Courses**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cognates (6 s.h.)- may select from the following or consent of advisor</td>
<td>6 semester hours of approved graduate level cognates aligned with MedFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives (6 s.h.)</td>
<td>6 semester hours of approved graduate level electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation (min 6 s.h.)</td>
<td>HDFS 9000 Dissertation All students must enroll in a minimum of 6 s.h. of dissertation credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship (9 s.h.)</td>
<td>HDFS 8910, 8911, and 8912 Family Therapy Research/Clinical Internship</td>
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**Total for Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>27 semester hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 semester hours</td>
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</table>

**Academic Policies and Procedures**

**Length of Program**

Students are required to complete a minimum of 59 semester hours beyond the Master’s degree and COAMFTE standard Master’s degree curriculum requirements. Some students may be required to enroll in more than the minimum required semester hours to comply with COAMFTE standards or to complete dissertation credit hours. Students must be continuously enrolled in the program until completion of the dissertation and internship unless excused for medical purposes. Once a student enrolls in dissertation credits for the first time, they must stay continuously enrolled in dissertation credits until the point of graduation, including enrollment during the summer semester (unless excused by an ECU Medical Leave). Students who registered for summer credits or defended during the summer but did not complete their dissertation edits and submission by the summer deadline must register for fall dissertation credits.

**Cognate and Elective Courses**

Cognate courses are taken in addition to the core MedFT and MFT required courses and should relate to the study of health and health conditions, wellness, and/or collaboration across disciplines in healthcare settings. Elective courses may be MedFT/MFT-relevant, research, teaching experience (e.g., medical school/**university teaching, additional statistics/research methods courses), or may be additional cognate courses in a health-related area. It is the student’s responsibility to seek elective and cognate courses and present the selections to their advisor for written approval on the Program of Study Form
Under approval by a student’s permanent advisor, a student may combine cognate and elective credits toward a certificate (e.g., Statistics Certificate or Biofeedback Certificate).

Degree Works has some courses listed that students may select from for their cognates and electives. Students are not restricted to that list of courses but should seek approval from their Permanent Advisor, or the Program Director, if a Permanent Advisor has not already been selected. A course not listed on Degree Works will need to be added by the Program Director. Note: students may count HDFS 8405, the second practicum offered in the MedFT program as one of their cognates or electives.

It is important that students apply for and get accepted into a certificate prior to taking classes for the certificate. The students’ Degree Works audits will not show information about the requirements for the certificate until the student is formally accepted into the program. Faculty who manage certificates or find students often enroll in certificates along with degrees, will do their best to remind students to apply for certificates on a regular basis so that students are doing this prior to taking more than 1-2 classes. Ultimately, it is the student’s responsibility to be accountable for seeking certificates. Certificates cannot be applied for and awarded after classes have already been completed. Requests for addition of certificates retroactively may not be approved.

**Students who want undergraduate university teaching experience, should contact the program director in their first semester. Students who wish to teach their own undergraduate course will be directed to enroll in an independent study course (HDFS 6500) the semester they will be teaching. This would count as one of the student’s required 3-credit hour elective courses. Note: The HDFS department has an instructor training process for students to complete before teaching in the department. This instructor training process is typically offered every spring semester. Students who have undergraduate teaching experience may petition in writing to the HDFS Director of Graduate Studies, to have the training process waived (see MedFT Program Director for more details).

**Program of Study Form**

The PhD program only admits full-time students. Since enrollment in the doctoral program tends to be limited and very competitive, students must adhere to their Program of Study, as courses are not offered every semester or year. A deviation from one’s Program of Study Form (Form A) may mean a delay in graduation of one or more semesters.

**Time Limits for Completion**

The doctoral degree program must be completed before the end of the fifth year after the full-time student began taking courses in the doctoral program. For example, students who enrolled in the PhD program in August 2017 would have until May 2022 to complete their degree requirements. The time limitation does not include transfer credits, only credits obtained while enrolled in the program. With endorsement of the student’s
permanent graduate committee and the director of the MedFT program, students may request one extension of not more than one semester, summer included.

If students have completed two 3-credit dissertation courses (minimum number of dissertation credits required by the program) but have not yet defended, they must maintain continuous enrollment in dissertation credits until the dissertation has been successfully defended (unless granted a medical leave by ECU). Students must be able to provide evidence of ongoing dissertation progress throughout the semester (e.g., collected data/written content) in order to receive an “in progress” grade at the end of the semester. Students who receive a mark/grade that denotes that the dissertation is not passing/progressing will result in academic probation which could also include termination from the program. A remediation plan or terms of dismissal will be provided to the student by the student’s permanent advisor and/or program director.

**Progress Toward Degree Completion**

If students do not progress or progress unsatisfactorily at any point in their program of study, students will be placed on a remediation plan and may be terminated from the program if they do not demonstrate positive progress accordingly. Students will have no more than one semester to make progress to satisfy individualized remediation plans or risk being terminated from the program. Students must maintain the GPA requirements and procedures outlined by the Graduate School (www.ecu.edu/gradschool) and cannot receive the grade of a “C” in any of the MedFT core courses (HDFS 7401, 7409, 7502, 8400, 8402, 8403, 8404). Students may be given the option to retake a core course or take an incomplete (which is up to the discretion of the instructor); however, they must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA in order to be offered an option to retake the course. Instructors follow what is written in the ECU Faculty Manual or you may want to refer to the specific policy on incompletes for what constitutes an incomplete grade.

If a student takes a leave of absence for more than two semesters, the student must re-apply for admission to the ECU Graduate School. Upon graduate school re-admission, the student will then need to complete a panel review with MedFT program faculty to determine whether re-admission into the doctoral program is appropriate. At least two weeks prior to this panel review, the student must complete and submit to the program director (who will then distribute it to the MedFT/MFT faculty) a plan of action for accomplishing program requirements. If the leave occurred during the course of the dissertation phase, students must have their dissertation updated to reflect current literature, research, and contributions to the field, as well as have a product that reflects the appropriate progress necessary to re-enter the program (i.e., the dissertation must be completed in alignment with the dissertation syllabus requirements registered for thus far) in order to graduate within the advertised time. The student should correspond with their permanent advisor on a regular basis during a leave of absence and in preparation for the return to ensure that all procedures are followed.

**Non-degree Credit**

A maximum of nine semester hours of course work taken as a non-degree student may be applied toward the credit requirements of the doctoral degree program. Students must
provide official and written documentation of all coursework (i.e., official transcript and a copy of the course syllabi dated to match what appears on the transcript) and coordinate the transfer of non-degree credit with program director prior to program admission.

**Transfer Credits**

The Administrative Board of the Graduate School must approve petitions for application of transfer credit. Ordinarily the Board will approve the application of graduate course transfer only if: (a) the Department of Human Development and Family Science so recommends; (b) the graduate credit was earned at a regionally accredited institution; (c) the student was admitted to a formal graduate degree program at the time the credit was earned with a minimal final course of grade of B or above; and (d) the credit can be satisfactorily incorporated within the applicable time frame for completion of all degree requirements. Up to 9 semesters hours of course credit may be transferred in and applied toward the doctoral program, upon program director approval, as long as the credits have not already been applied toward a degree. Certain courses may be considered course equivalents by the program if the faculty determines that the requirements for those courses (e.g., statistics) have been met in a student’s previous graduate level coursework. However, a course equivalency of a requirement (unlike transfer of credit) does not waive the total number of credit hours required for the program.

Students must submit to the program director an official transcript, as well as a syllabus for each proposed transfer course to be considered for transfer credit. Transfer credits will only be accepted based on the approval of the program director and the instructor who teaches the comparable course. If an instructor concurs that the course would be redundant, this response is to be given to the program director in written form (i.e., a memo on ECU letterhead or in electronic form). Only a grade of “B” or higher will be accepted for transfer credit. Required paperwork must be filed with the ECU Graduate School and Registrar’s Office for credits to be applied to a student’s program of study. Students must provide materials for transferred courses prior to beginning studies in the MedFT doctoral program.

Requests for transfer credit to be considered are sent to the ECU Graduate School using this form: [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/gradschool/upload/Transfer-Credit-New-Form.pdf](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/gradschool/upload/Transfer-Credit-New-Form.pdf). This is also the form used to request that Excess Non-Degree Courses taken at ECU be counted in a degree program at ECU. (You will need to open this form in Internet Explorer)

Note: Students must review the “Transfer Credit” policy of the Graduate School if considering transferring in credits from another institution: [http://catalog.ecu.edu/content.php?catoid=9&navoid=578#Transfer_Credits](http://catalog.ecu.edu/content.php?catoid=9&navoid=578#Transfer_Credits) (You will need to open this form in Internet Explorer)

**Permanent Graduate Committee**

The permanent graduate committee will be composed of at least four members with graduate faculty status: (a) a committee chairperson who is the student’s permanent advisor and is a member of the MFT/MedFT graduate faculty, (b) at least one additional
committee member from the MFT/MedFT/HDFS graduate faculty, (c) at least two additional committee members, whereby at least one is from outside the College of Health and Human Performance. Note: Anyone serving on a dissertation committee must hold graduate faculty status with ECU and this must be cleared prior to the MedFT candidacy exam.

The permanent graduate committee will serve as the committee for the student’s MedFT Competency Examination, dissertation proposal, and dissertation defense. The Confirmation of Permanent Committee Membership Form (Form F) must be completed no later than the student’s MedFT Competency Exam and admitted into the student’s academic file. If circumstances warrant changing Permanent Committee Membership, after the student selects another committee member, they will need to complete Form Q, which is signed by the student’s permanent advisor and then placed in the student’s academic file.

**External Thesis and Dissertation Committee Members.** Individuals external to ECU with demonstrated expertise in area of study related to a student’s thesis or dissertation topic may serve on, but not chair, a thesis or dissertation committee. The external member should have a terminal degree in an appropriate discipline or extensive professional experience. This appointment must be approved by the Dean of the Graduate School. The procedure for appointing a person to serve in this role will require approval by the Program Director, student’s Permanent Advisor, and the unit graduate faculty members serving on the thesis or dissertation committee. The Program Director will submit a letter of request to the Dean of the Graduate School outlining the person’s credentials (academic curriculum vitae or resume) relative to the specific thesis or dissertation.

**Consultants.** A student may also select a faculty person from outside of East Carolina University to serve as a consultant. This individual will be a non-voting member. This person is welcome to attend the MedFT Comprehensive Examination, the dissertation proposal, and the dissertation defense as a non-voting member. Additional ad-hoc external committee members may be added as desired without securing adjunct graduate faculty status, as long as at least four members of the committee, including the permanent advisor, hold appropriate graduate faculty status per Form F.

**Grading/Assessment**

Students should consult the Graduate Catalog for general information regarding grading. Policies that are particular to the doctoral student include the following:

- No grade less than “B” in a MedFT core course may be used to satisfy any part of the minimal credit hours required for the PhD. A grade of “C” in a core course will require the student to delay advancement in the program until the course is completed with a satisfactory grade (“B” or higher). A student receiving 2 “C’s” in any constellation of core courses will be terminated from the program.
• A cumulative 3.0 grade point average in graduate-level courses is a prerequisite for the administration of the PhD candidacy examination.
• Sufficient and ongoing progress (as determined by the permanent advisor and site supervisor) must be made on the dissertation and internship requirements in order for the student to receive a passing grade in those enrolled courses for credit.

** See Appendix F for the MedFT Program Mission, Goals, and Outcomes Chart

** Academic Conduct Policy

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will ensure an effective, ethical, and equitable learning and working environment. All students are expected to sign the Academic Conduct Policy (Form BB) during their orientation to the program and uphold the policy until graduating. Any student who violates the policy may be dismissed from the program.

** Plan of Coursework

*The proposed program of study is subject to course offerings, transfer credits accepted, and advisor approval of any proposed student variations.

** Fall Courses typically include:
HDFS 7401-Introduction to Medical Family Therapy
HDFS 8402- Advanced Theory in MedFT or
HDFS 8403-Gender and Diversity in MedFT
HDFS 8404-MedFT Practica I
PSYC 6430/PSYC 7431- Statistics I
HLTH 7100-Qualitative Research
HUMS 7004-Research Ethics (2 credit course taken in fall/spring)*

** Spring Courses typically include:
HDFS 7409- Illness & Disability Across the Lifespan or
HDFS 7502-Supervision Methods and Practice
PSYC 6327/PSYC 7505-Statistics II
HDFS 8400- Advanced Research Methods in Medical Family Therapy
HUMS 7004-Research Ethics (2 credit course)*

HDFS 8910, 8911, 8912 AND 9000 can be taken in any semester (fall, spring, or summer).

All cognates and electives must be approved by the student’s permanent advisor.
(Recommended courses may vary for those who are admitted without having matriculated from a COAMFTE accredited Master’s degree program)
Professional Licensure Disclosure Statement

Students enrolled in the MedFT doctoral program are encouraged, but not required, to sit for the MFT licensure exam and/or be licensed as a LMFTA/LMFT in North Carolina. In order to comply with U.S. Department of Education regulations regarding distance education and professional licensure, ECU is required to make the following disclosure with respect to professional licensure outside the state of North Carolina. ECU cannot confirm whether a particular program meets requirements for professional licensure outside of the State of North Carolina. Please contact applicable licensure board(s) in any state you may want to pursue licensure prior to beginning the academic program in order to determine whether the program meets licensure requirements. It is the student’s responsibility to confirm program eligibility for licensure in any state outside North Carolina.

Portability of Degree

While students may meet the academic requirements as specified by the North Carolina Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Board, students who are planning to pursue licensure in a different state or jurisdiction should be aware that each state or jurisdiction may have specific or unique requirements for licensure or certification. Applicants are encouraged to be aware of these differences and to consult with the MedFT Program Director about ways to address these concerns. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all requirements are met for licensure in the jurisdiction of choice.

Important Note to Residents Outside of North Carolina:

Admission of applicants outside the State of North Carolina to an online degree, certificate or individual online course offered by East Carolina University, is dependent on ECU’s ability to secure authorization from the applicant’s state of residence, if such authorization is required.

East Carolina University delivers online education programs and courses throughout the United States and internationally. All programs have been approved by the University of North Carolina General Administration. Many states have prescribed an authorization process for out-of-state institutions delivering online programs to its state residents to ensure quality post-secondary education, to preserve the integrity of an academic degree, and to instill greater consumer protection for its student citizens.

East Carolina University has taken steps to protect its students and programs through nationwide compliance by: participating in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA); obtaining authorization, approval, exemptions and waivers; or confirming that East Carolina University can operate without such authorization because the state’s laws do not pertain to a public institution, to an accredited institution, or to the ECU’s activities in that state.

On November 14, 2016, East Carolina University was approved to participate in NC-SARA which is a voluntary, regional/national approach to state oversight of postsecondary distance education. Institutions that participate in SARA are authorized to
provide online education to students from all SARA member states. States and institutions that choose to become members of or participate in SARA operate under a set of policies and standards overseen by SARA and administered by the four nationally recognized regional higher education compacts.

**Permanent Advisor**

Upon admittance into the MedFT doctoral program students will be automatically assigned a temporary advisor. Once students identify an area of research interest, then they will select a permanent advisor. Permanent advisors must be full-time core MedFT or MFT faculty members. Students are advised to select a permanent advisor by the end of their second semester. The advisor will chair all examinations, defenses, and will facilitate all approvals for cognates and electives, committee members, transfer credits, clinical placements, and internship sites.

Once a permanent advisor is selected, students will need to file a formal agreement (Form E) with that faculty member. This agreement will be filed in the students’ academic folder. Should students wish to change their permanent advisor, another formal agreement will need to be entered into and filed with the new permanent advisor. If students opt to retain their temporary advisor as their permanent advisor, a formal agreement will still need to be filed.

**Candidacy Project**

All students admitted to the MedFT doctoral program must submit a completed Candidacy Project (i.e., thesis or thesis equivalency) to the program director and complete the “Completion of Candidacy Project Approval and Completion Form” (Form D). Form D should be completed to confirm the project and its due date and to attest to its successful completion. All students preparing to enter the doctoral program should also have a Candidacy Project (i.e., thesis or thesis equivalency) near completion by the start of the PhD program. Students are given until the end of their second semester to provide proof of a completed Candidacy Project. Evidence of the current status of the Candidacy Project (must be at least 75% completed) must be ready to submit to the program director prior to the start of the first day of classes. All theses must include the title page, signature page, and abstract. All thesis equivalencies must include a letter from an editor, permanent advisor, or co-author who was directly involved with the thesis equivalency stating that the student completed at least 50% of the contribution to the project. An abstract of the document must also be submitted along with the letter.

THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR MUST BE WILLING TO STATE THAT THE STUDENT HAS COMPLETED A FULL AND ACCEPTABLE THESIS EQUIVALENCY BY THE END OF THE SECOND SEMESTER IN THE PROGRAM IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CONTINUED FUNDING (April 30; i.e., an assistantship and tuition remission for the student’s second year in the program).

Students (in collaboration with their temporary or permanent advisor) must be able provide a written plan of action throughout the first year in the program pertaining to the
thesis equivalency (if it wasn’t complete prior to the first day of class) and include deadlines for each component of the document. Students may submit multiple drafts of the project to their advisor during the time allotted to help achieve successful completion.

If a formal project is unsuccessfully completed by the end of the first academic year (last day of final’s week) the student will be not be allowed to continue in the MedFT program. If the advisor is also a collaborator on the publishable/published manuscript or grant Candidacy Project, another MedFT faculty member who is not a collaborator on the project will be asked to help render a decision on the acceptance of the Candidacy Project. The Medical Family Therapy Candidacy Project Evaluation (Form W) must be completed by the program director and placed in the student’s academic file. Examples of projects that would qualify as meeting this requirement would include any one or combination of the following:

*Master’s Thesis* - A thesis must have been approved by the institution granting the student’s master’s degree. A signed copy of a completed master’s thesis, and copy of the student’s transcript noting the thesis has been completed, must be given to the student’s advisor to be included in the student’s academic file.

*Published or Publishable Manuscript* - Manuscript must be recent (within last 2 years) and the student must have served as a major contributing author. This means that the student must have made a significant contribution to the manuscript (i.e., at least 50% of the article). Verification of the student’s contributions to the development and writing of the manuscript must be provided in writing by the lead author (if the lead author is not the student submitting the work). The manuscript must either be published, under review, or actively in the revise and resubmit phase to qualify. A reprint of the article, acceptance letter, revise and resubmit letter, or letter of initial submission must be presented to the advisor, in addition to a copy of the article in its current form. Advisors will determine and make known their criteria for determining if a manuscript is of sufficient quality for meeting this requirement.

*Grant* - Grant must be recent (within last 2 years) and the student must have served as the primary or secondary author. A clean copy of the grant itself must be submitted. If the grant was funded, a copy of the letter noting its approval must also be provided. A grant that was not funded will be reviewed and scored by the advisor. The advisor will have the authority to determine if the quality of the writing is or is not sufficient enough to meet the Candidacy Project requirement. Advisors will determine and make known their criteria for determining a qualifying grant project. The student must have provided at least 50% of the contribution.

### Clinical Requirements

#### Contact Hours

Before graduating from the doctoral program, students are required to complete 500 hours of direct client contact and 100 hours of supervision (including hours completed under a AAMFT Approved Supervisor during their master’s program). If students
successfully completed these hours prior to enrolling in the doctoral program, written verification from the AAMFT Approved Supervisor or student’s master’s Program Director that those clinical contact hours were earned under AAMFT Approved supervision, is required prior to the student’s temporary or permanent advisor completing the “Completion of 500 Clinical Contact Hours Form” (Form AA). All students must complete at least one semester of practicum and must be clinically active at the ECU Family Therapy Clinic (including fulfilling an intake time) until they successfully pass their Clinical Competency Exam. If students have never practiced as a family therapist in a medical setting (minimum of 4 months), they are required to enroll in HDFS 8405. Any student engaged in clinical work while actively enrolled in the doctoral program must obtain AAMFT Approved Supervision at least bi-weekly until graduating from the program.

Students who already hold a valid MFT license will be asked to submit a copy of their license to the program director. ALL STUDENTS, EVEN IF LICENSED MUST COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE PRACTICA AND PASS THE MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY CLINICAL COMPETENCY EXAM.

Note: ECU cannot confirm whether any of its courses or program meets requirements for professional licensure outside of the state of North Carolina. ECU strongly encourages students to contact applicable licensing boards in states they wish to pursue licensure prior to seeking admission or beginning study in an academic program.

Practicum

Upon admittance into the program, students will be required to complete a minimum of one doctoral level clinical practicum (HDFS 8404). After successfully passing the practicum(s), the student may request permission from their permanent/temporary advisor to schedule a clinical competency exam. The advisor will consult with the student’s practicum supervisor(s) to confirm that the student is prepared to schedule their Clinical Competency Exam. If it is determined that the student is not to be ready for the clinical competency exam, or did not successfully pass the clinical competency exam, the student will continue to register for practicum credits until the exam is passed. If a student does not pass the exam on their second attempt, they will not be allowed to continue in the program.

Students are evaluated at the conclusion of each practicum by their practicum clinical supervisor using the MedFT Supervision Evaluation (Form H) and will be evaluated in comparison to students who have reached full clinical competency as measured at the clinical competency exam. The supervisor will provide the student with a copy of the evaluation, and will go over the evaluation with the student; students will have the opportunity to evaluate themselves using the same form. Copies of all evaluation methods will be placed in each student’s academic file. In preparation for the next semester, for those students still enrolled, areas of strength and growth will be shared with the student’s next practicum supervisor through the regular MFT/MedFT faculty meetings. Students who will be going on internship and have competencies that need specific attention during the internship will be summarized in an Internship Plan of
Action (Form U). Students will be asked to share this plan with their internship supervisor. Students who are already licensed MFTs and/or are AAMFT Approved Supervisors are not typically given a plan for their clinical work, but may develop a plan of action for research or other competencies in need of development.

**Paperwork Timeliness**

Students are expected to complete all clinical paperwork in a timely manner (i.e., hour sheets cannot be submitted more than two weeks out from the current date, intakes must be completed within 24 hours, and clinical case notes completed in the electronic health record system within 48 hours of all sessions). All clinic files absolutely must be up to date prior to the completion of any benchmark (e.g., competency exams, proposal, defense, beginning a new practicum), or the student will not be allowed to progress in the program until all documents are up to date. A remediation plan may also be constructed for the student to ensure success through the remainder of the program. Egregious concerns will be turned into the NCMFT licensure board in order to ensure that the student receives additional supervision during internships or post-graduation.

**Clinical Placements**

All doctoral students will be required to maintain a minimum of five active cases at the ECU Family Therapy Clinic until they successfully defend their clinical competency exam. Exceptions will be considered at the discretion of the clinic director. Cases will be assigned by the ECU Family Therapy Clinic staff. All doctoral students are required to submit weekly schedules identifying their hours of availability for clinical appointments and intakes. Students who do not turn in their weekly hour sheets on time may be subject to academic probation in relation to their practica course or a remediation plan to ensure the integrity of clinical practices.

Students are required to maintain a client panel and conduct intake assessments at the Family Therapy Clinic until they have passed the Clinical Competency Exam. Once they have passed the Clinical Competency Exam, students may continue seeing clients and conducting assessments on a voluntary basis. However, they but must continue to have all cases seen at the ECU Family Therapy Clinic supervised by their permanent advisor while enrolled in the program.

**Practicum Evaluations**

Students will be required to complete clinical progress evaluations with their practicum faculty supervisors at the end of each semester. Evaluations from supervisors must be copied and kept in the students’ academic files. Students will also be required to simultaneously complete an evaluation of their practicum experiences. These may be done anonymously and given to the practica supervisor in a sealed envelope at the end of every semester students are enrolled in a practicum. Evaluations will not be opened by the faculty until after final grades are entered. In addition to these evaluations, each individual faculty supervisor may require additional evaluation tools (e.g., final paper,
presentation, clinical videotape for review). Students will need to comply with the requirements outlined on each supervisor’s syllabus.

**HIPAA Compliance**

All students are required to update their Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) annually for off-site clinical practice. Students must request access to the HIPAA training via the MedFT program director. Students will need to request that the HIPAA modules be sent to their Blackboard account. After completing modules, students will have the opportunity to take the HIPAA quizzes. A passing grade is set at 80%. Students may re-take the exam until a passing grade of 80% is received as long as it is done prior to the due date. Students must print the verification that they received a passing grade and forward their outcome to the MedFT Program Director. Documentation of HIPAA compliance is kept in the student’s clinical file.

**Liability Insurance**

All students are required to procure and maintain liability insurance prior to any clinical contact obtained while enrolled in the program. Proof of insurance is due to the program director the first day of academic enrollment. Proof of renewal is due to the program director upon written confirmation/receipt EACH SEMESTER or YEAR (dependent upon policy). All student members of AAMFT are eligible for free liability insurance through CPH. Students may choose to purchase an additional policy at their discretion. Proof of insurance is stored in the student’s clinical file at the Family Therapy Clinic.

**Annual Student Learning Outcome Competency Review**

Students will meet with the MedFT faculty in January of each academic year to complete the MedFT Doctoral Student Learning Competency Form (Form CC). Students will come to the meeting having completed the form and prepared to discuss it. A possible outcome of that meeting would be a plan of action to help remediate any competencies that are not progressing as expected and/or any concerns about the student’s professionalism and academic conduct. Failure to successfully remediate in the time allotted by the faculty may result in dismissal from the program. A copy of Form CC that the faculty will complete collaboratively will be placed in each student’s academic file, along with the student’s self-assessment on Form CC. Remediation plans will be communicated to the student in writing within a week of the Competency Review meeting and a copy will be placed in the student’s file.

**Clinical Competency Exam**

Once a student, the student's permanent advisor, and current practicum supervisor have decided that a clinical competency exam should be scheduled, the student will need to contact all MedFT faculty members to schedule an exam date (2 week courtesy notification deadline for scheduling and submitting the clinical paper). The clinical exam should not exceed 60 minutes (including time for questions). The exam will be evaluated
by all MedFT faculty members. Exams will be presented orally and accompanied with a well-developed paper. Presentations of clinical work should be done professionally.

The student’s permanent advisor will determine if they are ready to schedule the competency exam and distribute the paper to the MedFT faculty based on a review of the clinical competency paper. If a permanent advisor has not been formalized, the current practicum supervisor must give permission for the student to defend by acknowledging that the competency paper is ready for submission to committee. Again, all papers must be electronically submitted to all MedFT faculty members no later than 2 weeks prior to the agreed upon exam date. Exam dates are not to be scheduled unless the student has secured all required components of the exam as listed below.

**Clinical Competency Exam Requirements**

As part of the doctoral program’s clinical requirements for medical family therapy students, each student must complete a Clinical Competency Exam. This clinical competency includes two branches of criteria:

a) **The paper** (no longer than 25 double spaced pages not including references or the title page) and corresponding presentation (no longer than 60 minutes including questions from the faculty panel and must include a corresponding handout).

**The paper should include:**

1. A self of the therapist section that is deliberately connected to the student’s theoretical approach to Medical Family Therapy (2 pages max).

2. A description of the student’s MFT and MedFT theory of change. This section of the document should offer a clear and concise reflection of the student’s work in practice, traditional and as well as integrated care settings (e.g., the student should describe their joining, assessment, diagnosing, and/or interventions in both traditional MedFT and integrated care practices). While not all interventions or techniques need to be covered, students should include those used in their practice most often and **evidence** to support their model. Thus, students may offer diagrams or metaphors of their clinical work or treatment protocol in relation to their identity as a MedFT (15 pages max). The paper should be written as if the reader were watching the student at work (i.e., what would the reader see in practice). The student only needs to cite work related to the theory as it applies to their practice (i.e., students do not need to teach the reader about the original theory, but should give context to the student’s knowledge about the theory as it corresponds with their delivery of the theory).

3. As part of the clarification of the therapist’s theory, students should articulate how they account for cultural awareness and ethical issues.
Students must clearly demonstrate how they attend to ethical issues in their therapy and how they integrate, and are sensitive to, the central issues of diversity and ethnicity. Current evidenced based or empirically supported information should be incorporated into this section. (5 pages max).

4. A description of the MedFT core competencies for which students believe they have achieved a sense of competency, as well as those that they are currently focusing on for further development (2 pages max)

5. Case examples used within the paper/presentation should only be included if they provide a helpful illustration of the fluidity between self of therapist and the competency as a medical family therapist. (Note: videos are not a requirement for the presentation).

Note: This must be in APA format.

b) **The presentation:**

The student should provide an overview of the paper in a professional manner in which each segment is described such that those who did not have access to the paper would understand the student’s approach to MedFT clinical practice. Students should present for no longer than 40 minutes with 20 minutes reserved for questions. Students should not read from the paper or PowerPoint presentation but rather use their presentation time to provide a lecture on their approach to treatment. It is preferred that students use a Power Point or Prezi presentation with learning objectives for the presentation and include content that expands beyond what was addressed in the 25 page paper. This portion of the Clinical Competency Exam will be open to MFT/MedFT faculty, other departmental graduate faculty, and students (master’s and doctoral). Exams will be held in a location large enough to accommodate the audience size. Students, in collaboration with their advisor, are in charge of arranging the time, date, location for the oral presentation, and submitting an invitation to all HDFS faculty and clinical graduate students. Students will only be evaluated by the MedFT faculty, but anyone who attends is welcome to ask questions (after the MedFT faculty have finished asking their questions). The Report of Clinical Competency Form (see Form J) must then be completed and admitted into the student’s academic file. If students do not pass the second exam, or successfully revise the written component on the second attempt (post defense), they will not be allowed to continue in the program. PLEASE REVIEW THE CLINICAL COMPETENCY RUBRIC (Form I) FOR ELEMENTS THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE PRESENTATION.

c) **The Practica Requirement.** During each semester the student is enrolled in practicum, the student must arrange with the supervisor to observe two subsequent sessions with at least two different sets of clients (supervised via live or video). The only
required attendee is the practicum supervisor. For this requirement, students should be able to adequately discuss:

- Student’s theoretical orientation, including a brief overview of how theory is used to conceptualize problem formation and change (highlight both MFT and MedFT theories/concepts that are incorporated into the cases)
- Interventions/strategies to achieve the treatment goals
- The cultural, ethical, legal, and financial aspects of this case
- The collaborators that were a part of the case(s) and discuss the approach taken to include them, frequency and method of collaboration, and role of the client in the process
- Successes with the case and the student’s opportunities for improvement (e.g., in retrospect, what could the student have done differently?)--if the student were supervising a master's student on this case what would the student say were the strengths and growth points?

Note: This segment is to be completed each semester that the student is enrolled in a practicum and also must be accomplished prior to the date set for the presentation of the Clinical Competency Exam.

If the student chooses to use a video for the presentation rather than live sessions, the student must make sure that the video is of good quality (i.e., sound and visual clarity). The video should illustrate the student’s theoretical model/approach to therapy and illustrate how the student has progressed with a case (highlighting the student’s competency as a MedFT). If the student chooses to have live supervision off campus, appropriate approval and releases must be secured by the site/patients at that site.

Faculty who attend the student’s Clinical Competency Exam will cooperatively complete Form I. Their decision will be entered onto one copy of Form I and placed into the student’s academic file. Students may not be passed if they have more than two “No Pass” checks on this form. Possible outcomes may include: (a) Make revisions to presentation, no defense, but require participating faculty approval, (b) Make revisions to paper, no re-defense, but require participating faculty approval, (c) Make revisions to presentation, reschedule defense, and (d) Make revisions to paper, reschedule defense.

Once students have passed their competency exam, they are not required to continue to enroll in practicum, but may locate a clinical placement in a medical context where they will be clinically active as a MedFT. They also need to complete Form J and have it admitted into their academic file. Students who continue to need AAMFT Approved Supervision to count client contact hours toward the NCMFT Licensing Requirements, may choose to continue to enroll in practicum or pay for supervision services independently.

NOTE: Competency exams must be completed prior to the start of any semester, otherwise the student must enroll in the next practicum offered by the program.
Medical Family Therapy Competency Exam  
(Publishable Manuscript Requirement and Oral Defense)

Prior to entering into the internship and dissertation phases of the program, the MedFT doctoral program requires students to have successfully a two part competency exam: (a) written and oral defense of a publishable quality manuscript, and (b) oral defense of three questions asked about medical family therapy. Students will want to review Form I carefully to understand how each part is scored and criteria for passing the exam.

Each part of the exam may occur on the same or different date. This means that students will select their preferred format (i.e., whether to complete both parts on the same or different dates) and are responsible for arranging the time, date, and location for each part of the exam. Oral MedFT exams are closed to anyone other than committee members, unless an exception is made by the committee (e.g., someone watching the presentation part only of the manuscript defense).

**Part 1: Manuscript Requirement**

The manuscript (i.e., a publishable manuscript) must offer a contribution (research, clinical, and/or theoretical) to the field of Medical Family Therapy. The student must be the primary author. Students may seek support from faculty or peers on the development of the paper, but the majority of the writing and editing must come from the student. Students should submit the paper using the guidelines of the journal they intend to submit it to after it is approved. Members of the student’s permanent graduate committee will determine whether or not the student passes this exam.

Students are required to submit and defend their manuscript and pass the oral questions prior to beginning their internship/dissertation phase of the program. Students will need to schedule defense dates at least two weeks from the time they distribute their manuscript to their committee. Only the committee and the student will be present for this defense. Committee members will complete the Medical Family Therapy Comprehensive Examination Evaluation Form (Form I) indicating their evaluation of the work.

The defense/examination of the written portion will last no more than one hour. Per the written portion, students will provide an abbreviated presentation of their manuscript and the committee will ask questions and provide feedback about it. If students receive a revise and resubmit (with major revisions) or a rejection of the manuscript, they will be required to revise the paper and reschedule a defense date at the earliest convenience of the students and committee. Attached to the second submission should be a written response to every editorial recommendation made by members of the committee. Students may opt not to integrate a recommendation made by a reviewer (at the advisement of their permanent advisor); however, students must successfully defend that decision both in writing and orally at their second scheduled oral defense.
Part 2: Three Question Requirement

For this requirement, students will be asked three questions by their committee members specific to knowledge about the field of medical family therapy. In relation to the oral portion of the exam (response to three questions), students will be given one hour (without books, notes, or technological devices) prior to the oral exam to receive their three questions and take any notes in response to the questions that can then be available for the student during the oral exam. During the designated exam hour, students will be given 10 minutes per question to provide their response, and then there will be an additional 10 minutes per question provided for follow up questions from the committee. All additional questions must be directly related to the original question asked of the student.

Students must achieve a “pass” or “high pass” on two of the three medical family therapy examination questions asked by their committee. For each individual question, students may have no more than two “no pass” ratings (as per committee agreement) to pass that question. If students do not pass two out of the three questions, they must re-take their medical family therapy competency exam (defending three new questions), even if they passed the manuscript portion of it. A reexamination should be scheduled at the earliest convenience of the student and committee.

The Report of Medical Family Therapy Competency Evaluation Form (Form K) and the Admission to Candidacy for Doctorate in Medical Family Therapy (Form M) are signed upon successful completion of the MedFT competency exam and admitted into the student’s academic file.

Students cannot initiate the internship/dissertation phases until they have successfully passed two out of three oral examination questions and the manuscript portion of the exam. A student will be given three opportunities (total) to defend the publishable manuscript and pass the medical family therapy oral competency exam. If students cannot successfully do so after three attempts, they will not be allowed to continue in the program.

Supervision Candidacy

All doctoral students who have completed HDFS 7502 and have signed contracts with supervisees and a supervisor mentor are invited to provide supervision during their doctoral program. All supervision must be approved by the student’s AAMFT Approved Supervisor mentor and done in collaboration with the student’s current faculty supervisor. While doctoral students are able to count their provision of supervision toward their candidacy hours, these hours cannot be counted as therapy hours for the supervisor candidate (i.e., the student can’t double dip and count the hours as both supervision and therapy). Furthermore, the supervisees (typically master’s students) are able to count the supervision from the supervisor candidate as supervision hours toward licensure, BUT they are not able to count the supervision received from this candidate toward graduation.
Internship Requirements

Each doctoral student is required to complete an internship lasting a minimum of 9 months or up to 12 months. If the student is contracted for a 12-month internship via the site, the student shall receive an incomplete for the final internship credits only if they haven't completed at nine months of the contract. The ECU MedFT program further requires that each internship site be situated in a healthcare context or in a context where students will have access to working with (research, teaching, and/or clinical) around biopsychosocial-spiritual content. All required coursework, the clinical competency exam, and the medical family therapy competency exam requirement must be successfully completed prior to starting the internship.

The MedFT program does not assume responsibility for placing students in internships, paid or unpaid. The MedFT faculty will assist in any way possible, but the sole responsibility for locating an available internship rests with the student exclusively. All internships must be approved by the students’ permanent advisor.

Due to evolving changes in higher education regulations, at this time, ECU is unable to serve all of the students who are interested in our courses or programs. ECU will no longer be able to offer distance education online programs or courses for students residing in the following states. ECU will work with state authorities to allow students in these states who are currently enrolled in an ECU online or certificate program to complete their degree. Additionally, students enrolled in programs or courses that require internships or supervised clinical placements will be unable to complete these activities in the states listed. NOTE: Changes happen annually so please let the Program Director know if you have an interest in pursuing an internship at any of the following:
Alabama
Massachusetts
Minnesota

At least two months prior to beginning of the internship, students must present to their permanent advisor the Internship Plan of Action (Form U), if required per the committee, and discuss how they plan to complete the internship requirements. The student and site supervisor will work conjointly to develop an appropriate internship syllabus with the internship site (Form X), as well as complete an HHP Affiliation Agreement between ECU and the site (Form Y). The student, advisor, and internship site administrator must all sign the internship contract before the internship can officially begin. As part of the contract, all internship site supervisors will be required to be available to the intern for at least one hour of supervision per week.

All students are required to maintain malpractice insurance throughout a clinical internship. A copy of the proof of insurance must be kept at the ECU Family Therapy Clinic and with the new internship site supervisor.

Students must register for HDFS 8910, 8911, 8912 while they are enrolled in their internship experience. Students must request an internship evaluation (Form O) be completed by their internship administrative supervisor and/or AAMFT Approved
Supervisor (if these persons are not one in the same) at the end of each internship semester (or more frequently upon the request of the major advisor or program director). An original copy of Form O needs to be signed and placed in each student’s academic file. Upon successful completion of HDFS 8912, the Completion of Off-campus Internship Form (Form O) must also be completed and admitted into each student’s academic file. Additional evaluations from the supervisors are also permitted.

Note: Regardless of whether or not the site provides liability insurance, students must maintain their own liability insurance for the duration of the internship.

**Dissertation**

Each doctoral student is required to conduct an original research project that adds to the body of knowledge in medical family therapy, and to communicate that research in a written dissertation. The East Carolina University Graduate School provides general guidelines in approaching the task of writing the dissertation and to establish basic requirements in style and form for all dissertations (http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/gradschool/ETD.cfm). Students are expected to follow this webpage for deadlines and guidelines. In addition, students must prepare their dissertation in harmony with the specific guidelines from the most recent edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*.

The dissertation must be relevant to the field of medical family therapy. The following discussion of different classes of research might help assess the relevance of the dissertation to medical family therapy:

- **Basic Research in MedFT**: The focus of studies in this category include MedFT, or individual, family science, and/or relational disorders (e.g., couple process when one member has dementia). The topic chosen must have strong research, theoretical and clinical implications. This type of research is often used to lay the foundation for future research in the area.

- **MedFT Process and Outcome Research**: This research utilizes a clinical sample and examines issues associated with MedFT, integrated care models, or the outcomes of clinical work with a medical-related issue (e.g., family-based interventions for cancer).

- **Professional Practice Research**: Research on this domain focuses on the education, training, supervision, licensure, and professional practice activities of medical family therapists (e.g., cost-effectiveness of MedFT, ethical dilemmas faced by MedFTs). It may also include studying other professions with whom MedFTs will interact, educate, and collaborate.

Final approval for the dissertation, including structure and content, rests with students’ permanent graduate committee. If the student and dissertation chair (variously referred to as the permanent advisor, dissertation director, major professor, and committee chair) determine that additional committee members are needed, they may add additional members at their discretion. Students must register continuously for HDFS 9000 and
follow the protocol established for these semester hours until the dissertation is successfully defended. Students **must be registered** during the semester that they defend and submit their dissertation to the Graduate School. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that all committee members have Graduate Faculty status or have been approved by the University as an External Graduate Advisory Committee Member prior to the medical family therapy competency exam. External members may be from industry, government, community organizations or other universities, and must have been approved by the Graduate School. *Note the approval process for an eligible faculty member to gain graduate faculty status can take one to two months to secure.

Following graduation, students have up to 12 months to submit the dissertation articles for publication. If submission has not occurred during that time, the submission process and primary author designation may be overtaken by the student’s dissertation committee chair. All correspondence related to journal article submissions must be communicated with the dissertation chair prior to submission. Authorship order for all journal article submissions should be discussed between student and permanent advisor and/or dissertation committee prior to each journal submission.

**Dissertation Proposal**

A dissertation proposal must be turned into the student’s dissertation chair no later than one semester following the successful completion of the MedFT Competency Exam (summer included). Students must not propose their dissertation until after all coursework, the Clinical Competency Exam, and MedFT Competency Exam have been successfully completed. At the dissertation proposal meeting, students are expected to present the following chapters (introduction, review of literature, methodology, and/or article 1) of their dissertation. Students must use the following proposal format for the manuscript option:

**Dissertation Proposal for Manuscript Option**

Doctoral students in the MedFT program must convene their committee to present a Preliminary Dissertation Proposal. Students should schedule this meeting only after the chair of their dissertation has approved the direction of their dissertation research. They may schedule this meeting at any point after their MedFT Competency Exam has been successfully defended.

If using the manuscript option, proposals should adhere to the following format:

**Note:** Prior to submitting the final dissertation a Title Page, Table of Contents, Table of Figures, Acknowledgment Page, Dedication Page, and Abstract would precede all writing described below. (See–http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/gradschool/ETD-Formatting-Requirements.cfm)

**Preface:** This should be a brief description of the author’s journey to the dissertation (e.g., personal and professional experiences that give credence to the expertise of the author). In addition, the author may include reasons for pursuing the dissertation topic.
Chapter 1 is a brief introduction that provides an overview of the topic and need for the study. This introduction should include a very general introduction to the dissertation, any operational definitions that will be relevant to the dissertation including a description of each chapter that will be included in the dissertation. The research questions and/or hypotheses must be integrated into this Chapter.

Chapter 2 is a review of the relevant and critical empirical and theoretical literature. If article 1 is a comprehensive literature review, then this may be entitled article 1 in the proposal.

Chapter 3 is a detailed description of the proposed methodology, including design, sample/participants, instruments, proposed data analysis, research questions, and/or hypotheses to be explored in the study (depending on methodology).

Chapter 4 is Article 1 (a publishable manuscript) only if Article 1 is not a literature review. Article 1 should be inserted into the dissertation proposal based on the advice of the dissertation chair.

To complete after dissertation proposal meeting along with all updates and revisions from all initial chapters.

Chapter 5 is Article 2 (a publishable manuscript) and will include the results of the dissertation research.

Chapter 6 is the Discussion chapter and should include a summary of previous chapters including a broad range of clinical, research, policy, etc. recommendations that are relevant to the overall dissertation. Students should work with the chair of their dissertation if they decide to make this chapter into another format (e.g., policy brief).

Appendices must include IRB approval and HIPAA approval if required

APA references should be at the end of each chapter.

To reach this stage of completion, students must work closely with their dissertation chair. Students should anticipate a number of rewrites as their understanding evolves and their writing is refined.

Students should review the information in this handbook as they prepare for the dissertation proposal meeting. They should contact their dissertation chair and committee members to schedule a date, time, and place for the dissertation proposal meeting. It is the students’ responsibility to coordinate the scheduling of their meeting. Students must submit a copy of their dissertation proposal to their committee members at least two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Students may NOT collect data until they have received: (a) approval of their dissertation proposal by their committee*, (b) approval of their research by the University Internal Review Board (IRB), and (c) approval by the Graduate School using the “Advancement to Doctoral Candidacy” form [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/gradschool/Academic-...
Policies-and-Forms.cfm). Note: Students may also need to see whether an independent HIPAA review is required for their study. Documentation of IRB and HIPAA approval must be current and added as appendices to the final draft of the dissertation. *Students may propose their method to their committee for approval prior to the full proposal meeting with approval of the dissertation chair. These circumstances are unique and should only be reserved for longitudinal data collection, intervention research, or at the discretion of the dissertation chair.

On occasion, students run into major difficulties completing the research as proposed (e.g., data collection sites shut down or fail to complete agreed-upon data collection responsibilities, students are unable to obtain sufficient subjects to participate in the study). In such circumstances, students should meet with their dissertation chair and prepare a memo identifying proposed modifications to the protocol approved by their committee in the dissertation proposal meeting. Students must distribute the memo to each member of their dissertation committee; and after the committee members have had sufficient time to review the proposed changes (at least one week), students must contact each committee member (either individually or in a group format) and obtain approval to carry out the modified study. Students must also get approval from the IRB for any changes to the protocol as a result prior to resuming data collection.

Upon completion of a dissertation quality proposal, the permanent advisor and student will work with the other members of the committee to schedule a dissertation proposal meeting date. The committee members must be given at least two weeks to read the proposal prior to the meeting date. At the proposal meeting the student will give an oral presentation on the proposed research and then the committee will ask questions and provide feedback. Immediately following the proposal defense, the committee will vote to approve the proposal as written, approve with amendments, or reject it. If approved, the Report of Dissertation Proposal Form (Form Q) will be completed and admitted into the student’s academic file. Following approval, the student will seek the University Institutional Review Board’s Human Subjects Committee’s approval to conduct the research (see details following this section).

**Dissertation Guidelines for the Manuscript Option**

All manuscript option dissertations should consist of at least the following materials:

1) Abstract  
2) Title Page  
3) Copyright Page  
4) Signature Page  
5) Dedication Page (optional)  
6) Acknowledgement Page (optional)  
7) Table of Contents  
8) List of Tables  
9) Preface  
10) Chapter 1 – Introduction  
11) Chapter 2-Literature Review or Article 1  
12) Chapter 3-Methodology  
13) Chapter 4-Article 1 if not above or Article 2
14) Chapter 5 - Article 2 if not above or Discussion - discussion should include a summary of previous chapters including a broad range of clinical, research, policy, etc recommendations that are relevant to the overall dissertation.

15) Chapter 6 - Discussion if not above

16) Appendices must include (IRB approval; HIPAA approval – if required)

**Dissertation Progress**

Students will not be awarded dissertation credit with a grade of “U” (unsatisfactory). Students will have to take extra dissertation credit hours until satisfactorily completing the dissertation. In the ECU Graduate Catalog, a section entitled, “Academic Eligibility Standards” reads that, “The student’s advisor or graduate advisory committees may render judgments as to whether satisfactory progress is being made toward the degree, taking into account all aspects of academic performance and promise, not necessarily course work alone.” Satisfactory progress is defined as:

1. Meeting all deadlines for the dissertation as outlined by the student’s permanent advisor and found in the dissertation syllabus
2. Successfully incorporating feedback from the Permanent Advisor and any other dissertation committee member into the dissertation itself
3. Maintaining good standing with: (a) all professional organizations the student is a member of, (b) any malpractice, licensing boards and IRBs governing their work, (c) guidelines for academic integrity, and (d) demonstrating responsiveness to any and all members of the student’s dissertation committee in a timely manner (acknowledging receipt of feedback within 48 business hours of receiving feedback unless otherwise approved by one’s permanent advisor to be nonresponsive for a period of time).

**Dissertation Defense**

Once students have completed a polished draft of the entire dissertation and received permission from the dissertation chair, they must set up a time to defend the completed dissertation. Students may defend in the final semester of their internship provided that they understand that graduation is contingent upon successful completion of the internship. Upon completion of the written dissertation document, an oral defense date will be scheduled with the dissertation committee members present. The committee members should receive the dissertation at least two weeks prior to the scheduled examination date (unless more time is requested by any one committee member). In the event that a committee member should need to be replaced (e.g., because of relocation, death), a written request for an amendment to the dissertation committee will need to be filed within the HDFS main office. Committee members who are not active contributors (via providing timely and relevant feedback or evidence of having read any or all of the dissertation) may be excused from the committee. This decision should be made between the student and their permanent advisor and only after demonstrated attempts to engage the inactive member have been made. This decision should be reported to the HDFS Department Chair or to the Dean of the Graduate School if an outside member.

Students must defend their dissertation in person to the dissertation chair and committee members. Examinations typically run 1 ½ -2 hours in length. The format is up to the
discretion of the student’s permanent advisor (but should also match the parameters of past MedFT defenses). A grade of “pass” or “fail” will be determined by the committee. The student will be immediately notified of the committee’s decision. If passed, the Report of Dissertation Defense Examination Form (Form R) will be completed and admitted into the student’s academic file and a grade will be entered on Banner. A grade of “pass” may still include necessary edits recommended by the committee. Students should not provide food or gifts as part of their dissertation proposal or defense processes.

Upon completion of the recommended changes set forth by the committee, students will submit the dissertation to the HDFS Graduate Director for a final review of formatting. Once the Department Chair’s signature has been secured on the signature page (per the review by the HDFS Graduate Director), students will follow the submission requirements (i.e., upload into the Graduate School’s repository) and process set forth by the Graduate School. The HDFS Graduate Director must receive all completed and defended dissertations at least two weeks prior to the Graduate School’s deadline for turning in dissertations.

Students are asked to complete the Exit Interview Form (Form S) and A Diversity Oath to East Carolina University (Form Z). A Doctoral Student Exit Experience Plan of Action (Form V) may be completed with some students prior to graduation for students who have specific competencies that need to be addressed with AAMFT Approved Supervisors.

**Dissertation Grades**

At the end of each semester the student will receive a mark denoting that the dissertation is (pass and in progress); (not pass in progress); or in the final semester the transcript will be denoted with marks of a successfully completed dissertation. Students must be able to provide new documentation/content/chapters of their dissertation at the end of each semester in order to receive an in progress score, unless on an approved medical leave. A mark that denotes that the dissertation is not passing, will result in academic probation. The remediation plan or terms of dismissal will be provided to the student by the student’s permanent advisor and MedFT program director.

**Dissertation Registration:**

Students register for dissertation courses through the online system: [http://www2.ecu.edu/hhp/ISP/](http://www2.ecu.edu/hhp/ISP/). Students will need to collaborate with their major professor to ensure that the form is filled out correctly.
Recommended Timeline for Program Completion

This timeline includes recommended benchmarks for completion of program requirements for students who intend to graduate in three years.

First year: Fall
- Complete required coursework for first semester (12 hours).
- Explore potential dissertation areas through course opportunities (e.g., literature reviews, grant assignment).
- Attend biweekly Dissertation Think Tank
- Begin theory of change paper for clinical competency exam as part of HDFS 8404. If from a traditional MFT program, especially focus on conceptualizing how your theory is different as a MedFT than it was when you were a MFT generalist.
- Complete thesis equivalency, if applicable.
- Consider goals for future employment (only to help develop which cognates and electives are most fitting). With your advisor, review your current experience and set goals for building your curricula vitae toward your internship or full-time position after graduation. This program affords the option for many opportunities that will enrich your professional identity – it is impossible to take advantage of all of them, but you can be intentional about doing the ones that matter most to your individual goals.
- NCAMFT and AAMFT’s call for submissions to present at their annual conferences is in early to mid-fall.
- Interview faculty for possible consideration of a permanent advisor. Students are permitted to choose their permanent advisor at any time. Faculty may decline if already full of advisees. Students will learn who is available for permanent advising early during the fall semester in the HDFS 8404 dissertation think tank meetings. It is recommended that students select their permanent advisor by the end of their first fall semester in the program.

First year: Spring
- Choose a permanent advisor by the end of January and begin working with that person on your clinical competency paper.
- Apply for College scholarships (early in semester) and watch out for release of CFHA fellowship call for submissions (mid to late semester)—an opportunity for funding for your dissertation/research.
- Complete required coursework for this semester (12 hours).
- Continue exploring potential dissertation topic areas with your permanent advisor. Narrow focus on two or three core concepts that you feel could drive your program of research throughout your doctoral program and the first few years of your future career.
- Formulate a research question for your systematic review (aka article 1 of your dissertation) and begin working on it under the mentorship of your permanent advisor. You do not have to do a systematic review for article 1 of your dissertation or your MedFT Competency Exam. However, whatever you do
should be at a level of rigor that ties to your dissertation topic and is pre-approved by your dissertation committee.

- Consider potential methodologies and settings for your dissertation. Work to foster relationships with key stakeholders in the community with whom you may wish to work. Determine feasibility of possible designs given funding, resources, and timeline to graduation.
- Finish solid draft of theory of change paper for clinical competency exam (required assignment for 8405 practicum).
- Absolute deadline for completion of thesis equivalency (last day of finals week).
- Submit abstracts for CFHA fall conference presentations
- Complete clinical competency exam paper revisions and schedule clinical competency exam to occur on or before finals week of the spring semester. Sit down with permanent advisor before last day of classes and complete the annual review (print permanent advisor a copy of your CV).

First year: Summer
- Meet with permanent advisor and map out individual goals at the beginning of the summer.
- Consider potential internships and establish key contacts.
- Work on your systematic review/article 1 of your dissertation and dissertation method concept
- Consider selection of committee members.
- Apply for instate residency status 60 days before the fall semester begins.

Second year: Fall
- Complete required coursework for this semester (variable hours)
- Choose a specific topic for dissertation and begin writing all possible assignments toward that topic area.
- Map out potential dissertation chapters with advisor and consider which ones you can start working on (e.g., method or literature review).
- Finalize article 1 by end of the semester.
- Confirm dissertation committee members.
- Study for oral MedFT competency exam (three questions exam) may be at the beginning of the spring semester.
- Consider potential internships and establish key contacts. Watch out for early application deadlines that come before the holiday break in December.
- Attend and present at conferences (e.g., CFHA, AAMFT, etc.) to network and foster professional relationships with leaders in the field.
- NCAMFT call for submissions is in early fall to present in the spring at their annual conference.

Second year: Spring
- Complete required coursework for this semester (variable hours).
- Apply for College scholarships (early in semester) and watch out for release of CFHA fellowship call for submissions (mid to late semester)
- Map out plan for dissertation chapters and continue writing process for proposal.
- Complete Article 1 (for final MedFT competency exam) by end of semester.
• Defend Article 1 (final MedFT competency exam) at end of spring semester.
• Defend MedFT Competency Exam questions.
• Work on attaining IRB approval for dissertation study data collection. (must have successfully defended proposal or have permission from dissertation committee)
• Apply for and finalize plans for internship.
• Propose dissertation to committee and complete recommended edits – PROPOSALS MUST BE DONE WITHIN ONE SEMESTER OF DEFENDING BOTH PORTIONS OF THE MedFT COMPETENCY EXAM (including summer semester).
• Turn in Advancement to Doctoral Candidacy Form (after proposal: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/gradschool/Academic-Policies-and-Forms.cfm)
• Sit down with permanent advisor before last day of classes and complete the annual review (email permanent advisor copy of CV).
• Make sure any updates to your Degree Works is given to the Program Director, in writing, with the exact changes needed and corresponding dates of exams passed.

Second year: Summer
• Submit Article 1 for publication.
• Submit all final internship paperwork (contract, Plan of Action, proof of insurance)
• Collect data for dissertation.
  • Note: If intending to leave the area for internship, dissertation data should ideally be completed before moving. Depending on methodology and intended sample size, timeline may need to be adjusted so that data collection begins earlier in the second year.
• Plan for ECU FTC client transitions if you are leaving for internship.

Third year: Fall
• Adjust to internship site.
• Finish data collection.
• Begin data analysis.
• Write as much of Article 2 as possible (pending completion of data analysis)
• If planning to enter academia, apply for jobs (search process typically begins in the fall).
• Apply for graduation by December 1. (Complete Needs Sheet, Graduation Summary, and Application for Graduation)
• Submit internship evaluation to your permanent professor by the last date of classes in the semester.

Third year: Spring
• Complete and defend dissertation.
• Finish required 500 clinical hours for graduation (if applicable).
• Finish internship.
• Apply for post-graduation employment.
• Sit down with permanent advisor before last day of classes and complete the annual review (email major professor copy of CV).
• Submit internship evaluation to permanent advisor by the last date of classes in
the semester.

Resources, Policies & Procedures

The following are resources, policies, and procedures important to successfully
completing the Medical Family Therapy PhD Program. All students and faculty are
required to review the following policies and make sure they are up to date on each of
them.

Academic Common Market

The Academic Common Market (ACM) is a cooperative tuition-reduction agreement
among 16 states that participate in the Southern Regional Education Board
(SREB): Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana,
Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas,
Virginia, and West Virginia.

Under this program, qualified students from participating states may apply for reduced
tuition rates in other participating states while pursuing programs that are not available in
the home state’s university system. In essence, qualified students are considered “in-
state” residents by the participating universities during the time the students are pursuing
the specified degree program, thereby making them eligible for reduced tuition rates and
other opportunities afforded residents who attend the institution.

All doctoral students who receive assistance through the ACM must be full time (9
credits) in the fall and spring semesters and must be in “good standing” according to the
procedures set forth by ECU. Once the student begins dissertation credits they must
register for 3 semester hours (HDFS 9000). Should the student be accepted by the ACM,
and follow the above criteria, then a tuition remission will be provided from the start of
their program through graduation. Each participating SREB state has a coordinator for
the Academic Common Market. Each state coordinator’s name and address can be
obtained by visiting the SREB Website at www.sreb.org or by calling the SREB in
Atlanta at (404) 875-9211 or by email at acm@northcarolina.edu.

Academic Regulations and Retention

The program complies with the policy of the university regarding academic regulations
and retention. “The university maintains approximately 100 official media boards at key
locations on campus and also maintains an official media board on the ECU home page,
www.ecu.edu. Through consecutively numbered official announcements, academic
departments and other divisions of the university communicate essential and timely
information to students; it is the responsibility of the student to read and know the
contents of those announcements which affect their program.” The Academic
Regulations and Retention policy is published in the 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog
(http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/registrar/catalog.cfm).
Adding or Dropping Courses

Students who wish to add or drop any required courses for the MedFT Program will need to submit their request in writing to the MedFT Program Director before taking action. Students who wish to add or drop an elective or cognate course will need to submit their request in writing to the MedFT Program Director, if the student has not yet selected a Permanent Advisor, or one’s Permanent Advisor before taking action.

Anti-Discrimination

The program complies with the policies of the university regarding discrimination: “East Carolina University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability. Moreover, East Carolina University is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of minority students. East Carolina University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.” This policy is published in the 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog on the inside cover. In addition, the “Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Policy,” “Notion of Nondiscrimination,” “Sexual Harassment Prevention Plan, Policy, and Grievance Procedure for Complaints of Sexual Harassment,” and “Racial and Ethnic Harassment Policy” are published in the Graduate Catalog. All students are required to complete a diversity oath (Form Z) prior to the start of the MedFT program. The MedFT program is committed to multicultural and global humility and thus students should share any concerns (at any point throughout the program) pertaining to diversity awareness with their advisor so that resources can be extended to the student to assist with competency and/or diversity awareness/sensitivity.

Financial Assistance

Scholarships, grants, and loans may be available to eligible students. Specific information about financial aid may be obtained from the ECU Office of Student Financial Aid (252-328-6610). Descriptions of traineeships, graduate teaching, and research assistantships, and scholarships available specifically for MedFT students may be obtained from the MedFT program director. Graduate students who are interested in what assistantships are available across all of ECU may go to the “Prospective Students” page on the ECU website. On there, they will find a link “Search Job Postings” that directs students to People Admin where they can find listings of GA positions, provided the program offering the position posts them in people admin. Students are encouraged to apply for financial aid at the same time they are applying for admission to the program. Students are strongly encouraged to seek university resources, as well as scholarships and grants from external sources. Visit local libraries or the web for program support resources. Tuition waivers are typically not awarded during the summer semesters. ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO APPLY FOR IN-STATE RESIDENCE BY THE END OF THEIR FIRST YEAR IN THE PROGRAM OR PAY FOR THE DIFFERENCE IN TUITION (i.e., the difference between out of state minus in-state tuition).
The current university schedule of tuition and fees can be obtained from the cashier’s office, the admissions office, or http://www.ecu.edu/financial_serv/cashier/tufee.cfm. The Financial Assistance policies are published in the 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog. ALL STUDENTS MUST PAY FOR THEIR OWN TUITION AFTER YEAR TWO IN THE PROGRAM.

There are several options for students with regard to financial assistance for the 2017-2018 academic year. All notes (NOTE) below apply to all options.

Option A: 10 hours (Grad School) + 10 hours (GCHC) = up to $26,000 (if work summers for GCHC) + receive (fall and spring tuition remission); note: students must pay for their own fees each semester enrolled.

Option B: 10 hours (Grad School) + 10 hours (ECU Other) = $16,000 (or equivalent pay for most assistantships on campus)- fall and spring semesters only + receive (fall and spring tuition remission); note: students must pay for their own fees each semester enrolled.

Option C: 10 hours (Grad School) = $8,000 (or equivalent pay for most assistantships on campus)- fall and spring semesters only + no tuition remission

Option D: No assistantship; No tuition remission

NOTE 1: International students receive tuition remissions for the first three years enrolled in the program; however, they must carry 20 hours, and no more, of fall, spring, and/or summer assistantship support during their first two years in the program; to receive tuition remission also must be enrolled in internship and dissertation courses full time in their third year.

NOTE 2: Students who decline assistantships offered, assume the financial responsibility and task of locating another assistantship.

NOTE 3: All students get a health insurance waiver for their first two years as long as they enroll in the ECU student health care plan.

Special Emergency Assistance: Students who find themselves in need of emergency financial support may apply for help through the ECU Student Treasure Chest: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/dos/stc-home.cfm. You can complete an application or nominate as a 3rd party someone who needs it.

Grievance Procedures

Students who wish to file a complaint related to a course and/or program-related experience are encouraged to first talk to the course instructor/faculty member/staff member/student involved. If that does not resolve the issue, students are encouraged to bring it to the attention of their permanent advisor and/or the Program Director. If that
does not result in resolution to the student’s satisfaction, they are encouraged to talk to the Chair of the Department of Human Development and Family Science.

When appropriate, students may also bring complaints to the attention of their cohort representative and that individual will bring it to the attention of the Program Director to present at the upcoming faculty meeting. All complaints will be discussed and a written response will be generated within a week of the faculty meeting to the entire cohort(s) impacted by the concern.

ECU has policies and procedures for refunding tuition, health fees, and other required fees (see 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/registrar/catalog.cfm). The policies and procedures of the university on termination or continuance of graduate study and readmission are published in the 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog (http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/registrar/catalog.cfm). If a formal grievance is filed, it would be kept under lock and key in the main office of HDFS, and would not be placed in any student’s files.

Several grievance procedures govern the system and its students, staff, and faculty and are outlined below and can be found in more detail at (www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/oed/policies.cfm):

1. **Disability Accommodation Grievance Procedure**

   Any student who has an issue or concern regarding their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 may inquire with the dean of students or file a grievance with the Office for Equity and Diversity. The Dean of Students Office is located in 362 Wright Building. Telephone: 328-9297. Website: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/dos/. The Office for Equity and Diversity is located in Suite G-406 Old Cafeteria Building. Telephone: 252-328-6804. Website: www.ecu.edu/oed.

   The full-text of these procedures, including any future updates, will be available at www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/oed/policies.cfm.

2. **Regulation on Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Other Forms of Interpersonal Violence – Interim (version 3)**

   The University offers a wide range of resources for all Students and Employees to provide support and guidance in response to any incident of Prohibited Conduct. For comprehensive information on accessing University and community resources, including emergency and ongoing assistance; health, mental health, and victim-advocacy services; options for reporting Prohibited Conduct to the University and/or law enforcement; and available support with academics, housing, and employment:
a. 5.1. Students should refer to the Student Resource Guides (Additional Reference A-1 and Additional Reference A-2);
b. 5.2. Employees should refer to the Employee Resource Guides (Additional Reference B-1 and Additional Reference B-2); and
c. 5.3. Third Parties should contact the Title IX Coordinator to discuss available University and/or community resources and reasonably available assistance.

3. **Procedures for Grievance Against CSS, SHRA, or EHRA non-faculty and for Reporting Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and/or Related Retaliation**

An individual alleging conduct prohibited in the University’s Notice of Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action Policy (i.e., unlawful discrimination, harassment and/or retaliation) should report the alleged conduct directly to East Carolina University's Associate Provost for Equity and Diversity, Title IX Coordinator and ADA/Section 504 Compliance Officer within 180 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory or harassing action.

1. Complaints outlining the nature of the alleged conduct can be submitted to the Associate Provost for Equity and Diversity by any of the following means:
   a. Completing the online Grievance Reporting Form (http://www.ecu.edu/oed/grievance-form.cfm)
   b. Submitting a written report in person or via mail using the contact information below
   c. Submitting a report verbally in person or by telephone using the contact information below
      Office for Equity and Diversity
      East Carolina University
      Suite G-406, Old Cafeteria Building
      Greenville, North Carolina 27858
      (252) 328-6804
      oed@ecu.edu

4. **Procedures for Grievance Against EHRA Faculty**

Grievance procedures for complaints of unlawful or prohibited harassment, discrimination or improper relationships brought against East Carolina University faculty members or administrators holding faculty status are written in the Faculty Manual (http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/oed/dev/upload/part12section4.pdf).

**Institutional Review Board**

As of September 16, 2002, the UMCIRB passed the resolution endorsing the policy that anyone involved with human subjects research must complete mandatory IRB training and have a passing score. This includes principal investigators, co-investigators, and research assistants (including students). The required training modules must be completed by the research team members prior to the UMCIRB granting approval for any research study, regardless of the level of risk or category of review. The UMCIRB will not accept submissions (new, continuous review, and/or revisions on existing studies) until all persons on the research team have completed the training.
To register and take the mandatory IRB Training, go to the following website: www.ecu.edu/irb, and click on the Education and Modules link. For your convenience, use the web link provided in your registration information, received electronically from the web master, to access the module website because this site is subject to change periodically.

The UMCIRB office receives a weekly electronic notice to verify the date of completion and generates a certificate that should be used to validate completion of the required education. The UMCIRB encourages all individuals in research to seek and take advantage of all continuing education opportunities, recognizing that education is an ongoing process and not a one-time event. The IRB Training should be completed in the fall of the first semester as part of the first-year orientation. IRB Training must be renewed every three years.

Note: All students must successfully close out any open IRB approvals they initiated as a PI prior to commencement. See the following for instructions on how to close an open IRB: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/rgs/irb/upload/How-to-Close-a-Study-in-ePIRATE-03-05-14.pdf

Policy Revisions

Policies set forth by ECU are reviewed and revised to reflect ongoing improvement. The university takes the following position on any policy changes: “All provisions, regulations, degree programs, and course listings in effect when this catalog went to press are subject to revision by the appropriate governing bodies of ECU. Students pursuing degree programs when such changes are instituted are expected to comply with the revisions that relate to their programs.” Students may refer to the Graduate Student Catalog for more information regarding policy revisions. While the Graduate School provides policies that all graduate programs must minimally meet, the policies of the MedFT program (when more rigorous) are the policies that students must follow.

Procedures on Alumni Data Collection

Approximately every three years, the Program Director gathers information from the Graduate Evaluation (Appendix A) form that is completed by employers of graduates asking them to evaluate the graduate’s preparation and performance regarding their current position. This evaluation was last completed in January, 2015.

In addition, the Program Director solicits information from graduates (approximately every three years; Appendix B) regarding their satisfaction with their education and their preparedness to function in the workplace. This evaluation is done through the Program Evaluation form. This evaluation was last completed in July, 2015.

Information on graduates including their professional employment status, credentialing status, current mailing address, email address, work and home phone numbers, and changes in marital or family status is constantly being updated by the clinic office.
assistants and the Program Director. This file is saved on the Program Director’s PirateDrive with access granted to the MS Program Director as well.

**Procedures on Data Collection**

The following table depicts the communities of interest that inform advancements to this doctoral program. The table includes the assessment schedule and mechanisms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Community of Interest</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Director</td>
<td>Students and Faculty</td>
<td>Midyear</td>
<td>Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Leadership &amp; Program Feedback</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Midyear</td>
<td>(a) Qualtrics Survey (b) Cohort Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Evaluations</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>End of every semester (Fall/Spring)</td>
<td>(a) University administered SPOTS course evaluation (b) The &quot;Family Therapy Practicum Course Evaluation&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Survey</td>
<td>Graduates of the MedFT Doctoral Program</td>
<td>Once every three years (Spring/Summer)</td>
<td>Survey mailed to alumni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Satisfaction Survey</td>
<td>Clients of the ECU Family Therapy Clinic</td>
<td>Initiated by the ECU Family Therapy Clinic Director at least once a year and for every client at termination</td>
<td>(a) Paper pencil survey entitled &quot;Client's Input on Ongoing Treatment&quot; survey while receiving therapy. Data Aggregated by Clinic Director. (b) &quot;Client Evaluation of Treatment&quot; survey provided at termination. Data reviewed with student and Practicum/AAMFT Supervisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Employer Survey</td>
<td>Employers of Program Alumni</td>
<td>Once every three years</td>
<td>Qualtrics Survey. The evaluation was last completed January, 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECU Administrator Feedback</td>
<td>Department Chair and</td>
<td>Annually or more frequently as needed</td>
<td>In the spring semester, the</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Dean of the College of Health and Human Performance**

Program Director sits down with the Department Chair to discuss the program budget, needs, and performance. This information is communicated with the program faculty at faculty meetings.

| Intern Evaluation Survey | Intern Site Supervisor | Given at end of each semester the student is enrolled for internship credit | Paper "Intern Evaluation" Survey. Results go into each student’s academic file after being reviewed by the student’s permanent advisor |

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**Procedures on Student Outcome Data Collection**

*Most assessment processes and policies are described above; however, this section will illustrate ways that additional data is garnered from currently enrolled students.*

Every fall and spring semester the University administers SPOTS to courses with a minimum of 6 students enrolled in them. The results of these evaluations are reviewed by the instructor who taught the class and who then makes adjustments and/or improvements based on the results. Student responses are anonymous and results compiled by the Office of Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research (IPAR). According to the IPAR, (see [http://www.ecu.edu/ipar/](http://www.ecu.edu/ipar/)), this survey is conducted each semester in order to obtain student evaluations of their instructors. These evaluations become part of the instructors' personnel records and are used by academic unit heads for decisions regarding annual evaluations.

Since the clinical practicum course includes less than six students per section, the faculty members who teach this course are not eligible to be evaluated using the SPOTS instrument. Therefore, the MedFT Program has incorporated the Basic Skills Evaluation Device to help provide student feedback at the conclusion of each practicum experience. Students place completed surveys directly into the instructors’ mailboxes (in a sealed envelope) after grades are completed. They are instructed not to identify themselves on the instrument.

Students are also asked each spring to complete the MedFT Clinic and Program Leadership survey. Results from this survey are shared with the MedFT faculty and recommendations for change are considered and/or implemented. Results and recommended changes from the survey are also shared with program students and HDFS chair.
Program Policy Revisions

The program honors the policies (e.g., the Graduate Handbook) set forth by ECU. Any of the following policies subject to revision by the program are reviewed each fall. Once revisions are approved by the HDFS Graduate Faculty, they are submitted to the Graduate School for catalog revision.

Recruitment and Admission

The program complies with the policy of the university regarding recruitment and admission. As published in the 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog, “East Carolina University is an equal educational opportunity institution. In keeping with this policy, the university makes no distinction in the admission of students or in any other of its activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability” (http://catalog.ecu.edu/content.php?catoid=9&navoid=540&bl=equal+educational+opportunity+%22equal+educational+opportunity+%22&returnto=search). Applicants for admission to the Graduate School are required to complete a self-managed application prior to consideration for admission. This application requires that the student manage the application process by completing the appropriate forms, gathering the necessary transcripts and letters of recommendation, and returning the forms as one package to the Graduate School. Graduate School applications can be acquired by phone at 252-328-6012, by e-mail at www.gradschool@ecu.edu, or from the Graduate School’s home page www.ecu.edu/gradschool/. The admission requirements for graduate certificate programs depend upon the program.” The admission policy is published in the 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog (http://catalog.ecu.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=339#Leave_of_Absence_and_Readmission).

Recruitment and Retention of a Diverse Student Community

East Carolina University’s doctoral program strongly supports the advancement of a diverse community of faculty, supervisors, learners, and graduates. We have a great need for bilingual and bicultural professionals in the field. Every year the ECU graduate school disseminates information about the doctoral program to all of the historically Black colleges and universities in the region. Our program is also building a partnership with the Hispanic Studies undergraduate and master’s programs to encourage more of their scholars to consider degrees in the fields of Marriage and Family Therapy and Medical Family Therapy. Representatives of our program (i.e., faculty, students, and alumni) also frequently give presentations in the ECU Hispanic Studies’ courses. We are also partnering with the Hispanic Studies department by providing grant funded assistantships to their master’s students on our existing grants to help increase interest in our program. Lastly, we conduct national searches when new faculty positions open in our department and have been very successful in recent years recruiting and retaining a more diverse faculty. Graduates from our doctoral program who have remained in the community and...
are from a minority group, serve as supervisors and positive role models for our doctoral students in clinical, research, and internship roles. Students who request an additional mentor who shares a similar ethnic and cultural background are offered options for additional support either within the department, college, or through various other resources on campus such as the Office for Diversity and Equity and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Resource Office.

Retention of our faculty, supervisors, and students is important and strongly valued. We have recently implemented quarterly cultural meetings where we work to advance the shared respect and cultural humility of our program community. We have invited guest speakers to some of these events to help ensure our worldview is continuously expanded. We have also instituted more check points (e.g., open discussions, one on one meetings with faculty, annual student learning outcome competency meetings) to ensure that students who need more educational, emotional, relational support have the opportunity to receive it.

We understand that not all of our students have had equal access to educational resources and supports so we work hard to provide adequate depth and breadth in our feedback and promote on-campus resources to make it possible to retain all students to graduation. ECU has a writing lab where students can get support with their writing and APA style. There is also support in the Communications Department for students who wish to advance their professional presentation skills. Additionally, we have formed a strong partnership with the Psychology Department to ensure that our students have access to the best statistics teachers and tutoring support. Our faculty also have provided draft support to students where possible so those students who need more time and feedback on drafts of papers, projects, and presentations, get that support when needed.

**Request for Additional Time**

Should students decide to request additional time to complete the requirements for a PhD in Medical Family Therapy, the following procedures must be followed. First, students must submit their request in writing to their advisor at least three months in advance of the approaching deadline for completion of the degree. The advisor notifies the student’s committee. Then the MFT/MedFT faculty, as well as members of students’ permanent graduate committee, will request a meeting with the student to discuss the circumstances surrounding their request. After hearing students’ oral appeal, the committee/faculty will discuss students’ request and make a decision whether or not to honor the request. The outcome of this meeting will be recorded on the Appeal for Additional Time Form (Form T) and will be admitted into students’ academic file. Summer sessions are counted as a semester for additional time.

**Social Media Policy**

In addition to being therapists, ECU MedFT students are ambassadors for the program, ECU, and the field of medical family therapy. As such, certain guidelines for social media use are necessary to protect the integrity and reputation of clients, students, the
program and the profession. These policies apply to any social networking site (e.g., Facebook, twitter, linked-in, etc.)

Students should be professional and respectful in online interactions. In order to maintain confidentiality and ethical responsibility toward clients and research participants, students must not post any information about clients or research participants on social media sites, even with identifying information obscured. Students should not post anything that defames other students, the MedFT program, East Carolina University, or the profession. Should postings be found that violate these policies, MedFT faculty will meet with the student and a remediation plan may be enacted. A student can be dismissed from the program based on the discretion of the program director or department chair, if this policy is violated.

Student Insurance

The MedFT program provides healthcare insurance for students who wish to receive insurance from the university plan, based on the provision of state allotments for this plan. Students will be asked prior to their first semester whether they would like to receive the university insurance plan or plan to enroll in an insurance plan of their own (at their own cost). Students who select the university plan must enroll themselves on an annual basis in order to receive benefits. Students must be enrolled full-time and have a full assistantship in order to qualify for the university insurance plan. All students must show proof of insurance in order to remain enrolled at East Carolina University. Students must pay for their own health insurance after two years in the program.

Technology Requirements and Training

Students in the MedFT program are required to have consistent access to a computer with sufficient capabilities for word processing, producing presentations and University email. Students should have regular and consistent internet access. Students are expected to manage confidential client information in a manner that adheres to the AAMFT Code of Ethics and HIPAA rules. All personal electronic devices, which may access confidential information, must be password protected and only accessible to the student.

Training for specific technologies will be provided on a regular basis in the Family Therapy Clinic and resources for library use can be found on the Joyner or Laupus Library websites. The ECU Information, Technology, and Computing Services (ITCS) website (http://www.ecu.edu/itcs/) maintains a listing of detailed “how-to” guides on a variety of technical training issues. MFT Faculty and Supervisors will stay current on appropriate uses of technology and will encourage students to develop competent and secure practices.

The College of Health and Human Performance (HHP) also has its own ITCS staff who are available for trainings, consultation, and support during business hours. Technology training and HHP technology service requests are to be placed on the HHP Sharepoint page available under the “Faculty” tab (http://www.ecu.edu/hhp/). Login to the Sharepoint page is required using your Pirate ID and Password to successfully log in.
Travel Reimbursement

There is often a small budget of travel funds in the ECU Graduate School for doctoral students presenting research at conferences. The Graduate School has a required form that would need to be submitted to Alexis Morris (morrisal@ecu.edu), Graduate School Business Services Coordinator. The request should include information about the conference (e.g., registration materials, program, and documentation of the student’s presentation) and written confirmation of matching funds from the student’s home department (HDFS) and/or college (HHP). Note: there is the expectation that the funds requested from the Graduate School are matched by the student’s home department or college. Then, the Graduate School will match, potentially. Therefore, all requests should be brought to the Program Director first and the Program Director will see if departmental funds are available.

Vacation Policy

MedFT students are commonly contracted for assistantships on nine or twelve month increments. Because students are paid by state or grant funds for their time, any vacation time must be approved. When students are traveling to conferences, other professional events, or on vacation, the Pre-Travel Approval Form for Students must be completed ([http://bit.ly/2xZrbQW](http://bit.ly/2xZrbQW)) In addition to completing the Pre-Travel Approval Form for Students, students must also complete the Student Leave Request Form (see Student Leave Request Form in Sharepoints and submit it to all current teaching faculty, supervisors, Clinic Director, Internship Supervisor, and Program Director) and have it approved by the Program Director to ensure that there are no liability concerns with clients, research participants, or obligations that were aligned with the student during the leave time. Even when students are not on an assistantship contract, students must still request vacation leave (see Leave Form in Sharepoints and submit it to all current teaching faculty, supervisors, Clinic Director, Internship Supervisor, and Program Director) and have it approved by the Program Director to ensure that there are no liability concerns with clients, research participants, or obligations that were aligned with the student during the leave time. Students should not make travel plans or commitments to travel until this form has been approved.
MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

Name:__________________________________________________________________
(Last) (First) (Middle)
Expected Date of Graduation _______________________________
E-Mail Address: ___________________________ Effective Until:__________________
Local Address: ___________________________________________________________
Permanent Address: ______________________________________ Phone: ____________
Street/P.O. City State Zip Effective Until

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>SEM/YEAR</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUMS7004</td>
<td>Research Ethics in a Complex World</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 7100</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 7401</td>
<td>Introduction to MedFT</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 7409</td>
<td>Illness &amp; Disability Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 7502</td>
<td>Family Therapy Supervision</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 8400</td>
<td>Advanced Research Methods in Medical Family Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 8402</td>
<td>Family Therapy Seminar V: Advanced Theories in MFT</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 8403</td>
<td>Gender &amp; Ethnicity in Medical Family Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<td>HDFS 8404</td>
<td>MedFT Practica I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATS I</td>
<td>PSYC 6430 or PSYC 7431</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
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<td>STATS II</td>
<td>PSYC 6327 or PSYC 7505</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
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</table>

ADDITIONAL COURSES (MIN. 27 s.h.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COGNATES* (6 s.h.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELECTIVES* (6 s.h.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Form A

**DISSERTATION (MIN. 6 s.h.)**

1.) ____________________________ 3 __________
2.) ____________________________ 3 __________

**INTERNSHIP (MIN. 9 s.h.)**

1.) ____________________________ 3 __________
2.) ____________________________ 3 __________
3.) ____________________________ 3 __________

*All cognates and electives must be advisor approved

**Minimum requirements for degree – 59 s.h.**
Applicants must provide a copy of an official transcript, and any other documentation requested by the Medical Family Therapy Program Director (e.g., graduate catalogs, syllabi), to complete this process. Applicants may visit [www.ecu.edu/aa/grcat](http://www.ecu.edu/aa/grcat) to look up course descriptions for all ECU graduate courses listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas of Study</th>
<th>Proposed Equivalency Course (include # credits)</th>
<th>For Office Use Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 6300 Sexual Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 6303 Critical Issues &amp; Diversity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 6407 Family Systems Theories</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 6408 Family Therapy Theories</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 6409 Assessment and Treatment Planning in Family Therapy (Pre-practicum)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 6410 Family Therapy Seminar II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 6412 Family Therapy Seminar III</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 6425 Assessment &amp; Treatment Planning in Family Therapy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 6401 Family Theories and Issues OR HDFS 6404 Human Dev &amp; Family Relations OR HDFS 6402 Theories of Child Development OR HDFS 6406 Child Development and Behavior</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 6411 Family Therapy Issues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 7400 Research in Child/Family Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 7007 Statistics in Child/Family Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 s.h. of an approved graduate level elective</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 6415, 6416, 6417 Family Therapy Practicum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Form B

COAMFTE Master’s Standard Curriculum

FCA 1: Foundations of Relational/Systemic Practice, Theories & Models (Minimum of 6 semester credits/8 quarter credits/90 clock hours)
This area facilitates students developing competencies in the foundations and critical epistemological issues of MFTs. It includes the historical development of the relational/systemic perspective and contemporary conceptual foundations of MFTs, and early and contemporary models of MFT, including evidence-based practice and the biopsychosocial perspective.

FCA 2: Clinical Treatment with Individuals, Couples and Families (Minimum of 6 semester credits/8 quarter credits/90 clock hours)
This area facilitates students developing competencies in treatment approaches specifically designed for use with a wide range of diverse individuals, couples, and families, including sex therapy, same-sex couples, working with young children, adolescents and elderly, interfaith couples, and includes a focus on evidence-based practice. Programs must include content on crisis intervention.

FCA 3: Diverse, Multicultural and/or Underserved Communities (Minimum of 3 semester credits/4 quarter credits/45 clock hours)
This area facilitates students developing competencies in understanding and applying knowledge of diversity, power, privilege and oppression as these relate to race, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, disability, health status, religious, spiritual and/or beliefs, nation of origin or other relevant social categories throughout the curriculum. It includes practice with diverse, international, multicultural, marginalized, and/or underserved communities, including developing competencies in working with sexual and gender minorities and their families as well as anti-racist practices.

FCA 4: Research & Evaluation (Minimum of 3 semester credits/4 quarter credits/45 clock hours)
This area facilitates students developing competencies in MFT research and evaluation 23 methods, and in evidence-based practice, including becoming an informed consumer of couple, marriage, and family therapy research. If the program’s mission, goals, and outcomes include preparing students for doctoral degree programs, the program must include an increased emphasis on research.

FCA 5: Professional Identity, Law, Ethics & Social Responsibility (Minimum of 3 semester credits/4 quarter credits/45 clock hours)
This area addresses the development of a MFT Identity and socialization, and facilitates students developing competencies in ethics in MFT practice, including understanding and applying the AAMFT Code of Ethics and understanding legal responsibilities.

FCA 6: Biopsychosocial Health & Development Across the Life Span (Minimum of 3 semester credits/4 quarter credits/45 clock hours)
This area addresses individual and family development, human sexuality, and biopsychosocial health across the lifespan.

FCA 7: Systemic/Relational Assessment & Mental Health Diagnosis and Treatment (Minimum of 3 semester credits/4 quarter credits/45 clock hours)
This area facilitates students developing competencies in traditional psycho-diagnostic categories, psychopharmacology, the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of major mental health issues as well as a wide variety of common presenting problems including addiction, suicide, trauma, abuse, intra-familial violence, and therapy for individuals, couples, and families managing acute chronic medical conditions, utilizing a relational/systemic philosophy. The following areas must be covered in the curriculum in some way, though there are no minimum credit requirements.

FCA 8: Contemporary Issues
This area facilitates students developing competencies in emerging and evolving contemporary challenges, problems, and/or recent developments at the interface of Couple or Marriage and Family Therapy knowledge and practice, and the broader local, regional, and global context. These developments include
such issues as immigration, technology, same-sex marriage, violence in schools, etc. These issues are to reflect the context of the program and the program’s mission, goals, and outcomes. Programs are encouraged to innovate in this Foundational Curricular Area.

**FCA 9: Community Intersections & Collaboration**

This area facilitates students developing competencies in practice within defined contexts (e.g., healthcare settings, schools, military settings, private practice) and/or nontraditional MFT professional practice using therapeutic competencies congruent with the program’s mission, goals, and outcomes (e.g., community advocacy, psycho-educational groups). It also addresses developing competency in **multidisciplinary collaboration**.
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Student’s Name: _______________________

Date: _______________________

Year in Program (circle)  1st  2nd  3rd  4th  5th  Other: __

1. What are the strengths in your research/writing skills?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What are the growth areas in your research/writing skills?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. What are the strengths in your teaching/presentation skills?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. What are the growth areas in your teaching/presentation skills?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. What are the strengths in your clinical/supervisory skills?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

6. What are the growth areas in your clinical/supervisory skills?

________________________________________________________________________
7. How well do you believe that you are managing the demands of the curriculum and what adjustments would help if any?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

8. What do you perceive to be your biggest challenge in relation to the program and what are your plans for accomplishing that/those requirement(s)?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Additional Permanent Advisor Feedback:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________

Student’s Signature  Date

Advisor’s Signature  Date
Completion of Candidacy Project
Approval and Completion Form

Approval of Project

I, (print name) ____________________________, with permission from my advisor, Dr. (print name) ________________________, will complete one of the following requirements for my Doctoral Candidacy Project:

☐ Master’s Thesis
☐ Published/Publishable Manuscript
☐ Submitted Grant

I understand that the Candidacy Project is a requirement of this program. It must be completed by the end of the spring semester in my first year. The due date for my Candidacy Project is (insert date) _______________, which is the last day of the spring semester’s final exam week. I have read and understand the terms of this requirement as printed in the medical family therapy doctoral handbook.

Student Signature ____________________________ Date __________

Advisor Signature ____________________________ Date __________

Completion of Project

In accordance with the terms stated in the medical family therapy doctoral handbook, and by my approval, (insert student’s name) ______________________ has

☐ successfully
☐ unsuccessfully

completed their Candidacy Project requirement. A copy of the cover page and abstract of the student's project, and other required documentation, is attached to this form.

Advisor Signature ____________________________ Date __________

Student Signature ____________________________ Date __________

* Submit form to program director at both stages of completion. ** If the project is unsuccessfully completed and additional time is granted, a new form must be completed.
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY  
The Graduate School  
College of Health and Human Performance  
Department of Human Development & Family Science

SELECTION OF PERMANENT ADVISOR

The undersigned has agreed to serve as the permanent advisor for

____________________________________________________________________________
(Name of Student)  (Banner#)

a candidate for the degree of

______Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Family Therapy.

I UNDERSTAND that my advisor will chair all examinations, defenses, and will facilitate all approvals for transfer credits, clinical placements, and internship sites.

____________________________________________________________________________
Student  Department  Date

____________________________________________________________________________
Advisor  Department  Date
CONFIRMATION OF PERMANENT GRADUATE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The undersigned have agreed to serve as a member of the permanent graduate committee for

(Name of Student) ___________________________ (Banner#)

a candidate for the degree of

__________ Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in
          Medical Family Therapy*

__________ Master of Science (MS) in
          Human Development & Family Science
          Marriage and Family Therapy

__________ Master of Arts in Education (MAEd) in
          Birth through Kindergarten Education
          Family and Consumer Science Education

Chair of Committee/Director of Thesis/Dissertation ___________________________ Department ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Committee Member ___________________________ Department ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Committee Member ___________________________ Department ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Committee Member ___________________________ Department ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Committee Member ___________________________ Department ___________________________ Date ___________________________

*The permanent graduate committee of the MedFT PhD will be composed of at least four members with graduate faculty status: (a) a committee chairperson who is the student’s permanent advisor and is a member of the MFT/MedFT graduate faculty, (b) at least one additional committee member from the MFT/MedFT/HDFS graduate faculty, (c) at least two additional committee members, whereby at least one is from outside the College of Health and Human Performance. This committee will serve as the committee for the student’s MedFT Comprehensive Examination and Dissertation Defense. Thesis Form 1

cc: Student Folder Approved 10/90
     Student Revised 11/98, 6/03, Updated 8/17
The MedFT practicum experience is designed to provide students with hands-on clinical training as well as opportunities to expand and clarify theoretical orientations as they apply to clinical work. Your candid comments regarding the effectiveness of this semester’s experience in meeting these goals will be extremely useful in modifying and planning future practicum experiences.

1) Please describe your own personal goals/reasons for participating in the practicum this semester.

2) In what specific ways did this experience help you to meet these goals?

3) In what ways were your goals not met? What additional activities or experiences would have helped you attain your goals?
Form G

4) In what ways did the supervisor’s style of supervision enhance or limit your ability to experiment with new therapeutic approaches, expand your view of MedFT, and otherwise grow as a MedFT?

5) In reviewing your growth as a MedFT this semester, please rate the quality of the practicum in enhancing the following specific areas: (rate on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating much improved and 1 indicating no significant improvement).

   ____ Theoretical conceptualization
   ____ Clinical skills
   ____ Integration of theoretical concepts with clinical practice
   ____ Understanding of BPSS treatment
   ____ Ability to write SOAP note
   ____ Ability to diagnose using DSM-5
   ____ Sense of self as a professional medical family therapist

Comments:

6) Please note any additional information which you believe would be useful in planning future practicum experiences.

7) Overall I rate this supervisor as:

   ____ Excellent
   ____ Good
   ____ Average
   ____ Below Average
   ____ Poor
Form H

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

BASIC SKILLS EVALUATION DEVICE (Nelson & Johnson, 1999)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapist</th>
<th>Semester/Date</th>
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<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>Experience Level</td>
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<th>Meets Expectations</th>
<th>Exceeds Expectations</th>
<th>Exceptional Skills</th>
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<td>2. Systems Perspective</td>
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<td>3. Familiarity with Therapy Model</td>
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<td>4. Self as Therapist</td>
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Comments:

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<td>6. Hypothesizing</td>
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<td>7. Integration of theory practice</td>
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Comments:
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<td>7. Session Management</td>
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Comments:

### Professional Skills

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<td>3. Paperwork</td>
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<td>4. Professional Image</td>
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<td>5. Professional Conduct</td>
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Comments:

### Evaluation Skills

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Comments:
<table>
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<th>Theory of Choice</th>
<th>Inadequate Information</th>
<th>Deficient</th>
<th>Below Expectation</th>
<th>Meets Expectations</th>
<th>Exceeds Expectations</th>
<th>Exceptional Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilizes Theory in Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recognized Strengths and Weakness of Theory</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Description:

Comments:
Form I

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

CLINICAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION EVALUATION

STUDENT: ____________________________ DATE: ______________

INITIAL EXAM (circle): oral written
SECOND EXAM (circle): oral written

Please evaluate the student’s written comprehensive examination on the achievement of the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>High Pass (PH)</th>
<th>Pass (P)</th>
<th>No Pass (NP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. THEORY OF CHANGE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARENESS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>III. ETHICAL AWARENESS</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. EVIDENCE BASED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>V. TRAD MEDFT KNOWLEDGE</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI. IC MEDFT KNOWLEDGE</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. MEDFT COMPETENCIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIII. APA FORMAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>IX. PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>X. ABILITY TO DEFEND PAPER</td>
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<tr>
<td>(THROUGH QUESTION AND ANSWER FROM FACULTY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>XI. TOTAL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Students may not be passed if they have more than 2 “No Pass” checks on this form. See page 2 of the rating sheet for the rubric.

I recommend the student: ______ be passed.

______ be required to do the following:

______ Make revisions to presentation, no defense, but require participating faculty approval.
______ Make revisions to paper, no re-defense, but require participating faculty approval.
______ Make revisions to presentation, reschedule defense.
______ Make revisions to paper, reschedule defense.

This evaluation form will be placed in the students’ academic file. Feedback on the student’s written component will be sent to the student electronically by each faculty member reviewer. Feedback on the student’s professional presentation and ability to defend their written component will be graded according to the rubric on the reverse side of this paper.

COMMENTS:

Signature______________________________________ Date______________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>No Pass</th>
<th>Pass</th>
<th>High Pass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theory of Change</td>
<td>Student was unable to articulate a cohesive theory of change and relate it to their practice of MedFT. Theory(ies) presented were vague, superficial, and not integrated well with MedFT. Student was not able to clearly demonstrate adequate knowledge of their theory of change.</td>
<td>Student demonstrated some competency when discussing their theory of change but some of the concepts were unclear or lacked the level of application necessary to demonstrate competency in how it is used as a Medical Family Therapist. Missing full explanation of how the student applies their chosen theory of change to traditional or integrated behavioral health care settings.</td>
<td>Student presented theory in a clear, concise, and well informed manner. It was clear the student understood the basic tenets of their theory of change and could apply those tenets to the practice of MedFT in traditional and integrated behavioral health care settings. The student was able to discuss their theory of change in a way that demonstrated their depth of understanding regarding their theory that extended past the aspects covered in the clinical paper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Justice (and Global) Awareness</td>
<td>Student did not address issues surrounding social justice or global awareness. The presentation lacked the depth necessary to convey confidence in the student’s ability to understand the impact of issues surrounding social justice on the clinical encounter.</td>
<td>Student discussed some elements of social justice and global awareness but attention to the construct was brief or not adequately explained.</td>
<td>Student thoroughly discussed social justice and global awareness and demonstrated cultural humility with an understanding and commitment to how social location impacts the therapy process. Case examples demonstrated a depth and breadth of competency around clients’ social locations. Student exercised cultural humility in the way the information was presented and in their awareness of one’s own biases and how they might influence the therapeutic encounter/outcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethical Awareness</td>
<td>Student did not adequately demonstrate an understanding of ethical issues. The presentation lacked the depth necessary to convey confidence in the student’s ability to understand the impact of ethical issues on the clinical encounter. Student did not report on any relevant literature, AAMFT Code of Ethics, and/or HIPAA regulations relevant to their presentation.</td>
<td>Student identified and discussed some ethical concerns from their clinical work and/or work context but conversations were underdeveloped and/or the student only covered some aspects of the ethical concern. Student only partially discussed the differences that exist between clinical sites and how ethical situations may vary based on a traditional versus an integrated behavioral health care site. Some use of relevant literature and reference to the AAMFT Code of Ethics and HIPAA regulations was present but minimal. Student was able to tie unique ethical challenges associated with their theory or model</td>
<td>Student recognized and thoroughly discussed multiple ethical concerns/situations in their clinical work and/or work context and specific steps followed to address each one. Student clearly demonstrated an understanding of the various ethical dilemmas encountered in the specific context they worked (i.e., traditional versus integrated behavioral health care). Student provided clear examples of how they clinically adapted based on different ethical dilemmas and provided an ethically acceptable response to each one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments:</td>
<td>Evidence Based</td>
<td>Application of MedFT Knowledge in a Traditional Therapy Setting</td>
<td>Application of MedFT Knowledge in an Integrated Behavioral Health Care Setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student did not incorporate evidence based materials into the clinical comprehensive presentation.</td>
<td>Student incorporated a few evidence based materials into the presentation that helped support the clinical work being described in both the traditional care setting and in integrated behavioral health care. However, materials were insufficient in amount to demonstrate competence at the doctoral level. Minimal incorporation of evidence-based material into the student’s discussion of MedFT and/or their theory of therapy as applied to traditional and IBHC settings.</td>
<td>Student provided a very clear understanding of the main components of MedFT while also describing clearly how their work differs when working with a traditional continuity care client versus one seen in IBHC. The student demonstrated an in-depth comprehension of MedFT knowledge and was able to apply it to several different situations involving traditional continuity of care clients/patients.</td>
<td>Student did not discuss areas of MedFT competency nor did they discuss competencies that were considered areas of growth. The student did not discuss a plan for areas of growth.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APA Format

| Comments: | Student did not provide adequate citations throughout the course of the presentation. Information within the presentation was not clearly or accurately cited. | Student cited several resources within the presentation but the citations provided were sparse or insufficient. Headings and format were consistent with APA guidelines. There were a few inconsistencies with the information cited. | Student observed use of APA formatting and writing guidelines well. Headings and format were consistent with APA guidelines, and the paper was well organized and well written. The citations provided were cited correctly and absent of errors. |

### Presentation skills

| Comments: | Student presented in a way that was hard to follow and understand. The student appeared unprepared and did not clearly communicate their theory of change or their knowledge of MedFT. The presentation seemed scattered and incoherent at times and lacked the necessary structure to sufficiently demonstrate competency. | Student presented in a way that communicated the basic essentials of the assignment but the presenter lacked some clarity, organization, and/or energy. At times the presenter looked unsure of themselves. The presenter had moments where they appeared confident, competent and energetic. | Student presented in a way that clearly and efficiently communicated the essentials of the competency exam. The student presented in a way that was dynamic and energetic and kept the audience engaged. The student appeared comfortable and prepared while presenting. |

### Ability to Defend Paper

| Comments: | Student had a hard time answering questions from the committee and the responses provided lacked depth and did not adequately demonstrate a thorough understanding of their theory of change or the MedFT literature. | Student answered questions from the committee, but the answers were vague and superficial. It appeared, based on the student’s answers that they had some understanding of their theory of change and the MedFT literature but the answers were, at times, lacking depth and comprehension. | Student clearly and competently answered questions from the committee and the responses provided were in-depth and thorough and showed that the student had a deep understanding of both their theory of change and the MedFT literature. |
Form J

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
The Graduate School
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

REPORT OF CLINICAL COMPETENCY EXAMINATION

This is to certify that _____________________________________________
(Name of Student) (Banner#)

has passed the written and oral clinical competency examination for the degree of
Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Family Therapy.

__________________________________________ Date
Chairperson of Committee

__________________________________________ Date
Chairperson of Department

cc: Registrar
    Graduate School
    College of HHP
    Student File

Approved 10/90
Revised 11/98
Revised 6/03
Updated 7/15
FORM K

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

REPORT OF MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY COMPETENCY EVALUATION

This is to certify that ____________________________________________________________

(Name of Student) (Banner #)

has successfully passed the written and oral competency examination for the degree of Doctorate

of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Family Therapy:

________________________________________________________________________

Chairperson of Committee Date

________________________________________________________________________

Chairperson of Department Date

cc: Registrar
    Graduate School
    College of HHP
    Student File

Non-thesis Form Approved 10/90
    Revised 11/98
    Revised 6/03
    Updated 7/17
MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION EVALUATION

DATE: _______________________________

STUDENT: __________________________________________________

Please evaluate the student’s written comprehensive examination on the achievement of the following criteria:

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<th>High Pass (PH)</th>
<th>Pass (P)</th>
<th>No Pass (NP)</th>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Organization</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Clarity</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. References</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Significance to Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Clarity</td>
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<td>D. References</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Significance to Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Organization</td>
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<td>C. Clarity</td>
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<td>D. References</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Ability to Answer Questions</td>
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</table>

- Students may not be passed on the written component of the Medical Family Therapy Comprehensive Exam if they have more than 3 “No Pass” checks above in all sections combined OR any “No-Pass” check marks in the “content” or “knowledge of literature” for each section above.
V. RESPONSE TO MedFT GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTION #1

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<td>A. Knowledge of Literature</td>
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<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Organization</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Clarity</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. References</td>
<td>_______</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Relevance of Answers to MedFT</td>
<td>_______</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

VI. RESPONSE TO MedFT GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTION #2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High Pass (PH)</th>
<th>Pass (P)</th>
<th>No Pass (NP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Knowledge of Literature</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Organization</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Clarity</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. References</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Relevance of Answers to MedFT</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VII. RESPONSE TO MedFT GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTION #3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High Pass (PH)</th>
<th>Pass (P)</th>
<th>No Pass (NP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Knowledge of Literature</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Organization</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Clarity</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. References</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Relevance of Answers to MedFT</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students may not be passed on an individual question if they have two or more “No Pass” check mark for each question OR if one of the “No Pass” checks is “Knowledge of Literature.” Students must pass 2 out of 3 questions to pass this portion of the exam.

I recommend the student: ____________________ be passed.

__________________________ be required to do the following:

- Make revisions to manuscript, no defense.
- Make revisions to manuscript, reschedule defense.
- Reschedule MedFT general knowledge oral defense.

This evaluation form will be given to the students as feedback to be used to improve and/or understand the terms of their results.

COMMENTS: (on back of page)

Signature______________________________________ Date______________________

Non-thesis Form 5 Approved 09/02
Updated 07/15
This is to certify that ____________________________________________________

(Name of Student) (Banner#)

has been admitted for candidacy for the degree of Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Family Therapy:

Program

Director Date

Chairperson of Department Date

cc: Registrar Graduate School College of HHP Student File

Approved 10/90 Revised 11/98 Revised 6/03 Updated 7/15
This is to certify that __________________________________________________
(Name of Student) (Banner#)
has completed their off-campus internship requirement for the degree of Doctorate of Philosophy
(PhD) in Medical Family Therapy:

Program Director Date

Chairperson of Department Date

cc: Registrar
Graduate School
College of HHP
Student File

Approved 10/90
Revised 11/98
Revised 6/03
Updated 7/15
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY  
College of Health and Human Performance  
Department of Human Development & Family Science

INTERNSHIP/EXTERNSHIP EVALUATION

Intern’s Name

Placement Site (Agency)

I. Please rate the Medical Family Therapy doctoral student named above on the following criteria using the accompanying scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Appropriate background for this placement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Planning and preparation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Acceptance of supervision</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ability to relate to client/patient population</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Ability to relate to staff (peers)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Ability to relate to supervisors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Positive attitude</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Contributions through suggestions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Professional demeanor (actions and appearance)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Potential for functioning in similar professional role</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(over)  

Forms/Interneval.doc
II. Overall how would you rate this intern’s performance compared to other persons of similar education and experience?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Briefly describe what you consider this intern’s strengths to be.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

IV. Briefly describe any growth areas you would advise intern to address.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

V. How would you recommend intern for similar employment?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would not recommend</th>
<th>Would recommend with reservation</th>
<th>Would recommend without reservation</th>
<th>Would strongly and enthusiastically recommend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I have reviewed this form and discussed it with my off-campus supervisor.

Intern’s Signature ___________________________ Date ______________

Supervisor’s Signature _______________________ Title ______________ Date ______________
Form P

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

CHANGE OF PERMANENT GRADUATE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

(Name of ____________________________ Student) (Banner#) ____________________________

a candidate for the degree of

___________ Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in

___________ Medical Family Therapy*

___________ Master of Science (MS) in

___________ Human Development and Family Science

___________ Marriage and Family Therapy

___________ Master of Arts in Education (MAEd) in

___________ Birth through Kindergarten Education

Chair of Committee/Director of Thesis/Dissertation ____________________________ Department ____________________________ Date ____________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Member to Be Replaced</th>
<th>New Committee Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name: _________________________</td>
<td>Name: _________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department: ___________________</td>
<td>Department: ___________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature: ____________________</td>
<td>Signature: ____________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date: _________________________</td>
<td>Date: _________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rationale: ____________________________

*The permanent graduate committee of the MedFT PhD will be composed of at least four members with graduate faculty status: (a) a committee chairperson who is the student’s permanent advisor and is a member of the MFT/MedFT graduate faculty, (b) at least one additional committee member from the MFT/MedFT/HDFS graduate faculty, (c) at least two additional committee members, whereby at least one is from outside the College of Health and Human Performance. This committee will serve as the committee for the student’s MedFT Comprehensive Examination and Dissertation Defense.
REPORT OF DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

This is to certify that ____________________________
(Name of Student) (Banner#)

has successfully completed the dissertation proposal portion of the dissertation requirement
toward a degree in the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Family Therapy

______________________________________
Chairperson of Committee Date

______________________________________
Chairperson of Department Date

cc: Registrar
    Graduate School
    College of HHP
    Student File

Thesis Form 4

Approved 10/90
Revised 11/98
Revised 6/03
Updated 7/15
REPORT OF THESIS/DISSERTATION DEFENSE EXAMINATION

This is to certify that ____________________________________________________________
(Name of Student) (Banner#)

has successfully passed the written and oral defense in completion of a thesis or dissertation
requirement toward a degree in:

_______Masters of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy

_______Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Family Therapy

Chairperson of Committee Date

Chairperson of Department Date

cc: Registrar
    Graduate School
    College of HHP
    Student File

Thesis Form 4

Approved 10/90
Revised 11/98
Revised 6/03
Updated 7/15
EXIT INTERVIEW FORM

Name: _________________________________ Date: __________________________

Graduation Date: ________________________

Program: ________________________________

1. How well do you feel prepared for the job market? Please explain.
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________
________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________

2. What is your Post-Graduation employment situation?
   Not Employed ________ Where: _________________________
   Part-time ________ Where: __________________________
   Full-time ________ Where: __________________________

For each job noted above please list your position title and job responsibilities:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________

3. What part(s) of the program did you find to be the most valuable? Please elaborate.
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________
4. What part(s) of the program did you find to be the least valuable? Please elaborate.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

5. Are there any specific comments/recommendations that you have regarding the research, clinical, and teacher preparation training you received at ECU?

**Research:**

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

**Clinical:**

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

**Teaching:**

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

6. Overall how satisfied are you with your education and training at ECU?

   Highly Satisfied _____
   Somewhat Satisfied _____
   Somewhat Dissatisfied _____
   Highly Dissatisfied _____

Please Elaborate:

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Form S

7. How could the MedFT Program and HDFS Department have done a better job preparing you? Please be specific:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

8. Additional Comments?

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Your Contact Information upon Graduation:

Address:

Phone(s):

E-mail:
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
The Graduate School
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

APPEAL FOR ADDITIONAL TIME

Name: _____________________________________________

Date:______________________________________________

Permanent Advisor: ___________________________________

It has been decided by the medical family therapy faculty that the above named student be
granted an extension of time (beyond the maximum 5 years) to complete the requirements of the
doctoral degree in medical family therapy. The faculty has agreed to allow this student an
additional ___________ in hopes that this will allow enough time to complete their remaining
requirements toward their degree.

Should the student not be successful under the terms of this agreement, further appeals are
strongly discouraged and are up to the approval of the program director and student’s advisor.

________________________________________________________________________
Student Signature  Date

________________________________________________________________________
Advisor Signature  Date

________________________________________________________________________
Program Director Signature  Date
Doctoral Internship Plan of Action

Students are to complete an internship plan of action grid with their permanent graduate advisor prior to leaving for their internship. The grid should only include those MedFT competencies that were not considered “complete” following the Medical Family Therapy Competency Examination and can be worked on during the internship experience. The student is charged with reviewing this Internship Plan of Action with their site supervisor and AAMFT Approved Supervisor. A copy of progress toward the plan of action should be turned in to the permanent graduate advisor at the close of each academic semester throughout the internship process.

Type of Internship (check one or more that apply):
___ Research
___ Clinical
___ Teaching
___ Other (_____________________________________________________)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency Number</th>
<th>Primary Domain</th>
<th>Secondary Domain</th>
<th>What continuing education did you receive regarding this competency</th>
<th>How were you evaluated for this competency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>


### Doctoral Student Exit Experience Plan of Action

Students are to complete a plan of action grid with their graduate advisor prior to graduation to supplement the Exit Interview. The grid should only include those competencies that were not considered “complete” at the end of the student’s final semester. The student is charged with reviewing this Plan of Action with future employers or AAMFT Approved Supervisors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency Number</th>
<th>MedFT Competency</th>
<th>What continuing education could you receive regarding this competency?</th>
<th>Estimated Date of Completion?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Signature of Graduate Student ____________________________  Date _______

Signature of Graduate Advisor ____________________________  Date _______
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
College of Health and Human Performance
Department of Human Development & Family Science

MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY CANDIDACY PROJECT EVALUATION

DATE: _____________________________________

STUDENT: __________________________________

Please evaluate the student’s written comprehensive examination on the achievement of the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. MANUSCRIPT</th>
<th>High Pass (PH)</th>
<th>Pass (P)</th>
<th>No Pass (NP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Content</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Organization</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Clarity/Flow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. References</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Integration &amp; Creativity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Technical Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Research Method/Design</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Research Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Equivalent to a Master’s thesis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Contribution to the field</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Students must rectify any “no pass” items by the last day of the spring semester or they will not be permitted to register for fall semester courses.

Signature of Graduate Student ____________________________ Date _______

Signature of Graduate Advisor ____________________________ Date_______

Updated 07/15
Medical Family Therapy Doctoral Program
East Carolina University
Standard Internship Syllabus

Internship Site: _______________________

Intern: ______________________________

Dates Effective: ___________to______________ 

Introduction
Students in ECU’s doctoral program are required to complete a minimum nine-month and maximum twelve month internship. The guidelines for the internship have been established with regard to the competencies and standards set forth by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE).

The internship is to provide doctoral students with a supervised full-time experience of at least nine months duration, emphasizing relationally focused practice and/or administrative/academic/research.

The MedFT program at ECU has defined the phrase “supervised full-time experience” to mean that the intern will participate in the internship for at least 30 hours per week.

COAMFTE has delineated nine requirements for the internship site. The first portion of the contract articulates each of these requirements and includes space for the internship site to discuss any issues for their site in complying with these requirements. In the list that follows, program will refer to the Medical Family Therapy program at East Carolina University site will refer to [internship site].

Internship Requirements

1. Activities of each intern will be documented at the internship site(s). These records will be made available to the Medical Family Therapy program upon request.
2. The institution sponsoring the site will have been in operation for at least two years.
3. The site will provide adequate facilities and equipment for the intern to carry out designated responsibilities.
4. Mechanisms for student evaluation of the site and supervision, and site evaluation of the intern's performance, will be demonstrated.
5. Documentation of liability insurance for interns will be confirmed. Liability insurance may be provided by the site or by the intern.
6. The site will publish and adhere to policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, culture, ethnicity, gender, physical ability, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.
7. An AAMFT Approved Supervisor or the equivalent will supervise the intern’s clinical work. It is the intern’s responsibility to locate an AAMFT Approved Supervisor but the Approved Supervisor will need to have access to observe clinical work live and be on site periodically throughout the internship agreement period.

8. The internship supervisor will be available to the intern and will be an active participant in the intern’s training. This person is charged with answering questions pertaining to policies and procedure on behalf of the student.

9. The internship supervisor will be clearly senior in experience to the intern (i.e., not a peer supervisor).

10. The intern, site administrative supervisor, and the intern’s permanent advisor must have a clear understanding of the Internship Plan of Action prior to the start of the internship and this document must be reviewed at the end of each academic semester. A copy of the Internship Plan of Action must be kept in the student’s academic file. Site supervisors are largely charged with overseeing the policies and procedures that are relevant to the work conducted by the Medical Family Therapy student and may be the person designated to evaluate the student throughout the internship contract.

Agency/Employer will:

1. Establish clear and measurable learning objectives in collaboration with the Medical Family Therapy Program at the beginning of each semester.
2. Designate an individual to supervise the intern (also known as a site supervisor) to serve as a liaison between East Carolina University Faculty Supervisor and the employer. Site supervisors are charged with overseeing the policies and procedures that are relevant to the work conducted by the Medical Family Therapy student and may be the person designated to evaluate the student throughout the internship contract.
3. If the employer chooses to provide a stipend or salary, it must be at the minimum federal wage level, per hour/week/month.
4. Provide a safe work environment and related training if needed.
5. Adhere to all applicable employment laws and regulations.
6. Review company policies and procedures with student.
7. Have the site supervisor evaluate the intern’s performance and provide feedback to the East Carolina Faculty Internship Supervisor at the end of each academic semester the student is enrolled in internship credits.
8. Encourage the site supervisor to contact the student’s permanent advisor at any time during the internship if concerns are present. A face to face meeting with the student’s permanent advisor can be arranged upon request.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers Standards

It is also mentioned that East Carolina University subscribes to all NACE standards. The following are the standards related to Employment Professionals.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers also list the following Principles for Employment Professionals of which the university Career Center subscribes to:
1. Employment professionals will refrain from any practice that improperly influences and affects acceptances. Such practices may include undue time pressure for acceptance of offers and encouragement of revocation of another offer. Employment professionals will strive to communicate decisions to candidates within the agreed-upon time frame.

2. Employment professionals will have knowledge of the recruitment and career development field as well as the industry and the employing organization that they represent, and work within a framework of professionally accepted recruiting, interviewing, and selection techniques.

3. Employment professionals will provide accurate information on their organization and employment opportunities. Employing organizations are responsible for information supplied and commitments made by their representatives. If conditions change and require the employing organization to revoke its commitment, the employing organization will pursue a course of action for the affected candidate that is fair and equitable.

4. Neither employment professionals nor their organizations will expect, or seek to extract, special favors or treatment which would influence the recruitment process as a result of support, or the level of support, to the educational institution or career services office in the form of contributed services, gifts, or other financial support.

5. Serving alcohol should not be part of the recruitment process on or off campus. This includes receptions, dinners, company tours, etc.

6. Employment professionals will maintain equal employment opportunity (EEO) compliance and follow affirmative action principles in recruiting activities in a manner that includes the following:
   a) Recruiting, interviewing, and hiring individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability, and providing reasonable accommodations upon request;
   b) Reviewing selection criteria for adverse impact based upon the student's race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability;
   c) Avoiding questions that are considered unacceptable by EEO guidelines for fair employment practices during the recruiting process;
   d) Developing a sensitivity to, and awareness of, cultural differences and the diversity of the work force;
   e) Informing campus constituencies of special activities that have been developed to achieve the employer's affirmative action goals;
   f) Investigating complaints forwarded by the career services office regarding EEO noncompliance and seeking resolution of such complaints.

7. Employment professionals will maintain the confidentiality of student information, regardless of the source, including personal knowledge, written records/reports, and computer data bases. There will be no disclosure of student information to another organization without the prior written consent of the student, unless necessitated by health and/or safety considerations.

8. Those engaged in administering, evaluating, and interpreting assessment tools, employment screening tests, and technology used in selection will be trained and qualified to do so. Employment professionals must advise the career services office of any test/assessment conducted on campus and eliminate such a test/assessment if it
violates campus policies or fair employment practices. Employment professionals must advise students in a timely fashion of the type and purpose of any test that students will be required to take as part of the recruitment process and to whom the results will be disclosed. All tests/assessments will be reviewed by the employing organization for disparate impact and position-relatedness.

9. When using organizations that provide recruiting services for a fee, employment professionals will respond to inquiries by the career services office regarding this relationship and the positions the organization was contracted to fill. This principle applies equally to any other form of recruiting that is used as a substitute for the traditional employer/student interaction. These principles apply to organizations providing such services.

10. When employment professionals conduct recruitment activities through student associations or academic departments, such activities will be conducted in accordance with the policies of the career services office.

11. Employment professionals will cooperate with the policies and procedures of the career services office, including certification of EEO compliance as well as compliance with all federal and state employment regulations.

12. Employment professionals will only post opportunities that require college-educated candidates, in a manner that includes the following:
   a) All postings should adhere to EEO compliance standards;
   b) Job postings should be suitable and appropriate for candidates from the target institution;
   c) Internship postings should meet the NACE definition and criteria for internships. (See “A Position Statement on U.S. Internships: A Definition and Criteria to Assess Opportunities and Determine the Implications for Compensation.”)

13. Employment professionals will honor scheduling arrangements and recruitment commitments.

14. Employment professionals recruiting for international operations will do so according to EEO and U.S. labor law standards. Employment professionals will advise the career services office and students of the realities of working in the foreign country and of any cultural or employment law differences.

15. Employment professionals will educate and encourage acceptance of these principles throughout their employing institution and by third parties representing their employing organization on campus, and will respond to reports of noncompliance.
Internship Student Outcomes/Deliverables

1. 
2. 
3. 
 Etc.

Evaluation/Grading Procedures

1. Formal evaluation at the end of the Fall 20XX semester.
2. Formal evaluation at the end of the Spring 20XX semester.

Application of Requirements to Internship Site

Contact Person
The contact person at […] is […]. The contact person for the MedFT intern is the MedFT intern’s permanent advisor […]. Contact information:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student/MedFT Intern’s Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Advisor’s Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Administrative Supervisor’s Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Form Y (Paid Internship Affiliation Agreement)

AGREEMENT BETWEEN

___________________ AND

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

This Agreement is made and entered into this _____ day of ___________, 20___, by and between ______________________ (hereinafter referred to as the Agency) and East Carolina University (hereinafter referred to as the University).

Whereas, the Agency desires to enrich the __________________________ training program through an educational relationship with the University and its students; and

Whereas, the University desires to provide appropriate learning experiences to its students enrolled in the ______________________________ program.

Now, therefore, the agency and the University hereby agree as follows:

1. MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES:
   a. The University and the Agency shall mutually agree to a schedule of student assignments to the Agency, including the number of students and the time periods of assignment. The maximum number of students accepted at the Agency for assignment to an area shall be determined by the Agency. The University will provide information to the Agency prior to the initiation of the education experience, including but not limited to, dates of assignment, number of students, names and other pertinent information about each student, the University's objectives for the education experience, suggested curriculum outlines, and prior experiences of the students, if any.

   b. The University and the Agency shall each appoint a designated representative to coordinate the education experience and to work with the University's instructors and students to facilitate a meaningful learning experience.

   c. Each party shall keep the other informed of changes in curriculum, program, and staff which may affect the education experience.

   d. The Agency shall have the right to remove and/or exclude a student or faculty member from the Agency in the event that the Agency determines that individual is not performing satisfactorily or is interfering with the Agency's operations; provided, however, that the person has been made aware of the intent to release
them and has been given the opportunity to respond prior to the release. In the event the Agency elects to exclude a student or faculty member, it shall immediately notify the University.

e. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, religion, age, color, creed, sex, national origin, or physical disability in either the selection of students for practice or as to any aspect of the practice experience; provided, however, that with respect to disability, the disability must not be such as would, even with reasonable accommodation, in and of itself preclude the student's effective participation in the program.

f. Students assigned to the Agency under this Agreement shall not be deemed employees or agents of the Agency or the University by reason of such assignment. The University shall not be responsible for payment to students of any salary, wages or employment-related benefits, including but not limited to workers compensation benefits.

g. The costs of first aid or emergency care provided by the Agency to any of the University's students for illness or accidents occurring to those persons while on the property of the Agency shall not be the responsibility of the Agency or the University, but rather, shall be the responsibility of the student. The costs of first aid or emergency care provided to the University's faculty members shall be the responsibility of the faculty member and shall not be borne by the Agency, and shall not be borne by the University except as required by law.

2. UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES:

   a. The University shall retain responsibility for a student's education and appropriate disciplinary measures and for arranging for the student an appropriate learning experience.

   b. Insurance. During the term of any student's participation in a education experience under this Agreement, the University shall secure and maintain or cause such students to secure and maintain, professional liability insurance of at least $2,000,000 per occurrence and $4,000,000 aggregate.

   c. Evidence of Insurance. The University shall provide or cause the student to provide the Agency with certificates of insurance evidencing the coverage required in (b) prior to the education experience. This certificate shall be mailed to:

Agency Contact: ____________________________
Address:________________________________________
Phone:________________________________________
d. The University shall periodically provide, upon request by the Agency, written communication to the Agency regarding the Agency's performance in providing education experiences, and such communication shall include information on the student's evaluations of their experiences at the Agency.

e. The University shall keep on file and make available upon request to all assigned students a copy of this Agreement.

f. The University shall inform the student of the need to obtain a third party resource for a criminal background check at the student's expense. The student is responsible for providing evidence of such reports.

g. The University shall be responsible for informing the student of the need to complete a drug screening prior to the first day of affiliation. It is the responsibility of the student to work with the agency to provide documentation that such provisions have been completed.

3. AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. The Agency shall provide the premises and equipment (including conference room space to the extent possible) necessary for the student's educational experience.

b. The Agency shall provide the student and faculty member access to first aid and emergency care for illness or accidents occurring to these persons while on the property of the Agency. The Agency shall be entitled to make a reasonable charge to the student for such first aid and emergency care services; faculty may be charged in accordance with section 1 g., above.

c. The Agency will provide to the designated University's representative, a risk assessment following reported exposures to communicable diseases.

d. The Agency will provide the University a mid-term and final evaluation of student performance and progress.

e. The Agency will provide the University with appropriate written orientation materials and relevant Agency policies and procedures it wishes the University to bring to the attention of the students, including but not limited to, the Agency's blood-borne pathogens policy, prior to the commencement of the program.

f. The Agency shall maintain responsibility for patient care while cooperating with the University faculty in making selected learning experiences available to students.

g. If University provided Agency with personal identifiers as listed in N.C.G.S. §§132-1.10 and 14-133.20(b) or any other legally confidential information, Agency hereby certifies that the collection of this information from University is necessary for the performance of AGENCY's duties and responsibilities under this Agreement. Agency further certifies that it shall maintain the confidential and exempt status of any social security number information, as required by N.C.G.S. §132-1.10(c)(1), and that it shall not re-disclose personally identifiable information as directed by State and Federal laws. Failure to abide by legally applicable security measures and disclosure restrictions may result in the interruption, suspension and/or
termination of the relationship with Agency for a period of at least five (5) years from the date of the violation. If Agency experiences a security breach, as defined in N.C.G.S. §75.61(14), relating to this information, in addition to Agency’s responsibilities under the North Carolina Identity Theft Protection Act, AGENCY shall immediately notify University with the information listed in N.C.G.S. §75-65(d)(1-4) and shall fully cooperate with University. To the extent allowed by law, Agency shall indemnify University for any breach of confidentiality or failure of its responsibilities to protect confidential information. Specifically, these costs may include, but are not limited to, the cost of notification of affected persons as a result of its unauthorized release of University data provided to Agency pursuant to this Agreement.

h. University has determined that Agency is a school official with a legitimate educational interest under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"). If University provides Agency with “personally identifiable information” from a student’s education record as defined by FERPA, 34 CFR §99.3, Agency hereby certifies that collection of this information from University is necessary for Agency’s duties and responsibilities under this Agreement. AGENCY further certifies that it shall maintain the confidential status of the education records in their custody, and that it shall maintain the personally identifiable information as directed by FERPA. Failure to abide by legally applicable University measures and disclosure restrictions may result in the interruption, suspension and/or termination of the relationship with Agency for a period of at least five (5) years from the date of the violation. If AGENCY experiences a breach relating to this information or if Agency re-discloses this information, Agency shall immediately notify University. To the extent allowed by law, AGENCY shall indemnify University for any breach of confidentiality or failure of its responsibilities to protect confidential information. Specifically, these costs may include, but are not limited to, the cost of notification of affected persons as a result of its unauthorized release of University data provided to Agency pursuant to this Agreement.

i. The Agency will provide the University information concerning the Agency’s policy regarding the hepatitis B vaccine. The purpose of providing this information is to enable appropriate University officials to educate themselves in order to advise their faculty and students with respect to hepatitis B vaccine before participating in certain educational experiences within the Agency. The Agency shall not be responsible for administering the vaccine to faculty and students.

j. The Agency shall inform all assigned students of any other policies and procedures the Agency has established. The students shall comply with these rules, regulations, and policies at all times during the educational experience.

k. The Agency shall inform the student to be assigned to the Agency of the requirement to complete a health screening before beginning practice in the Agency, and shall inform the student of the requirement to provide the
Agency with the individual's immunity history for varicella, pertussis, and hepatitis B. If previous rubella vaccine is not in the history, and titer is negative, rubella vaccine is required, except when medically contraindicated.

4. GENERAL PROVISIONS
   a. This Agreement shall last no more than three (3) years and shall remain in effect until it terminates or is cancelled at any time by either party upon not less than ninety (90) days' written notice.
   b. Any written communication or notice pursuant to this Agreement shall be made to the following representative of the respective parties at the following addresses:
   c. This Agreement contains the entire understanding of the parties and shall not be altered, amended or modified, except by an agreement in writing executed by the duly authorized officials of both the University and the Agency.
   d. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of North Carolina.
   e. The Agency shall indemnify and hold University, its trustees, officers, employees and agents harmless for any and all claims, loss, liability, demands, or damages including attorney fees and court costs, due to the negligent acts of its employees or agents in the performance of this Agreement.
   f. The State of North Carolina or the ECU auditor shall have access to persons and records as a result of all agreements entered into by ECU in accordance with N.C.G.S. §147-64.7 and Session Law 2010-194. Section 21.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties, acting through their duly authorized officials, have executed this Agreement on the date first hereinabove written.

For the Agency:
Signature:________________________
Title: ___________________________
Date: ___________________________

For the University:
Signature:________________________
Title: ___________________________
Date: ___________________________
I believe that an appreciation and sensitivity to diversity is essential to becoming a competent and aware doctoral student and professional. As such, I will make a commitment to East Carolina University, the Medical Family Therapy program including faculty, staff, and students and to all other peers that I encounter to respect and honor the beliefs and values of others. I will seek to practice empathy in recognizing the importance of the values and beliefs of others as well as my own. I will also seek to recognize and to be accountable for personal views, beliefs, perspectives, and biases in all clinical, research, teaching, and peer relationships.

If you agree to this oath, please print and sign below:

| Print Name: |         |
| Signature:  | Date    |

In order for the ECU MedFT faculty to best recognize the importance of diversity awareness in your academic experience via research, teaching, and clinical endeavors, we ask that you circle all ways in which you have gained experience thus far in relation to the following questions (Clinical Experience, Research, Completed Coursework):

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who are of a different race than me through:
- Clinical Experience
- Research
- Completed Coursework

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who do not use English as their first/primary language through:
- Clinical Experience
- Research
- Completed Coursework

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who are of a different sexual orientation than me through:
- Clinical Experience
- Research
- Completed Coursework

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who are of a different religion/faith than me through:
- Clinical Experience
- Research
- Completed Coursework

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who have intellectual disabilities through:
- Clinical Experience
- Research
- Completed Coursework

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who have physical disabilities through:
- Clinical Experience
- Research
- Completed Coursework
I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who are underserved/low-income through:
Clinical Experience  Research  Completed Coursework

I have had the opportunity to work directly with individuals, couples, and families who have little formal education or low literacy level through:
Clinical Experience  Research  Completed Coursework

Thank you for completing this document as you consider East Carolina University your home for your doctoral studies and path toward becoming a culturally sensitive MedFT.
Form AA

Completion of Client Contact Hours Form
(MedFT Doctoral Program)

I _______________________________ am no longer clinically active in the program
because I have achieved all 500 client contact hours required for the degree requirement.
If at any time my clinical activity resumes, I will contact my permanent advisor to resume
documenting clinical activity and notify them of my plans for obtaining AAMFT
Approved Supervision.

__________________________________               _____________________________
Student’s Signature               Date

Permanent Advisor’s Signature               Date

cc: Student’s Clinic File
ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

As future practitioners, all students enrolled in the Medical Family Therapy Doctoral Program and all related professional placements (“Program”) must consistently exhibit professionalism in all Program-related roles, including, but not limited to, student, intern, research assistant, graduate assistant, researcher, and student employee. Student conduct wholly outside the Program may be taken into consideration to the extent it reflects on a student’s professionalism. Students who fail to demonstrate professionalism as described in this Policy may be dismissed from the Program or face other academic sanctions. Although not an exhaustive list, students who wish to remain in the Program must exhibit professionalism in at least the following ways:

- Consistently demonstrating compliance and ethical, honest, responsible, and reliable behavior in accordance with oral and written Program requirements, and applicable laws, policies, regulations, handbooks and rules, including, but not limited to, this Policy and the AAMFT Code of Ethics.
- Conducting oneself and communicating in a collegial manner, including respectfully and constructively engaging in dialogue with faculty members, administrators, staff, supervisors, and peers.
- Engaging constructively with faculty members, administrators and supervisors if actual or potential unprofessional behavior is brought to the student’s attention, and cooperating in developing a strategy to maintain professional behaviors, enhance learning, and resolve differences.
- Acting and communicating without exhibiting, discrimination, hostility, dishonesty, ethical violations, or disregard of others’ time, or ideas.
- Demonstrating professional demeanor and respect for others’ perceptions of the student’s professionalism, and exercising integrity and respectful communication while attempting to resolve differences or disagreements.
- Organizing, presenting, and documenting research consistent with the standards for conducting research and publishing in the student’s field, including the APA Manual (most recent edition).
- Demonstrating the demeanor, behavior, appearance, personal grooming, wardrobe, and communication style consistent with the standards of the professional area the student is preparing to enter.
- Being on time and prepared for all Program activities.
- Avoiding excessive unexcused absences.
- Accurately representing qualifications, education and competencies.
- Providing substantive responses to telephone messages, emails, texts and all other forms of communication from faculty or supervisors within 3 business days (with the exception of University holidays or breaks).
- Constructively engaging with research committees as directed by the committees.
- Refraining from taking action on research projects without formal approval from the IRB and/or one’s permanent advisor, instructor, and/or employer, as applicable.
IN CONSIDERATION OF BEING ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EDU MEDICAL THERAPY DOCTORAL PROGRAM, I AGREE TO COMPLY WITH AND BE BOUND BY THIS ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY, AND I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY MAY LEAD TO MY DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM OR OTHER ACADEMIC SANCTIONS

Print Student’s Name Date

______________________________________________
Student’s Signature Date

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF STUDENT’S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ABOVE AGREEMENT:

______________________________________________
Program Director’s Signature Date

Approved by MFT/MedFT Faculty 4.26.2016
Revised by Steve Serck, JD, ECU University Attorney 3.31.17
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

MedFT Doctoral Student Learning Competency Form

Student’s Name: ___________________________ Year in Program: _____ Semester: _____

Form Completed by: ___________________________

Faculty Members Present:
________________________________________________________________________

Identify the descriptor that best fits this student's current ability to complete each of these tasks at their current developmental stage in the program:

1. **Knowledge:** Examine the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings of MedFT through the use of the biopsychosocial-spiritual, systemic, and biomedical paradigms.
   
   Competency rating: Doesn’t Meet (1) Developing (2), Meets (3), Exceeds (4)
   
   Comments:____________________________________________________________________

2. **Practice:** Ability to translate MFT skills into MedFT contexts, specifically through collaborative and integrated care, clinical documentation, supervision, and leadership.
   
   Competency rating: Doesn’t Meet (1) Developing (2), Meets (3), Exceeds (4)
   
   Comments:____________________________________________________________________

3. **Diversity:** Evaluate and design models of research, training, and/or practice that recognize multicultural systems embedded within communities of interest.
   
   Competency rating: Doesn’t Meet (1) Developing (2), Meets (3), Exceeds (4)
   
   Comments:____________________________________________________________________

4. **Research:** Design, analyze, and report findings from independent research using a variety of methods relevant to the field of MedFT.
   
   Competency rating: Doesn’t Meet (1) Developing (2), Meets (3), Exceeds (4)
   
   Comments:____________________________________________________________________

5. **Ethics:** Interpret and discuss legal and ethical issues affecting healthcare research, supervision, practice, and policy.
   
   Competency rating: Doesn’t Meet (1) Developing (2), Meets (3), Exceeds (4)
   
   Comments:____________________________________________________________________
Plan of Action (for any of the above student learning outcomes (SLO) where the student or faculty members have determined more work is needed on a SLO beyond /curriculum already available):

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

Created 1/7/2017
Appendix A

East Carolina University
Medical Family Therapy Program
MedFT GRADUATE EVALUATION

ECU MedFT Graduate       Name of Employer       Completing Survey

I. Please rate the Medical Family Therapist named above on the following criteria using the accompanying scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Appropriate background for this employment</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Appropriate research training</td>
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<td>3. Appropriate knowledge of family therapy/behavioral health</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Demonstrated Clinical Competency (e.g., joining, assessment, interventions)</td>
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<td>5. Demonstrated Competency as Supervisor Mentor/Candidate</td>
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<td>6. Ability to teach/research/supervise diverse student/participant population</td>
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<td>7. Ability to collaborate with professional colleagues</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Ability to handle suicide, homicide, child maltreatment, and domestic violence cases as a supervisor/clinician</td>
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<td>9. Has ability to mentor others (students/junior faculty)</td>
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<td>10. Ability to maintain research productivity</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Contributes to medical family therapy as researcher or trainer</td>
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<td>12. Professional demeanor (actions and appearance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Ability to execute a professional presentation/seminar</td>
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<td>14. Ability to work collaboratively with other</td>
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<tr>
<td>researchers/trainers-supervisors in the community</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Has ability to secure internal or external funding</td>
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<td>16. Ability to receive feedback/collaborate with upper administration</td>
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<td>17. Knowledge of statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Use of evidence based approaches to teaching/research/curriculum</td>
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<td>19. Attention to ethical practice/research</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. Understanding of larger healthcare policies that influence research/practice/curriculum</td>
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<td>21. Attention to Diversity Awareness</td>
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<td>22. Ability to complete records/reports on time</td>
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</table>

II. Overall how would you rate this Medical Family Therapist’s performance compared to other persons of similar education and experience in your organization?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
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</thead>
</table>

III. Briefly describe the three most important qualities that are used to gauge productivity of this MedFT in your organization.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

IV. Briefly describe the success of this MedFT in your organization.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
V. Briefly describe what this MedFT needed to learn on the job, in order to be a stronger contributor to your organization.

VI. Additional comments or suggestions for program:
Appendix B

Medical Family Therapy Program
Department of Human Development & Family Science
College of Health and Human Performance
East Carolina University

MedFT PROGRAM EVALUATION

The MedFT Program at East Carolina University is currently completing a graduate survey as required by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education. The following questionnaire was developed to receive evaluative input from graduates of our program. Please answer all questions. **Do not put your name on this questionnaire. Return the completed questionnaire to: Dr. Jennifer Hodgson, Medical Family Therapy Program Director, 108 Rivers Building, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353. If you choose to e-mail this, please bold your answers and return your e-mails to Ms. Susan Congleton at congletons@ecu.edu.** Thank you for your assistance. We kindly ask for completion and return no later than [insert date].

What Year Did You Graduate From the Program: _______

*PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS DOCUMENT*

DATE ________________________________

I. Please rate your current ability/competency on the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency in:</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Research Design &amp; Methods (Qualitative and/or Quantitative)</td>
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<td>2. Knowledge of Family Therapy and Medical Family Therapy Theories</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Global Awareness and Multicultural Sensitivity</td>
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<td>4. Supervision Methods &amp; Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Teaching Undergraduate Students</td>
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<td>6. Teaching Graduate Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Teaching Medical Students/Residents</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
8. Mentoring Others (students/junior faculty)
9. Maintaining Research Productivity/Track
10. Medical Family Therapy/Integrated Behavioral Health Care Research and/or Program Evaluation
11. Collaborating with Colleagues on Research, Policy, and/or Training Initiatives
12. Executing Professional Presentations/Seminars/Workshops
13. Statistical Knowledge and Skills
14. Securing Internal or External grant funding
15. Addressing Ethical Challenges in Research/Training
16. Managing Crises (clinical, student, collegial issues)

II. Please circle (or bold) the answer that best reflects your thoughts about the program using a scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 5 (Strongly Agree):

1. I understood the grievance policies and procedures associated with MedFT program during my enrollment.  
   1 2 3 4 5

2. In my opinion, the PhD degree in MedFT was clearly differentiated from the M.S. degree in MFT and adequate boundaries between the two were maintained.  
   1 2 3 4 5

3. I believe the information published about the Program in the Graduate Catalog on the ECU web page and in the program brochure accurately represented the program.  
   1 2 3 4 5

5. I believe there were adequate resources available to support the MedFT program in terms of faculty, coursework, facilities, funding, etc.  
   1 2 3 4 5
For each of the following questions, circle the response that is most appropriate on the scales indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Satisfied</th>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Mixed</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Very Satisfied</th>
<th>Does Not Apply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. The MedFT faculty attended to the process of helping me to become a university instructor and provided adequate support and direction in dealing with the associated policies and procedures.
   1  2  3  4  5  6

7. The MedFT faculty attended to the process of helping me to become a researcher and provided adequate support and direction in dealing with the associated policies and procedures.
   1  2  3  4  5

8. I believe that my education in the program adequately prepared me for entrance into a research, supervisory, clinical, administrative, policy, and/or instructional position in medical family therapy upon graduation.
   1  2  3  4  5

9. Overall, how satisfied are you with the MedFT education and training you received at ECU?
   1  2  3  4  5

10. How satisfied are you with the required coursework you took while in the MedFT Program?
    1  2  3  4  5

III. Briefly describe the three most important qualities that are used to gauge your productivity in your current work context.

__________________________________________________________

IV. Briefly describe what you needed to learn on the job (i.e., didn’t gain during the program) in order to be a stronger contributor to your work context.

__________________________________________________________

V. Additional comments or suggestions for the ECU MedFT program:

__________________________________________________________

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Appendix C

MedFT Competencies


Suggested citation:
Appendix D

MedFT/MFT Faculty Job Descriptions/Coordinator Roles

Medical Family Therapy PhD Program Director - Dr. Jennifer Hodgson has served as the Medical Family Therapy PhD program director since August 2015 and is responsible for its oversight. More specifically, her responsibilities include the following: 1) direct and coordinate the maintenance of COAMFTE accreditation and annual reports (including the review of all syllabi, CVs, and educational outcomes on a frequent basis); 2) oversee all recruitment through recruitment fairs, program showcases/training fairs, e-mail requests, and recruitment web pages (e.g., GradSchool.com), 3) manage the application procedures and processes for the program, constructing the interviewing schedules, disseminating assistantship applications, constructing mentorship agreements between applicants and current students and then upon acceptance between first and second year MedFT students, 4) completing all accreditation reports for MedFT including documents for SACS (university accreditation) and AAFCS (college accreditation) (this also includes managing multiple data systems in Word, Excel, and TracDat and reviewing the overall program curriculum on a frequent basis), 5) managing student concerns related to the program (e.g., challenges within the cohort, concerns about success related to coursework, ideas for improving the program), 6) creating and managing the program budget as it fits with the current EOs, and 7) managing all programmatic issues that are related to the ECU Family Therapy Clinic (including updating to the current technology at the Clinic).

Marriage and Family (M.S.) Therapy Program Director - Dr. Damon Rappleyea has served as the Marriage and Family Therapy Masters of Science (M.S.) program since 2012. As program director, Dr. Rappleyea is responsible for overseeing the operation of the MFT master’s program. Specifically, his responsibilities include the following: (1) direct and coordinate the maintenance of COAMFTE accreditation and annual reports; (2) completing all reports for the MFT program for university (SACS accreditation) and department level (AAFCS) accreditation requirements; (3) oversee all recruitment of potential students and retention/graduation of current students (e.g. recruitment fairs, program communication, program advising); (4) manage the application procedures and processes for the program admission; (5) managing student concerns related to the program (e.g., challenges within the cohort, concerns about success related to coursework, ideas for improving the program); and (6) managing all programmatic issues related to the ECU Family Therapy Clinic.

Clinic Director - Dr. Erin Roberts is the Clinic Director for the ECU Family Therapy Clinic and Director for the Redditt House. She is a non-tenured track faculty whose workload is 85% administrative and 15% teaching. Dr. Roberts is charged with the budget, daily management of services, policy and finances, securing contracts through the clinic, and outreach on behalf of the ECU Family Therapy Clinic. Within her role, she has oversight of every intake that is completed at the Clinic to determine whether family therapy services are the best choice for the family (e.g., not a good fit for those who only need a prescription). Dr. Roberts constructs grants and contracts that may benefit the community via direct services and supervision of providers. She collaborates with Dr. Hodgson on services, policies, and/or financial changes that may influence the PhD program. She is also charged with creating the ECU Family Therapy Clinic’s annual outcome plan. Dr. Roberts also oversees the maintenance and budget associated with the Redditt House: Medical Family Therapy Research Academy.
Dr. Erin Roberts serves as Internship Coordinator of the MS program and is responsible for generating and maintaining relationships with on- and off-campus internship site administrative supervisors. In this same capacity, Dr. Roberts maintains the internship database for COAMFT and SACS, denoting the contact person, contact information and contract end and start date.

**Professional Development Coordinator (MS Program)** -- Dr. Damon Rappleyea serves as the Professional Development Coordinator for the MS program and is responsible for communicating information to master’s level students regarding changes in licensure laws, paperwork, and general licensure related updates. In addition, Dr. Rappleyea provides students with outside learning opportunities and assists in coordinating alumni networking opportunities.

**Professional Development Coordinator (PhD Program)**--Dr. Jennifer Hodgson serves as the Professional Development Coordinator for the PhD students. She is responsible for sharing information with the students about changes in licensure laws, licensure paperwork, and updates pertaining to service definitions or practice issues that may influence provisionally licensed providers (LMFTA). Dr. Hodgson also responds to questions pertaining to memberships in AAMFT and CFHA (Collaborative Family Healthcare Association).

**Teaching Coordinator**--Dr. Andrew Brimhall serves as the Teaching Coordinator. Students with an interest in academia are encouraged to enroll in the HDFS independent study teaching course that allows them an opportunity to teach undergraduate classes. Dr. Brimhall serves as the teaching coordinator for these students by answering questions pertaining to academic integrity, syllabus development, and protocol within the classroom. He also observes their teaching and provides individual feedback.

**Research Coordinator** -- Dr. Katharine “Kit” Didericksen serves as the Research Coordinator overseeing research activities that pertain to data from the Family Therapy Clinic. Dr. Didericksen works with the ECU Family Therapy Clinic Director to promote research and data collection collaborations within the Family Therapy Clinic (i.e. MFT Practice Research Network) and maintain the Internal Review Board proposals for these research collaborations.

**Supervision Coordinator** -- Dr. Jake Jensen serves as the Supervision Coordinator. He serves as the on-call supervisor when a student’s clinical supervisor is not accessible. He also assists students with questions following graduation pertaining to supervision challenges or concerns. The supervision coordinator is a position relevant to students who are active clinically and who are enrolled in on-campus courses.

**Global and Diversity Awareness Coordinator** - Dr. Angela Lamson serves as the Global and Diversity Awareness Coordinator, facilitating trainings with and for MFT and MedFT students and faculty associated with global and domestic awareness, diverse social locations, health disparities, and cultural humility. Dr. Lamson also disseminates information related to trainings, activities, and opportunities that can improve diversity informed research, practice, training, supervision, and leadership. She ensures diversity is represented throughout course syllabi as evidenced through required readings, assignments, or lectures.
Appendix E  

Research Resources

The following resources were compiled by MedFT students as useful tools for research.

- **ECU’s proxy**: Say you’re off campus and find a paper you want to read using Google, Google Scholar, Research Gate, etc. and you end up at the actual site (e.g., http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0891524507000089 for one of Angela’s papers). Just type in “.jproxy.lib.ecu.edu” after “.com” and you’ll be redirected to ECU’s proxy servers. Log in, and you’ll be given direct access to the article as if you were on campus (e.g., http://www.sciencedirect.com.jproxy.lib.ecu.edu/science/article/pii/S0891524507000089). You only need to sign in once per browser session, but you will need to add “.jproxy.lib.ecu.edu” to the end of all domains. Note: this only works with journals to which ECU has a subscription.

- **Google Scholar**: Setting Google Scholar to do something similar to the previous: Say you find the same paper in Google Scholar using the search term “Compassion fatigue and secondary traumatization: Provider self-care on intensive care units for children”. If you sign in to Google, and go to Google Scholar  Settings  Library Links, enter East Carolina University, press the search button, check the box for ECU under “Open WorldCat – Library Search”, and Save, you’ll get a new link to ECU for each search result (well, those that ECU has). Do the original search in Google Scholar again and you’ll see the following link on the right “Full-Text @ ECU Libraries”. Click that, and it will automatically redirect you to ECU’s libraries when you’ll have access (ECU will require authentication the first time).

* **Rice Virtual Lab in Statistics**: This website includes an electronic version of a statistics textbook, several simulations and demonstrations of various statistical concepts and a few case studies with real analyses and interpretations included. This is a great tool to utilize for extra practice with different statistical concepts. The website is user friendly and the exercises come with instructions that let you know how to use the available information. Your computer has to have JAVA downloaded for the information on this site to run properly.

- **Zotero** (https://www.zotero.org): Citation management software originally designed to be a Firefox plugin (still is), but is now available in standalone with connections to other browsers. The best part about browser integration is the ability to directly download from a website. It will grab bibliographical information from the site and create an entry in Zotero (which, of course, you can sub-folder). You can also use it to save web pages, information on books, etc. Go to YouTube and search for Zotero to see a demonstration. Another nice feature is the ability to sync across machines. You basically create an account with Zotero and it backups up to their cloud. So if you change machines, new citations sync.

- **Zotero Word Plugin** (https://www.zotero.org/support/word_processor_plugin_installation): Zotero would be worthless without the ability to extract content. You can install the Word plugin and add citations directly in Word. They are dynamic, so if you use a numbering system (like Chicago or IEEE), it will renumber; the same concept applies to changing citation styles. It will also generate the references section for you. Lastly, you can select from a number of predefined citation styles or download one of thousands of extensions.
Appendix F

MedFT Program Mission, Goals, and Outcomes

Institution’s Mission
To be a national model for student success, public service and regional transformation, East Carolina University: Uses innovative learning strategies and delivery methods to maximize access; prepares students with the knowledge, skills and values to succeed in a global, multicultural society; develops tomorrow’s leaders to serve and inspire positive change; discovers new knowledge and innovations to support a thriving future for eastern North Carolina and beyond; transforms health care, promotes wellness, and reduces health disparities; and improves quality of life through cultural enrichment, academics, the arts, and athletics.
We accomplish our mission through education, research, creative activities, and service while being good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

Program’s Mission
The mission of the doctoral program in Medical Family Therapy (MedFT) is “to prepare leaders in the advancement of science, practice, and policy in the field of Medical Family Therapy via a relational, biopsychosocial-spiritual, and multiculturally-informed framework.”

Each Program Goal must include one or more of these areas: knowledge, practice, diversity, research, and ethics competencies.
All of these areas must be covered across all Program Goals.

Program Goal 1
Program will demonstrate that students have expertise in Medical Family Therapy literature and relevant health-related theories and frameworks.

SLO 1: Knowledge
Students will demonstrate knowledge in examining and synthesizing the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings of MedFT with current literature through the use of the biopsychosocial-spiritual, systemic, and biomedical paradigms.
Assessment measure: (a) HDFS 7401 grant project and (b) HDFS 8402 MedFT theory paper
Benchmarks: 80% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism
Target: 100% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism

Program Goal 2
Program will demonstrate that students have Medical Family Therapy skills in a variety of health-related contexts.

SLO 2: Practice
Students will demonstrate the ability to translate MedFT knowledge, empirical support, and skills into a variety of healthcare and academic contexts, specifically through collaborative and integrated behavioral health care, research/program evaluation, supervision, and leadership.
Assessment measure: (a) HDFS 7409 Class Facilitation Project, (b) HDFS 8404 Advanced Relational/Systemic Theory Paper (taught every year), and (c) HDFS 7502 Philosophy of Supervision paper
Benchmarks: 80% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism
Target: 100% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism

SLO 3: Diversity
Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and design models of research, training, and/or practice that recognize multicultural systems embedded within communities of interest.
Assessment measure: (a) HDFS 7502 Philosophy of Supervision paper, and (b) HDFS 8403 Multicultural BPSS-Relational Presentation
Benchmarks: 80% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism
Target: 100% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Goal 3</th>
<th>Program will demonstrate that students are globally minded and sensitive to social location factors in all applications of their work.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Goal 4</td>
<td>Program will demonstrate that students are competent independent researchers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Goal 5</td>
<td>Program will demonstrate that students are ethical in their applications of Medical Family Therapy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Goal 6</td>
<td>Program will demonstrate that graduates met the direct client contact hour requirement, are eligible for American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor Candidacy Status, and graduated in a timely manner.</td>
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<tr>
<th>SLO 4: Research</th>
<th>Students will demonstrate the ability to design, analyze, and report findings from independent research using a variety of methods relevant to the field of MedFT.</th>
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<td>Assessment measure:</td>
<td>(a) HDFS 8400 Advanced Research Methods, (b) PSYC 6340 or 7431 statistics final exam, (c) PSYC 6327 or 7505 statistics final presentation, and (d) HLTH 7100 Qualitative Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benchmarks:</td>
<td>80% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
<td>100% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<th>SLO 5: Ethics</th>
<th>Interpret and discuss legal and ethical issues affecting healthcare research, supervision, practice, and policy.</th>
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<td>Assessment Mechanism: HUMS 7004 Research Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benchmarks:</td>
<td>80% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
<td>100% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on each assessment mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<th>SLO 6: Student Achievement</th>
<th>To graduate students who meet the 500 direct client contact hour requirement, are eligible for American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor Candidacy Status, and who graduate by the advertised length of completion.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment Mechanisms:</td>
<td>(a) HDFS 8404 Practicum or HDFS 8912 Internship, (b) HDFS 7502 Philosophy of Supervision paper, and (c) documentation of date students entered and graduated from the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benchmarks:</td>
<td>(a) 100% of students will successfully complete 500 direct client contact clinical hours by either HDFS 8404 or HDFS 8412, (b) 80% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on the Philosophy of Supervision paper, and (c) 100% of students will graduate in a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targets:</td>
<td>(a) 100% of students will successfully complete 500 direct client contact clinical hours by either HDFS 8404 or HDFS 8412, (b) 100% of students must achieve an 86% pass rate on the Philosophy of Supervision paper, and (c) 100% of students will graduate by the advertised length of completion.</td>
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A Program Goal may have one or more Student Learning Outcomes that support the achievement of the goal. Student Learning Outcomes should be measurable (measures should be unique to each Student Learning Outcome) and have clear benchmarks and targets that allow the program to assess the data and determine whether the program is achieving the stated outcome. Each Student Learning Outcome should only be linked with a single Program Outcome. Student Learning Outcomes used to support one goal cannot be used to support other goals. NOTE: To add space for additional Program Goals, please copy and paste the entire chart above as a template.