



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY PROGRAM

AU MFT 2025 Information:

I appreciate your interest in our program. All of the MFT program's application materials and information regarding the program are located on the University website. You can access the MFT program through the following site: http://humsci.auburn.edu/hdfs/grad/masters_mft.php You will find additional information about the MFT program, the departmental (HDFS) application requirements, and a link to the Auburn University Graduate School by following the various links. The AU MFT Program is committed to recruiting and maintaining a diverse student cohort. The COAMFTE-accredited MS track provides the core academic/clinical training needed to become licensed as an MFT in 39 of 50 states. Specific information is provided about meeting the coursework requirements for the eleven other states. The demographic breakdown of our 2023-24 cohort of MFT Faculty, Supervisors, and Students and our 2023 Student Achievement Data are also hyperlinked on the web page.

Application Process

Please note that **we do not require a campus visit for admission. We use a video application along with a ZOOM follow-up interview.** We typically invite 20-24 applicants for the video portion of the interview. This process allows the applicants to introduce themselves and share their reasons for choosing Auburn MFT training. We select 10-12 applicants from these video applications for a follow-up ZOOM interview. The last three cohorts had an overall GPA of 3.6-4.0. We consider students with lower scores who appear to hold promise as we realize there is more to a good therapist than grades.

Most applicants eventually become students in our program visit Auburn after receiving an offer. Exit interview data reveal that graduating students appreciated not having to spend money and time attending an interview day. They overwhelmingly stated that waiting to visit Auburn with an extended offer created additional comfort as they determined the program fit.

Funding and Support

EVERY MFT student since 1985 has received an assistantship offer, waiving tuition. Currently, a .33% (13 hours per week) assistantship support qualifies an AU graduate student for a **FULL** tuition waiver for in and out-of-state tuition each semester of that support, up to 110% of total degree requirements. An assistantship of .25% (10 hours per week) qualifies a student for a full out-of-state tuition waiver and a half-in-state tuition waiver for each semester of support. We do not anticipate any change in our resources or university policies affecting our student support for 2024-25. Admission and assistantship are often simultaneously offered.

Superior Training

We accept six students per year. This allows us to provide intense, individualized instruction and clinical training. The clinical faculty provide live supervision for **ALL** cases seen by our student therapists during the first two semesters of clinical work at our on-campus site, the

Auburn University Marriage and Family Therapy Center. Our clinic is equipped with modern technology for both training and research purposes. Currently, our second-year students complete a 12-month clinical internship, a **paid experience** (an assistantship funded by the placement sites). Each trainee continues to carry a caseload at the on-campus clinic, thus allowing the opportunity for live supervision throughout the five semesters of clinical experience.

The only clinical track in the department is the COAMFTE-accredited MS track, separate from the HDFS Ph.D. program. However, our doctoral education has something unique to offer. We regularly recommend our HDFS Ph.D. program to our MFT MS graduates interested in doctoral work, including those who desire an MFT academic career. This combination is the optimal path to a successful career as an MFT faculty member at a research university. Of course, we continue to have graduates choose to attend traditional MFT Ph.D. programs and will do all we can to facilitate your acceptance into any doctoral program. In fact, over the last 40 years, we have only had two graduates not admitted to their chosen COAMFTE-accredited MFT Ph.D. program.

The HDFS doctoral program develops the academic research/grant writing/publication skills critical to a successful academic career. You can also simultaneously work to complete your clinical credentials (clinical licensure, AAMFT Approved Supervisor status, and experience supervising MS MFT students). Completing this unofficial, dual track will make you VERY competitive for MFT faculty jobs and means you likely have superior skills to succeed at a major research university.

Since August 2012, eleven AU MFT alumni have graduated with their AU HDFS PhDs. Their specific destinations were Five accepted faculty positions in COAMFTE-accredited MS/Ph.D. programs, four accepted faculty positions in non-MFT programs, and one accepted US government research position in which she will have the opportunity to influence policies affecting MFT as a profession. Our most recent graduate directs the family group therapy program at the Mt. Meigs Juvenile Sexual Offender program. There are currently two Ph.D. students in the doctoral program.

Once you explore the website, feel free to contact Drs. Joshua Novak, Brian Gillis, or me regarding any additional information or specific questions. Likewise, I'll happily provide you with contact information for current students. We will stand by the statements of our AU MFT students concerning their AU MFT training. I hope this letter helps you understand what AU MFT has to offer.

I look forward to hearing from you and reviewing your future application.

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