Graduate Program

Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy

The Master of Arts degree in Marriage and Family Therapy (MMFT) at Pfeiffer University's Graduate School is offered at both the Charlotte and Raleigh-Durham campuses and provides the clinical and academic training required for becoming a licensed therapist working with individuals, couples and families in a variety of professional settings. The curriculum, which requires 66 hours and usually takes 3-4 years to complete (contingent on a full-time or part-time commitment), includes clinical training that focuses on developing ethical therapy skills, increasing professionalism and building community partnerships.

PFEIFFER BENEFITS

- Small classes with students from diverse backgrounds
- Flexible evening classroom schedules
- Convenient locations in Charlotte and Raleigh-Durham
- Internships through field placements in a variety of therapeutic settings providing specialization opportunities
- Supervised training at two state-of-the-art clinics, Pfeiffer Institute and Pfeiffer Institute Reach
- Affordable tuition and financial aid

One of only three COAMFTE (Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education) accredited programs in North Carolina, Pfeiffer's two locations offer training with faculty who are licensed marriage and family therapists and AAMFT approved supervisors (American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy). The curriculum meets the academic and experiential requirements for state licensure as a marriage and family therapist (LMFT) in North Carolina and prepares students for the national examination in marital and family therapy (AMFT).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed Pfeiffer University application for admission and application fee; applications available at pfeiffer.edu/marriage
- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university; minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 in major/2.75 overall; and nine hours of coursework in the social sciences
- Official transcripts from all previous colleges or universities attended
- Three letters of recommendation written on official letterhead, each with the recommendation form from pfeiffer.edu/marriage
- Satisfactory completion of the Graduate Records Exam (GRE)
- Current resume and a writing sample describing how MFT training and degree will affect your personal and professional goals
- Small group interview with Admissions Committee approval
- Proof of satisfactory background record check for all states of residence for the past five years
- Charlotte campus application deadlines are February 1 and April 1 for summer or fall admission
- Raleigh-Durham campus application deadlines are March 1 and May 1 for summer or fall admission
- Late applications are subject to a $25 late fee and will be reviewed on a space-available basis
- The MMFT program is a residential program and requires students to be enrolled in a minimum of two courses each fall and spring semester and one course during the summer semester

KEY PROGRAM FEATURES

The MMFT Program's Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) include the following primary concepts:

- Theoretical Knowledge/Academic Training
- Diversity
- Clinical Effectiveness
- Individual and Relational Development
- Professional Identity and Ethics
- Research

CURRICULUM

The MMFT program requires 66 semester hours, which provides foundational coursework and clinical training based on core competencies designated by COAMFTE; 500 hours of direct client contact (250 individual, 250 relational) are provided by AAMFT approved supervisors. Course of study typically takes 3-4 years to complete; requirements must be completed within 5 years after initial enrollment. All students must pass a comprehensive exit examination before graduation.

I. Assessment and Diagnosis (6 SH):
- MMFT 604 Diagnosis of Mental and Emotional Disorders
- MMFT 630 Assessment and Treatment Planning in Family Therapy

II. Human Development and Family Relations (9 SH):
- MMFT 640 Family Therapy: Children and Adolescents
- PSYC 600 Advanced Human Growth and Development
- PSYC 615 Advanced Psychopathology in the Family Context

III. Practice of MFT (12 SH):
- MMFT 600 Emerging Cross-Cultural Issues in Families and Communities
- MMFT 606 Therapeutic Alliance — Pre-Internship
- MMFT 620 Couples Therapy, Theory, and Techniques
- MMFT 670 Human Sexuality and Contextual Sex Therapy

IV. Professional Identity and Ethics (6 SH):
- MMFT 610 Professional Identity and Issues in Marriage & Family Therapy
- MMFT 680 Legal & Ethical Issues in Marriage & Family Therapy

V. Research (3 SH):
- PSYC 625 Research Methods & Program Evaluation

VI. Theoretical Foundation of MFT (9 SH):
- MMFT 601 Introduction to Family Systems
- MMFT 602 Family Therapy Theories
- MMFT 621 Advanced MFT Theories and Procedures

VII. Clinical Practice (9-15 SH): *
- MMFT 690 Internship in Marriage & Family Therapy

VIII. Additional Core Coursework (12 SH):
- MMFT 603 Theory and Practice of Group Therapy
- MMFT 605 Addiction in Family Systems
- MMFT 608 Crisis Intervention
- PSYC 610 Advanced Theories of Personality in Family Dynamics

For more information and complete program details:

Dr. Susan Wilkie McHale, LMFT, LPC  Program Director/Professor
AAMFT & LPC Approved Supervisor  (704) 945-7359  susan.wilkie@pfeiffer.edu

pfeiffer.edu/marriage

Beyond Boundaries
ABOUT PFEIFFER

Pfeiffer University is a comprehensive United Methodist-related university with multiple campuses and delivery systems designed to meet the needs of adult, graduate and traditional undergraduate students. Having offered graduate and degree completion programs for adults for more than 25 years, Pfeiffer has become an educational leader through innovative academic programs and commitment to the ideas of servant leadership. One of the first institutions in Charlotte to offer graduate and adult education programs, Pfeiffer boasts thousands of highly talented graduates and continues to expand its programs to meet the demands of today’s global economy.

As an institution grounded in the principle of service before self, Pfeiffer’s priorities are serving the needs of our students and instilling in them the nature to serve and knowledge to lead and to go Beyond Boundaries.

FAST FACTS

STUDENT BODY

Total students 2,100
Traditional 875
Graduate 950
Degree Completion 275

Average Class Size 15
Student-Faculty Ratio 13:1

ACCREDITATION

Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Approved by the University Senate of the United Methodist Church as a Methodist-related institution.

FINANCIAL AID

More than 95 percent of Pfeiffer students receive some form of financial aid.

ATHLETICS

(Undergraduate campus/Misenheimer)
The Pfeiffer Falcons compete in NCAA Division II as a member of Conference Carolinas.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Human Resources Management
- International Studies
- Leadership
- Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability
- Nonprofit Management

Master of Science in Financial Fraud Investigations (MSFFI)
- Computer Forensics
- Law Enforcement
- Security Specialists
- Civil Litigation

Master of Health Administration (MHA)
- Business
- Leadership

Master of Science in Leadership (MSL)
- Human Resources
- International Management

Joint Degrees
- MHA/MBA
- MBA/MSL
- MHA/MSL

Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy
Master of Arts in Practical Theology
- Christian Education/Age-Level Ministries
- Church Administration
- Missions/Evangelism
- Pastoral Care and Counseling

Master of Science in Elementary Education
Master of Arts in Teaching-Special Education

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Health Services Administration Leadership
Leadership
Financial Fraud Investigations

QUESTIONS?

Undergraduate Degree Completion Programs and Certificate Programs
Paulita Brooker
Dean, Continuing Education Programs
(704) 945-7302
paulita.brooker@pfeiffer.edu

Admissions
Jonathan Beam
Director of Graduate Admissions
(704) 945-7356
jonathan.beam@pfeiffer.edu

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

Misenheimer
Undergraduate Programs
48380 U.S. Highway 52 North
Misenheimer, NC 28109
(800) 338-2060

Charlotte
Graduate Programs
Graduate Certificate Programs
Undergraduate Degree Completion Programs
Undergraduate Certificate and Non-degree Programs
4701 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28209
(704) 945-7320

Raleigh-Durham
Graduate Programs
2880 Slater Road, Suite 100
Morrisville, NC 27560
(919) 941-2920

ADD-ON LICENSURE PROGRAMS

AIG Certificate Program
Marriage and Family Therapy
Substance Abuse Studies

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAMS

Business Administration
Criminal Justice
Health Administration
- Long-term Care Management
- Medical Practice Management
Human Relations
(optional Substance Abuse Area of Concentration)
Interdisciplinary Studies
RN to BSN (accreditation pending)

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Healthcare Management
Long-Term Care Management
Medical Practice Management

UNDERGRADUATE CONCENTRATIONS

Entrepreneurship and Supervision
Financial Fraud and Financial Investigations
Homeland Security
Law and Public Policy
Money and Banking
Substance Abuse