

AU MFT Newsletter

Fall 2025



Marriage &
Family Therapy

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Problems are not the problem; coping is the problem.
-Virginia Satir

News

Congratulations to the 2025 cohort for graduating and welcome to the 2027 cohort!

We appreciate the patience of students and faculty. VALT and OIT have fixed the problem with the recording system.

Congratulations to our Minority Fellows:
Madelin Bingham and Deniscia Rankine

Thank you for Theresa Steele-Mitchell for teaching the Summer Internship. The students appreciated about your Supervision.



Program Updates

- The faculty reviewed the student feedback since 2020 concerning the curriculum and voted to add a Systemic Sex Therapy course to the curriculum and eliminate the Medical Family Therapy Course. The faculty also voted to extend the teaching of Diversity, Inclusion, and Multicultural Awareness to 5 summer weeks (half the course).
- Students shared concerns that they were completing the Supervisor survey which has 15 items on four or five supervisors. The faculty voted to decrease the 15 items to 9 items.
- The faculty voted to have students present the assessment data in the therapy sessions before each treatment planning session. Students have been piloting the presentation of data in Dr. Ketring's fall semester internship for two years and found it useful. The data is presented in the 5th, 9th, 14th, 18th sessions. The presentation of the data will be evaluated to verify if it should be included in the Portfolio.



Programmatic Updates

- The MAAB Board advised to change the Deficiency Language in the review letters to a growth-oriented language. The faculty and Department Head voted to accept the suggested changes. Adjustments to the handbook will be completed this coming year.
 - A. Clinical Development Plan vs Minor Deficiencies
 - B. Ethical Development Plan vs Minor Deficiencies
 - C. Plan for Major Therapeutic Development OR Plan for Major Ethical Development
- Additionally, MAAB completed an evaluation of the diversity, inclusion, and multicultural awareness of the curriculum. The Board voted that diversity appears to exist throughout the readings, activities, and assignments. The Board provided suggestions for faculty improvement in specific courses and had high praise overall.
- The Board also suggested to include client drop-out rates, average length of session (up to 20 sessions), to the Portfolio so that supervisors can evaluate rates for clients and diverse clients. Faculty voted to accept the suggestions.
- The faculty have been in discussions on adapting the non-thesis options but have not come to a consensus about the necessary changes.
- The Fellowship for qualifying second-year students has been increased to \$250.00. This should offset the required costs for the National Licensure Exam.
- The faculty reviewed several years of student feedback concerning the client transfer process and voted to change the policy.
 - Second-year students will treat the client until the last day of the semester 8/1/2025
 - All therapy cases will have a termination completed before graduation.
 - The client will be given the option to continue. They will receive an informed consent if they have more than 12 sessions to complete and review with the new therapist on 8/19/2025.