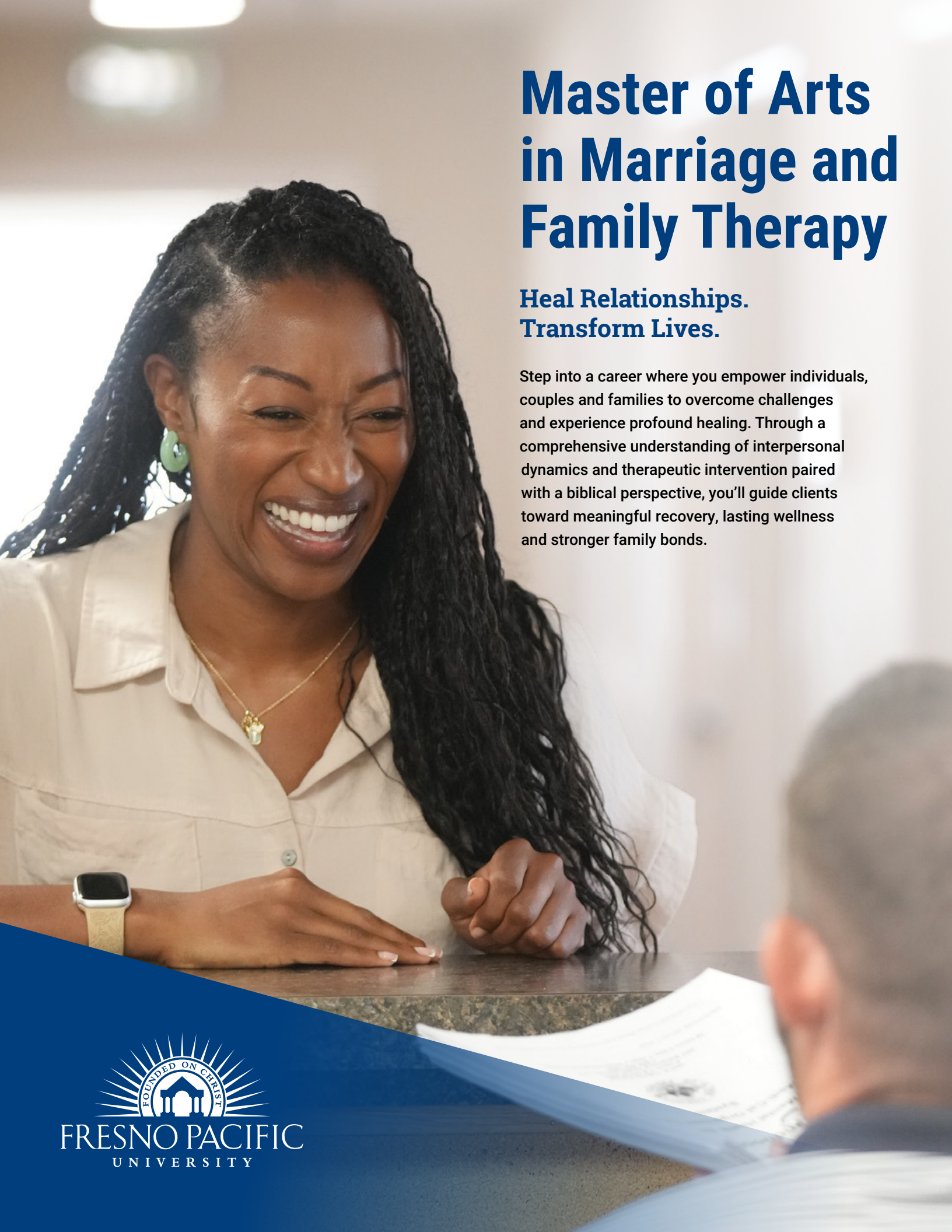


Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy

Heal Relationships. Transform Lives.

Step into a career where you empower individuals, couples and families to overcome challenges and experience profound healing. Through a comprehensive understanding of interpersonal dynamics and therapeutic intervention paired with a biblical perspective, you'll guide clients toward meaningful recovery, lasting wellness and stronger family bonds.

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY



Change Lives with a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy

Discover a dynamic program that prepares you for licensure and practice in marriage and family therapy. You'll combine deep personal formation with rigorous academic training to equip you to become a highly skilled and insightful therapist.

- **Impactful Career:** Equip yourself with the expertise to transform lives through specialized therapeutic practices.
- **Specialized Skills:** Learn to address complex familial and relational issues with innovative and evidence-based strategies.
- **Cultural Humility:** Learn to provide sensitive and inclusive care with courses focused on cross-cultural counseling, preparing you to serve diverse populations.



FPU Program Highlights

Unit Count of Program: 65 units minimum

- Discover **new perspectives** as MFT and ministry students study together in foundational seminary courses. Our MFT program is part of the Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary.
- Gain **hands-on experience** in diverse clinical settings, increasing competence with complex therapeutic scenarios.
- **Clinical Excellence:** Prepare for California's licensure exams with a curriculum that exceeds California state educational standards for marriage and family therapists.
- **Dual Degree Option:** Explore the unique opportunity to combine this MFT program with a Master of Divinity so you can integrate spiritual, theological and biblical insights into your practice.
- Along with our MFT degree, FPU students will also receive a **Seminary Integration Certificate**, signifying the theological courses completed and how matters of spirituality and faith integrate with the counseling profession.
- **Fully accredited** by the Association of Theological Schools (https://www.ats.org) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (https://www.acswasc.org).
- **Excellent Reputation:** Graduate from a school with an exceptional reputation in the local mental health community and renowned for its outstanding and comprehensive MFT program.
- **Collaborative Learning:** Thrive within a cohort of like-minded professionals that fosters deep discussions and mutual support in a dynamic learning environment.
- Benefit from the **mentorship** of faculty with decades of clinical practice and supervision.
- **Offered fully on-site** at our main Fresno main campus.

Foster Healing and Empower Clients

The MFT program is designed to educate and transform your life and the lives of others. You'll learn from faculty who are seasoned professionals and experts in clinical practice and supervision.

Required Courses (65 units minimum)

Course Prefix	Required Courses	Units
PERSONAL/SOCIAL FORMATION		
COUN 705A	Mentoring in Integration I	0.5
COUN 705B	Mentoring in Integration II	0.5
COUN 705C	Mentoring in Integration III	0.5
COUN 724	Interpersonal Communication and Family Systems	2-3
COUN 738	Person, Family, and Culture	2
COUN 750B	Cross-Cultural Counseling: Core Competencies	1.5
COUN 750A	Cross-Cultural Counseling: Los Angeles	1.5 or
COUN 750C	Cross-Cultural Counseling: International	1.5 or
COUN 750D	Cross-Cultural Counseling: Experiential	1.5
MIN 709	Spirituality and Wellness	1.5
THEO 730	Discipleship and Ethics	1.5-3
CAPSTONE		
COUN 770	Senior Counseling Discernment	0
COUN 792	Summer Practicum and Telehealth Practices	1
COUN 793A	Practicum I	3
COUN 793B	Practicum II	3
COUN 791A	Integration of Marriage and Family Studies I	1 and
COUN 791B	Integration of Marriage and Family Studies II	2 or
COUN 799	Thesis	3-6
BIBLICAL/THEOLOGY		
BIB 520	Church and God's Mission in the World	1.5-3
BIB 760	Theology for Integration	2
THEO 512	The Story of the Church and Its Theology	1.5-3
THEO 708	Introduction to Bible, Christian Theology and Culture	1.5

Course Prefix	Required Courses	Units
PRACTICAL STUDIES		
COUN 710	Introduction to Counseling	1
COUN 721	Professional Ethics in Counseling	3
COUN 726	Human Development	3
COUN 728	Family Violence	1.5
COUN 730	Clinical Assessment	3
COUN 732	Aging and Long-Term Care	1
COUN 734	Counseling Couples and Families	3
COUN 736	Counseling Children	2
COUN 736L	Counseling Children Lab	1
COUN 740	Psychopathology	3
COUN 744	Research, Testing and Family Assessment	2-3
COUN 747	Counseling Individuals	2
COUN 747L	Counseling Individuals Lab	1
COUN 752	Human Sexuality	1-3
COUN 754	Group Counseling	1-3
COUN 755	Contemporary Issues in Counseling	1
COUN 756	Grief Counseling	1
COUN 759	Psychobiology and Psychopharmacology	0.5
COUN 760	Substance Use Disorders	1
COUN 764	Trainee/Practicum Assessment	0
COUN 789	Trauma and Resilience	2

MFT students taking required COUN courses and courses required for counseling licensure must earn a B- or better.

The courses listed above provide a sample overview of our program. Please meet with your academic advisor or visit **fpu.edu/catalog** to finalize your course registration and sequence.

Application and Admission Information

To be considered for admission to the M.A. in Marriage and Family Therapy program, please submit the following items:

- ☐ **Completed Application for Admission**: **fpu.edu/applysem**
- ☐ **Official college/university transcript(s)** verifying receipt of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and any post-baccalaureate work.
  - If you are currently finishing up your degree, please submit current transcript.
  - A final transcript will need to be submitted before you may enroll in classes.
  - Transcripts can be sent electronically by your institution to **trans.evaluator@fresno.edu** or via mail in an envelope sealed by your institution to:

    Fresno Pacific University
    Office of the Registrar
    1717 S. Chestnut Ave.
    Fresno, CA 93702
- ☐ If your cumulative GPA for your bachelor's degree is below a 3.0 (4.0 scale), a letter of explanation is required.
- ☐ **Reference Forms** – Two references are required for the M.A. in Marriage and Family Therapy program. One spiritual reference from a pastor or other ministry leader (not a family member), and one academic reference.
  - After you submit your application, your listed references will be contacted via email with a link to provide their recommendation.
- ☐ **Short Answer Questions** – During the application submission process, you will be asked to respond to some short answer questions in your application portal. These questions will help us get to know your character and career goals. Your file will not be reviewed for admission until your responses are received.
- ☐ **Prerequisite Classes for the MFT Program**.
  - FPU requires students to have the following courses before starting in the MFT program: Introduction to Psychology and either Abnormal Psychology or Human Development. Please contact your admissions counselor about your options if you don't have one of the prerequisite classes.

View our State Professional Licensing and Certificate Disclosure at **fpu.edu/about/disclosure-documents.**

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

fpu.edu/Seminary | fpu.edu/MFT

Office of Graduate Studies | Graduate.Studies@fresno.edu | 559-453-3690



6/2026