



SCHOOL OF
GRADUATE
STUDIES

Master of Family Therapy Degree



Southern Connecticut State University



A renewed concern for family life and a greater awareness of the complexity of family relationships have fueled a tremendous growth in the field of marriage and family therapy in recent years. Southern's master's degree program in Marriage and Family Therapy is widely recognized throughout the state and the region for its outstanding faculty and comprehensive training regimen.

The department offers students a remarkable opportunity to complete a portion of their state-regulated, required 500 hours of clinical experience at the university's Family Therapy Clinic. The clinic serves the needs of the local community while allowing students to observe and practice therapy with actual families. The clinic accepts referrals from a variety of state and local agencies and treats 100 to 120 cases a week with a variety of presenting problems, including abuse, incest, marital problems, out-of-control children, and individual and school problems. Student interns perform therapy under direct supervision from a senior staff member. A ratio of one hour of group and individual supervision for every five hours of therapy is maintained.

In addition, Southern's Marriage and Family Therapy program includes a one-year curriculum in gestalt therapy within the Connecticut Center for Gestalt Therapy. Research shows that the gestalt therapy courses, which train students to focus on present interactions and to recognize and utilize non-verbal data and cues, help students become more effective therapists by facilitating the removal of individual blocks to working with clients.

Program Requirements

Southern's graduate program in Marriage and Family Therapy is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education and is consistent with requirements mandated by the Department of Health Services for marriage and family therapists licensed by the State of Connecticut. Upon graduation, additional supervised clinical hours and a national standardized test are required for licensure.

The program consists of 69 credits, completed in a minimum of two calendar years for full-time students or as many as four years for part-time students. Among the required courses are the following:

- eight core courses in Marriage and Family Therapy theory and practice
- five clinical courses involving work in an agency setting and the university's Family Therapy Clinic
- three general professional courses
- a minimum of five gestalt therapy training courses
- one psychology course
- one research course.

Students are required to complete the 15 credits of clinical experience in a 12- to 24-month period. They are expected to maintain an on-going caseload that includes supervised visits, anger management groups, Guardian Ad Litem activities, individual, couple, and family therapy. A minimum of 500 hours of clinical experience is expected, including 300 hours with couples and families with individual and group supervision.

Throughout the program, a student's position in the program is contingent on positive faculty evaluations. During the last semester of the program, students undertake a comprehensive examination consisting of faculty questions designed to summarize each student's personal and professional development during his or her tenure in the program.



The program boasts a rich and diverse student body. Classes may be composed of a mix of ethnicity, including students from around the world.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Southern Connecticut State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, sexual preference, disability, color or national origin in admission to, access to, employment in, and treatment in its programs and activities. Furthermore, the university does not discriminate on the basis of sex or disability, as such discrimination is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and 34 C.F.R. Part 106 and C.F.R. Part 104 respectively. Inquiries concerning Southern Connecticut State University's non-discrimination policy may be directed to:

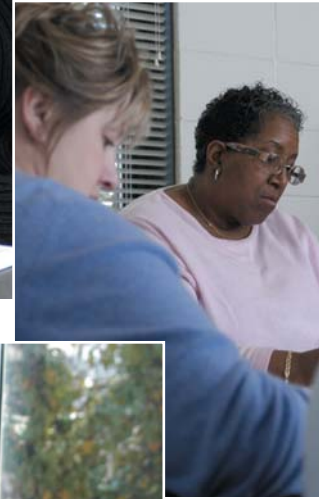
Executive Assistant to the President for Diversity and Equity Programs
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06515-1355
Telephone (203) 392-5899

or

Coordinator or Assistant Secretary
for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC 20202

Admissions Requirements

- Admission into the Marriage and Family Therapy master's degree program involves application to both the School of Graduate Studies and the Marriage and Family Therapy Department.
- A cumulative average of 3.0 and appropriate academic background for the program is required for admission. Prerequisite undergraduate study must include nine credits of psychology, sociology, or related behavioral sciences studies.



- In addition, the Marriage and Family Therapy department requires three reference forms (two professional and one personal) and a 250-word, personal essay in which the applicant describes a family member who has had outstanding influence in his or her life.
- Applicants must attend either a group informational meeting or a personal interview to determine an individualized program of study.
- Candidates must successfully complete an initial course, Family of Origin, before full acceptance is awarded.

How to Apply

- It is best to contact the graduate program coordinator to begin the process of application. The Graduate School application form is available on the Web site www.gradstudies.SouthernCT.edu or can be mailed upon request.
- Complete the application and enclose a \$50 check made payable to SCSU. Mail to:

Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street, Engleman Hall
New Haven, CT 06515-1355

- Request that official transcripts from all previously attended undergraduate and graduate colleges be sent to the School of Graduate Studies. When an application and transcripts are received in the Graduate Office, a copy will be forwarded to the program coordinator. Send other documentation required by the graduate program directly to the Graduate Program Coordinator.
- Applications are accepted on a rolling admissions basis, and students can begin in fall, spring, or summer sessions.
- The Gestalt Therapy Training sequence begins in June, and students must notify the department of their interest by May 15. Interviews for acceptance in the gestalt training are scheduled during the spring semester.

Faculty

Three full-time faculty members teach in the Marriage and Family Therapy Department, bringing decades of clinical and classroom experience and research to their students. Each holds a doctoral degree. Their combined expertise includes gestalt therapy, structural family therapy, cultural competence, life cycle issues, anger management, and supervised visitation.



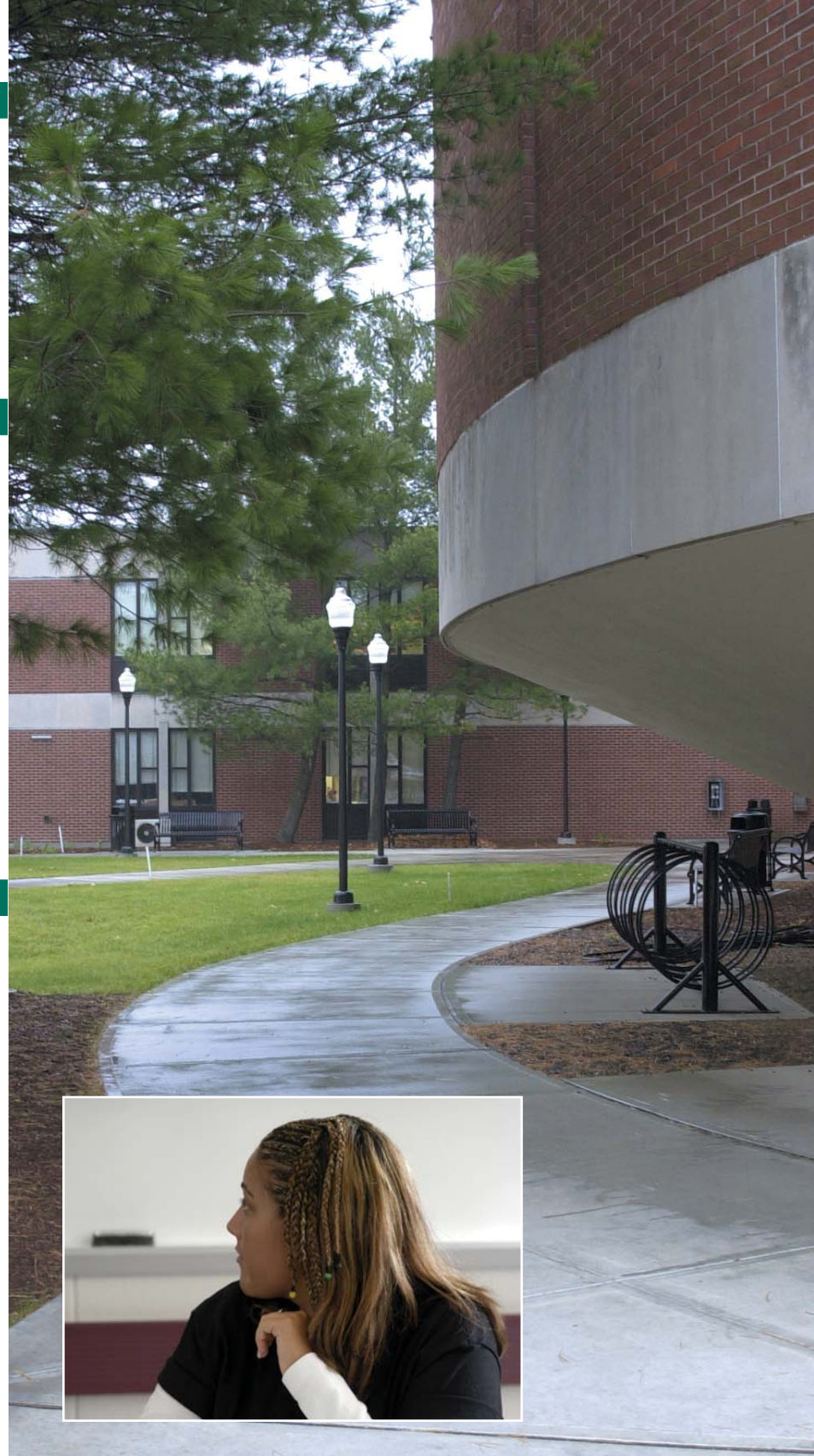
Careers

According to the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the need for marriage and family therapists has increased dramatically in recent years, and recent data indicate that more than 90 percent of graduates from accredited programs find employment in the field. Indeed, most graduates of Southern's Marriage and Family Therapy program are hired in appropriate positions prior to graduation. Southern graduates can be found in major agencies throughout the state, including hospitals, clinics, universities, family service agencies, youth service agencies, and private practices.

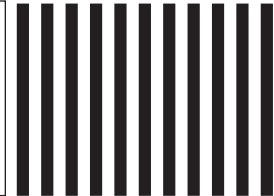
In order to sit for the state licensing examination, candidates must complete a post-graduate year at a non-profit agency, including 1,000 hours of clinical contact and 100 hours of supervision.

Contact Information

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email lynchj1@SouthernCT.edu
School of Graduate Studies
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New Haven, CT 06515
(203) 392-5240 or 1-800-448-0661
email gradinfo@SouthernCT.edu
www.gradstudies.SouthernCT.edu



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Graduate Admissions Information

For more information about the Master of Family Therapy Degree, please complete this card and return it to us.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (home) _____ Telephone (work) _____

E-mail _____

Bachelor's Degree (College, Year Awarded) _____

Undergraduate Major _____

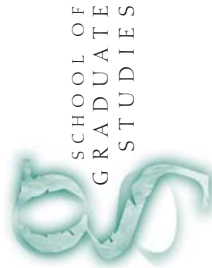
Check as many as apply.
Please send:

Application materials for the Master of Family Therapy Degree

The SCSU Graduate Catalog

The schedule of courses for the up-coming semester

Other _____



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