**COUPLE AND FAMILY THERAPY (FCFT)**

Graduate Degree Program  
College: Public Health

**Abstract**

The mission of the CFT Master's program is to prepare competent, effective therapists for clinical practice and advancement of the marriage and family therapy discipline. The program seeks to train professionals who demonstrate superior therapeutic skills, ethical integrity, intellectual curiosity, and a sincere commitment to working with families from diverse populations.

The M.S. in Couple and Family Therapy (CFT) provides students with the coursework and supervised clinical training typically required in states with Marriage and Family Therapy licensure. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). The Couple and Family Therapy M.S. program requires 48 credits for the non-thesis option and 51 credits for the thesis option. Completion of the program, which includes the 2-year internship, generally requires 2 years.

The Department of Family Science prepares students to describe, explain, and improve the quality of life through applied research, education, therapy, human services, policy analysis, and advocacy. The approach is interdisciplinary, emphasizing individual, interpersonal, and social change. The program of study is based on a system or ecological paradigm, combining the perspectives of interrelated professional fields of family science, maternal and child health, couple and family therapy, family policy, behavioral science, and human services. Graduates are prepared for careers in the public, non-profit, and private sectors, including university teaching, research, family policy analysis, and administrative positions in human services and public health programs.

**Financial Assistance**

Graduate Assistantships are available to students admitted into the CFT program.

**Contact**

For additional information, please contact: Dr. Norman Epstein (CFT Program Director), or Dr. Kevin Roy (Graduate Director).

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**Admissions**

**General Requirements**

- Statement of Purpose  
- Transcript(s)  
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students)

**Program-Specific Requirements**

- Letters of Recommendation (3)  
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website: www.gradschool.umd.edu/admissions

**Application Deadlines**

**Type of Applicant**  
**Fall Deadline**

- Domestic Applicants  
  - US Citizens and Permanent Residents  
    - 17 Jan  
  - International Applicants  
    - F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants  
    - 4 Jan

**Other Deadlines:** Please visit the program website at http://www.sph.umd.edu

**Requirements**

- Couple and Family Therapy, Master of Science (M.S.)

**Facilities and Special Resources**

Center is the training and research arm of the Couple and Family Therapy Program in the Department of Family Science. Departmental graduate students and faculty provide clinical and educational services to families from surrounding communities in this state-of-the-art facility. Master’s and doctoral students use data collected at the Center for research projects.

The University’s close proximity to the nation’s capital, the state capital in Annapolis, federal executive departments, and headquarters of national professional and public interest associations provide research and internship placements for studying family policy unmatched by any other graduate program in the discipline. The Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area offers rich opportunities for research on culturally and socioeconomically diverse families. The campus and department have excellent computer facilities. Students have ready access to the University’s extensive library systems, as well as holdings from the
Library of Congress, the National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine, National Archives, and many other library collections.