



Kairos Pacific University

Department of Marriage and Family Therapy

Doctorate MFT Program Curriculum: Online Program

Years 1, 2, and 3

Core courses = 30 credits

Capstone Projects = 10 credits

Doctor of Marriage & Family Therapy

Core courses (30 credits)

MFT601 Advanced Lifespan Development

MFT602 Family Therapy

MFT603 Marriage/Couples Therapy

MFT604 Child and Adolescent Therapy

MFT609 Multi-Cultural Counseling

MFT612 Group Therapy

MFT616 Legal and Ethical Therapeutic Issues

MFT618 Introduction to Clinical Counseling Skills

MFT619 Psychopharmacology

MFT622 Substance Abuse Addictions and Diversity

Capstone Projects (10 Credits)

Capstone Project Purpose, Format, and Outline

The Capstone Project is designed to provide students with an opportunity to integrate and apply their advanced knowledge of systemic and relational therapy in a practical, real-world setting. The purpose of the project is to address a relevant problem, challenge, or need in the field of Marriage and Family Therapy by designing, implementing, and



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evaluating an applied solution. This culminating experience is intended to prepare students for leadership roles in clinical, organizational, and community contexts.

Format:

The Capstone is a two-semester, 10-unit experience consisting of two courses—Capstone Project I (DMFT 790) and Capstone Project II (DMFT 791). Each student will select a Capstone Chair to provide oversight and mentorship throughout the process. Students may also assemble a committee to provide additional feedback and evaluation.

- **Capstone Project I:** Focuses on project design, including the development of a literature review, methodology, evaluation plan, and IRB application (if applicable).
- **Capstone Project II:** Emphasizes implementation, analysis, and dissemination through a final manuscript and oral presentation.

Outline of Project Components:

1. **Capstone Topic Approval** – Identification of a project aligned with the student's professional goals and systemic expertise
2. **Needs Assessment** – Exploration of organizational or community gaps and systemic challenges
3. **Literature Review** – Comprehensive synthesis of theoretical and empirical work informing the project
4. **Methodology & Evaluation Plan** – Description of the project design, procedures, timeline, and outcome measures
5. **IRB Submission** – Required for any project involving human subjects
6. **Project Implementation** – Execution of the proposed intervention, program, or plan
7. **Results & Analysis** – Documentation of findings and evaluation outcomes
8. **Final Capstone Manuscript** – Comprehensive written report demonstrating doctoral-level competence
9. **Oral Presentation** – Formal presentation of project process and outcomes to faculty and peers

Portfolio Submission – Compilation of project materials demonstrating growth, impact, and professional readiness