

STUDENT INFORMATION PACKET

Master of Arts
in
Marriage and Family Counseling

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
New Orleans, LA

Admission Requirements

Minimum standards for entrance into the M.A. in Marriage and Family Counseling include the following:

- 1. Degree Prerequisites.** The applicant must have a Bachelor of Arts degree (or an equivalent degree) from a college or university accredited by an agency related to CHEA.
- 2. Major Area of Study.** Either during or following the completion of the B.A. degree (or its equivalent), 18 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate study in the social sciences is preferred, with a minimum GPA as described below. (Students who have not completed this course work may enter the M. Div. Psychology and Counseling Program, assuming other related requirements are met, and take the necessary course work to comply with this requirement. **However, the completion of this course work does not guarantee that a student will be admitted to the M.A. Program in Marriage & Family Therapy.**)
- 3. Scholarship and Graduate Record Examination.** The applicant must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent) or a minimum graduate GPA of 2.06 on a 3.0 scale (or its equivalent) (the graduate GPA is based on a minimum of 30 graduate semester hours) and GRE scores as outlined below (GRE scores must be less than five years old)

The grade point average (GPA) and the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) quantitative, verbal, and writing assessment scores will be considered on the following five-point sliding scale. For the application to be accepted, the individual must have a combined score of “-3” or higher on the four components. GRE Scores can be no older than 5 years.

	-2	-1	0	+1	+2
GPA	2.75-3.0	3.01-3.25	3.26-3.5	3.51-3.75	3.76-4.0
GRE Quantitative	below 140	140-143	144-145	146-149	above 149
GRE Verbal	below 146	146-152	153-156	157-160	above 160
GRE Writing	below 3.5	3.5	4.0	4.5-5.0	5.5-6.0

- 4. Departmental Entrance Interview.** A satisfactory interview with the Admissions Committee from the Department of Psychology and Counseling may be required for admission. Interviews are scheduled only after all application requirements are submitted.

Change of Degree

Students desiring to change from MDiv Psychology and Counseling to MAMFC need to be aware of deadlines listed in the graduate catalog. Students must have changed degrees **PRIOR** to the semester of graduation. Please carefully read the Application Process on the following page.

MAMFC Application Process

NOTE: Students desiring to change from another NOBTS degree program to MAMFC are required to adhere to these deadlines:

The application process will take a minimum of one to two months to complete –plan accordingly!

**Fall Semester Entrance: Final Approval Deadline is August 1
Spring Semester Entrance: Final Approval Deadline is November 15.**

All five of the following steps must be completed by the deadlines listed above.

1. Submit an on-line Request to Change Degree located on the Registrar's web page under Student Forms.
2. Schedule the GRE **as soon as possible!!** It takes four to six weeks for NOBTS to receive your GRE scores. After GRE scores are received the Registrar will forward your Prerequisite Check-List to the Psychology/Counseling Department.
3. Following receipt of Prerequisite Check-List an appointment will be made for the student to complete Psychometric Testing. Psychometric Testing is valid for six months. Psychometric Testing will NOT be scheduled prior to receipt of your Prerequisite Check List from the Registrar's Office.
4. After completion of Psychometric Testing, if necessary the student has not had their Practicum Interview, an interview will be scheduled.
5. After completion of steps one through four the Department of Psychology and Counseling will determine if the student is approved for change of degree into the MAMFC and officially notify the Registrar's Office.

**** PLEASE NOTE ALL FIVE STEPS ABOVE MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THESE DEADLINES:**

**Fall Semester Entrance: Final Approval Deadline is August 1
Spring Semester Entrance: Final Approval Deadline is November 15.**

The application process will take a minimum of one to two months to complete –plan accordingly!

****These deadlines apply to new and existing students requesting a degree change.**

Competency Exams

Students are required to take the NOBTS Graduate Competency Exam upon entering and graduating from the program. Also, students are required to take the NBCC Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) before graduating. These exams are administered by the Department of Psychology and Counseling.

LICENSURE INFORMATION

Every state has licensure laws that specify the educational requirements to qualify a person to seek licensure as a professional counselor and/or marriage and family therapist.

The NOBTS **MAMFC** degree, and the NOBTS **MDiv in Counseling** both provide the academic course work required to pursue

1. Clinical membership with the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT).
2. Licensure as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in most states. (Currently Mississippi is the only state that requires a student to have graduated from a COAMFTE accredited school. The program at NOBTS is COAMFTE *equivalent*, and therefore qualifies students in most states for the LMFT licensure, but not MS).
3. Licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in most states. The coursework is *equivalent* to the requirements of CACREP.

The Clinical Practicum and Internships are vital components of licensure requirements.

The requirements for Practicum and Internship* in Louisiana are:

	Practicum	Internship
LPC:	16 Weeks (minimum) 40 Direct Client Hours 100 Indirect Hours (On-Site)	36 Weeks (minimum) 240 Direct Client Hours 600 Indirect Hours (On-Site)
LMFT:	500 Direct Client Hours (250 w/Couples or Families) 100 Individual Supervision Hours	

*This requirement varies from state to state. Contact your State's Licensure Board for details.

AAMFT

http://www.aamft.org/iMIS15/AAMFT/Directories/MFT_Licensing_Boards/Content/Directories/MFT_Licensing_Boards0

NBCC <http://www.nbcc.org/directory>

*For more information about Clinical Practicum/Internships, refer to the *Policy and Procedure Manual* located on Blackboard PSYC6380KS: Clinical Practicum

AAMFT EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

COURSEWORK AREAS - NOBTS COURSES offered in each content area

Marriage and Family Studies (9 hours minimum): Introductory systems theory, family development, family systems (marital, sibling, individual subsystems), blended families special family issues, gender and cultural issues, all with major focus from a systems theory orientation.

- PSYC5231 Social and Multicultural Issues in Counseling - 3 hours
- PSYC5323 Family Development - 3 hours
- PSYC5320 Marriage and Family Theory and Therapy Practicum - 3 hours
- PSYC6355 Counseling Elders and Their Families - 3 hours
- PSYC5323 Couple Relationships - 3 hours
- PSYC6251 Family Systems Theories and Therapies - 3 hours
- PSYC6250 Clinical Marriage and Family Assessment - 3 hours
- PSYC5325 The Minister's Family - 3 hours

Marriage and Family Therapy (9 hours minimum): Advanced systems theory/interventions, major systemic marriage/family treatment approaches, (structural, strategic, neoanalytic [object relations], behavioral marriage/family therapy, communications, sex therapy, intergenerational, etc.)

- PSYC6352 Structural/Strategic Approaches to Marriage and Family Therapy - 3 hours
- PSYC6353 Intergenerational Marriage and Family Therapy - 3 hours
- PSYC6355 Brief and Narrative Approaches to Marriage and Family Therapy - 3 hours
- PSYC6355 Behavioral Parent Training - 3 hours
- PSYC6354 Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy - 3 hours
- *PSYC9605 Contemporary Approaches in Counseling & Psychotherapy - Ph.D. - 6 hours
- *PSYC9605 Marriage and Family Therapy - Ph.D. - 6 hours
- *PSYC9605 Marriage and Family Counseling Practicum - Ph.D. - 6 hours

Human Development (9 hours minimum): Human Development (normal and abnormal), child/adolescent development, personality theory, human sexuality, psychopathology-abnormal behavior, preferably integrated with systems theory.

- PSYC5320 Personality Development - 3 hours
- PSYC5321 Human Development - 3 hours
- PSYC6240 Lifestyle Development and Career Counseling - 3 hours
- PSYC6301 Mental Disorders and Treatment - 3 hours
- PSYC6341 Chemical Dependency - 3 hours
- PSYC5322 Human Sexuality - 3 hours
- 0000 Life Span Development - 3 hours
- 0000 Child Development - 3 hours
- *PSYC9605 Addictions: Theories, Research and Treatment - Ph.D. - 6 hours
- *PSYC9605 Theories of Personality Development - Ph.D. - 6 hours
- *PSYC9606 Psychopathology: Etiology, Diagnosis, and Treatments - Ph.D. - 6 hours

Professional Studies (3 hours minimum): Professional ethics as a therapist including legal/ethical responsibilities/liabilities, family law, professional socialization, licensure or certification legislation, independent practice and interprofessional cooperation.

- PSYC6303 Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Psychology and Counseling

Research (3 hours minimum): Research course in marriage/family studies/therapy including research design, methodology, statistics.

- PSYC6474 Scientific Research I: Descriptive Statistics to Analysis of Variance
- PSYC6475 Scientific Research II: Multivariate Analysis Research Design and Methodology

Practicum (Supervised Clinical Practice): One year minimum during graduate work: fifteen hours per week, approximately 8-10 hours in direct clinical contact with individuals, couples, and families. Minimum of 300 client contact hours required.

- PSYC6280 Clinical Practicum
- PSYC6490 Clinical Internship
- PSYC5391-92 Clinical Pastoral Training -CPE

*Ph.D. Seminars

NOTE: Various other graduate courses are offered through the Department of Psychology and Counseling which are beyond the listed content areas. NOTE: Consult with AAMFT to insure that your coursework meets all their current requirements. http://www.aamft.org/index_nm.asp