

MARRIAGE & FAMILY COUNSELING (M.A.)

Important: This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2024 through summer 2025. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

Code	Title	Hours
Early Core Courses		
COUC 500	Orientation to Counselor Professional Identity and Function	3
COUC 501	Ethical and Legal Issues in Counseling	3
COUC 502	Human Growth and Development	3
COUC 504	Multicultural Counseling	3
COUC 505	Counseling Techniques and the Helping Relationship	3
COUC 506	Integration of Spirituality and Counseling	3
COUC 510	Theories of Counseling	3
Total Hours		21

Code	Title	Hours
Advanced Core Courses		
COUC 512	Group Counseling ¹	3
COUC 515	Research and Program Evaluation ²	3
COUC 521	Assessment Techniques in Counseling	3
COUC 522	Career Development and Counseling	3
COUC 546	Psychopathology	3
COUC 601	Theories of Family Systems	3
Total Hours		18

¹ A background check will be required

² Students must successfully complete three hours of undergraduate course work in statistics. Those who did not complete these courses in their undergraduate programs may fulfill this prerequisite requirement during the first two semesters of the program

Code	Title	Hours
Specialization Courses		
CEFS 670	Comprehensive Exam - CPCE ¹	0
CEFS 671	Comprehensive Exam - Integration ¹	0
COUC 602	Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment Planning in Marriage and Family Counseling	3
COUC 603	Advanced Couple and Marital Counseling	3
COUC 620	Counseling Children, Adolescents, and Their Families	3
COUC 692	Counseling Practicum	3
COUC 693	Counseling Internship I	3
COUC 694	Counseling Internship II ²	3
Total Hours		18

¹ Counseling Comprehensive Exam Prerequisites: COUC 500, COUC 501, COUC 502, COUC 504, COUC 505, COUC 506, COUC 510, COUC 512, COUC 515, COUC 521, COUC 522, COUC 546, COUC 601, & COUC 602

² Course may be taken a second time

Code	Title	Hours
Marriage & Family Elective		
Choose one of the following:		3
COUC 610	Human Sexuality	
COUC 691	Substance Abuse: Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention ¹	
Total Hours		3

¹ Three hours of coursework in diagnosis and treatment of addictive behaviors is required in Virginia for LMFTs

All applicable prerequisites must be met

Graduation Requirements

- Complete 60 total hours
- A maximum of 50% of the program hours may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level
- 3.0 GPA
- No more than two grades of C may be applied to the degree (includes grades of C+ & C-)
- No grade of D or below may be applied to the degree (includes grades of D+ & D-)
- Successful completion of Comprehensive Exam
- Liberty University course work that is more than 10 years old may not be applied towards this degree. Students are required to repeat the course if it has exceeded the age limit
- Degree must be completed within 7 years
- Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

Program Offered in Resident Format Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
COUC 500	Orientation to Counselor Professional Identity and Function	3
COUC 501	Ethical and Legal Issues in Counseling	3
COUC 502	Human Growth and Development	3
COUC 510	Theories of Counseling	3
Hours		12

Second Semester		
COUC 504	Multicultural Counseling	3
COUC 505	Counseling Techniques and the Helping Relationship	3
COUC 506	Integration of Spirituality and Counseling	3
COUC 601	Theories of Family Systems	3
Hours		12

Second Year		
First Semester		
COUC 515	Research and Program Evaluation	3

Course	Title	Hours
COUC 521	Assessment Techniques in Counseling	3
COUC 522	Career Development and Counseling	3
COUC 546	Psychopathology	3
Hours		12
Second Semester		
COUC 512	Group Counseling	3
COUC 602	Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment Planning in Marriage and Family Counseling	3
COUC 603 or COUC 620	Advanced Couple and Marital Counseling or Counseling Children, Adolescents, and Their Families	3
Elective ¹		3
Hours		12
Third Year		
First Semester		
COUC 603 or COUC 620	Advanced Couple and Marital Counseling or Counseling Children, Adolescents, and Their Families	3
CEFS 670	Comprehensive Exam - CPCE ²	0
CEFS 671	Comprehensive Exam - Integration ²	0
COUC 692	Counseling Practicum	3
Hours		6
Second Semester		
COUC 693	Counseling Internship I	3
Hours		3
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
COUC 694	Counseling Internship II ³	3
Hours		3
Total Hours		60

¹ Choose one of the following courses: COUC 610 or 691**

² Counseling Comprehensive Exam prerequisites: COUC 500, 501, 502, 504, 505, 506, 510, 512, 515, 521, 522, 546, 601, and 602

³ Course may be taken a second time

** **Remember:** The M.A. Marriage and Family Counseling program is designed to meet the Virginia Board of Counseling educational requirements for license as a Marriage and Family Therapist. Additionally, the Virginia Board of Counseling requires 3 hours of coursework in diagnosis and treatment of addictive behaviors for LMFTs.