DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN FAMILY THERAPY

The Ph.D. in Family Therapy prepares students to contribute to family therapy scholarship and theory as advanced clinicians, researchers, supervisors, and educators. A focus of the program is training students from diverse backgrounds in a multiculturally informed and multi-systemic perspective.

The Ph.D. in Family Therapy is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE).

Total Semester Credit Hours Required
The Ph.D. in Family Therapy consists of 90 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree, with at least 30 of the 90 credit hours focused on research courses, completion of a dissertation, and an internship across two semesters focused on two of the following areas: research, grant writing, supervision, college teaching, clinical specialization, and advanced clinical theory. The Ph.D. in Family Therapy requires 60 semester hours of courses beyond the master’s degree.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SCHs</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prerequisites</td>
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<td>The following prerequisite courses, or reasonable equivalents, will be completed in the student's Master's degree program; if not, they must be taken during the Family Therapy doctoral degree program. In addition, students must have completed an internship experience in their Master's degree program (minimum of 12 months &amp; 500 (200 relational) direct client contact hours).</td>
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<td>FS 5003</td>
<td>Lifespan Human Development</td>
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<td>FS 5023</td>
<td>Family Sexuality</td>
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<td>FS 5123</td>
<td>Theories of the Family</td>
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<td>FS 5193</td>
<td>Statistics for Family Sciences</td>
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<td>FS 5353</td>
<td>Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment Planning for Counselors</td>
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<td>FS 5443</td>
<td>Multicultural Counseling</td>
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<td>FS 5533</td>
<td>Principles of Couple Therapy</td>
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<td>FS 5563</td>
<td>Foundations of Family Therapy Theory</td>
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<td>FS 5693</td>
<td>Research Methods in Family Sciences</td>
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<td>FS 5853</td>
<td>Family Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS 5863</td>
<td>Issues and Ethics in Professional Development</td>
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<td>FS 5883</td>
<td>Family of Origin</td>
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<td>Systemic Clinical Theory &amp; Applications to Contemporary Challenges</td>
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<td>FS 6243</td>
<td>Advanced Applications of Family Therapy to Contemporary Challenges</td>
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<td>FS 6563</td>
<td>Family Therapy II (Advanced Family Therapy Theory)</td>
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<td>FS 6903</td>
<td>Special Topics (Rotating topic - must be approved by advisor)</td>
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<td>Advanced Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS 6913</td>
<td>Independent Study (Advanced Practical Experience in Family Therapy (2 semesters)</td>
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Select two of the following areas: Supervision, Advanced Research, Teaching, Advanced Clinical Theory & Practice, Grant Writing.

All electives must be approved by the student's doctoral degree plan committee prior to enrolling in the courses.

Dissertation

FS 6433 Grants Writing in Family Sciences 3

Advanced Research
FS 6003 Advanced Study of the Lifespan 3
FS 6193 Advanced Statistics for Family Sciences 3
FS 6203 Frameworks and Ethics for Qualitative Research in Family Sciences 3
FS 6403 Theory Building in Family Sciences 3
FS 6443 Research and Issues in Family Sciences 3
FS 6693 Advanced Quantitative Research Methods in Family Sciences 3
FS 6793 Advanced Qualitative Research Methods in Family Sciences 3
FS 6893 Multivariate Statistics 3
FS 6903 Special Topics (Structural Equation Modeling & Dyadic Analysis) 3

Specialty Area/Career Goals
Select one from the following:

- FS 6303 Academic Life and Scholarship
- FS 6863 Family Financial Counseling
- PSY 6423 Psychopathology and Exceptionalities in Childhood and Adolescence
- PSY 6253 Autism Spectrum Disorders
- PSY 6673 Therapeutic and Crisis Interventions for Children and Adolescents
- PSY 6143 Neurodevelopmental and Genetic Disorders in Children
- PSY 6383 Cross Cultural Psychology
- HS 6353 Social Epidemiology
- HS 6443 Foundations of Health Science
- HS 6563 Health Advocacy and Leadership
- HS 6453 Strategies in Health Education Delivery
- HS 6433 History of Health and Medicine
- HS 5103 Principles and Methods of Teaching Health Professionals
- HS 6423 Global Health
- HS 6403 Environmental Health
- READ 6533 Foundation of Reading: Physiological And Psychological Dimensions
- READ 6563 Nature of Literacy in the Adolescent Years
- SOCI 6503 Seminar on Social Organization and Disorganization
- SOCI 6523 Social Psychology Theory

See Advanced Practical Experience section in the Family Therapy Doctoral Student Handbook for application and course requirements.
Students are expected to complete their formal degree plan during a meeting with their major advisor and doctoral committee before completing 15 hours of courses.

Total SCHs 60

**Major**

Two-thirds of the total semester credit hours will determine the major.

Note: The specific course requirements and total semester credit hours are developed in cooperation with and approved in a meeting of the student’s graduate advisory committee. The department chair also approves individual doctoral degree plans based on current departmental requirements. If a grade of C or below is earned two times while in any Family Sciences doctoral program, the student will be dismissed from the program.

**Research Tools**

The Department of Family Sciences requirement is currently consistent with the university requirements as described in the Graduate School General Requirements section of this catalog. Check with the advisory committee for any possible additions in acceptable courses to meet the research tool requirement. These requirements of 12 student credit hours are a part of the 90 semester credit hours minimum described above and are included in the 30 hours of research courses required.

**Grading Specific to the Family Therapy Program**

All Family Therapy students are required to earn grades of "B" or better in all graduate courses. If less than a "B" is earned, students must retake the course the next available semester the course is offered. If a student earns two non-passing grades ("C" or below) in any courses during their program, s/he will be dismissed from the program. Even though students have retaken a course and earned a passing grade for one (1) course, it does not negate the consequence associated with this two non-passing grades requirement.

**Qualifying Examination**

The qualifying examination consists of written and/or oral comprehensive examinations conducted by the candidate’s advisory committee and administered at least one academic year before the degree is expected to be conferred, ordinarily not earlier than during the last semester of the second full year of graduate study. In no case may a student be excused from the qualifying examination. (NOTE: The student must have met research tools and any residence requirements before taking the qualifying examination.) Additional information regarding the qualifying examination process and criteria in Family Therapy can be found in the Family Therapy Ph.D. Student Handbook at the Department of Family Sciences website.

**Final Examination**

A comprehensive oral examination will include a defense of the dissertation and the research on which it is based, as well as questions concerning the major. The Final Examination may only be repeated one time. Failure to pass this exam results in dismissal from the program.

**Criminal Background Check**

Passing a criminal background check may be required by TWU and/or certain facilities associated with the required clinical work or for certifications/licensures. If students are unable to be cleared on any of these requirements, they may not be eligible to continue in the program or become certified/licensed.

**Faculty**

**Professors**

ARMSTRONG, JOYCE, Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., East Texas State University; M.Ed., East Texas State University; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

GILLUM, NERISSA LEBLANC, Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., Ambassador University; M.S., University of North Texas; Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

HUFFMAN, LISA, Professor of Family Sciences; Dean of the College of Professional Education. B.A., Purdue University; M.A., University of Alabama at Birmingham; Ph.D., University of Alabama at Birmingham.

HWANG, SHANN HWA, Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Malone College; M.A., Ashland University; Ph.D., University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

LADD, LINDA, Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Portland State University; M.S., Portland State University; Ph.D., Oregon State University; Psy.D., Pacific University.

MARTIN, JENNIFER L., Professor of Family Sciences; Senior Associate Provost. B.A., Lamar University; M.S., Lamar University; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

McCARROLL, ELIZABETH M., Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., University of Texas at Austin; M.S., Texas Tech University; Ph.D., Texas Tech University.

MOORE, LIN, Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., Texas Woman’s University; M.S., Texas Woman’s University; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

MURO, JOEL, Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Austin College; M.J., University of North Texas; Ph.D., University of North Texas.

ROSE, KATHERINE K., Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., Baylor University; M.S., Purdue University; M.S., University of North Texas; Ph.D., Purdue University.

SNIDER, SHARLA L., Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., University of North Texas; M.A., Texas Woman’s University; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

VITTRUP, BIRGITTE M., Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Texas State University; B.S., University of Texas at Austin; M.A., University of Texas at Austin; Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin.

**Associate Professors**

BROCK, LINDA J., Associate Professor of Family Sciences. B.B.A., University of North Texas; M.S., Texas Woman’s University; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

BUCKLEY, RHONDA R., Associate Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Auburn University; M.A., Auburn University; Ph.D., Auburn University.

JOHNSON, RUTH A., Associate Dean of the Graduate School. B.S., Northern State University; M.S., Iowa State University; Ph.D., Iowa State University.
MURO, LILIA LAMAR, Associate Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., University of Texas at San Antonio; M.A., Southwest Texas State University; Ph.D., University of North Texas.

Assistant Professors

BROWN, MELISSA MCINNIS, Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., University of Texas at Austin; M.A., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; Ph.D. University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

DUTTON, CATHERINE L., Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Utah State University; M.A.T., Texas Woman's University; Ph.D., Texas Woman's University.

GRUBBS, LISA G., Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., University of North Texas; M.S., Texas Woman's University; Ph.D., Sam Houston State University.

HUEY, ERRON, Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.A., Harding University; M.S., Oklahoma State University; Ph.D., Oklahoma State University.

LISENBEE, PEGGY, Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., Oklahoma State University; M.S., University of Missouri: Columbia; Ph.D., Oklahoma State University.

NORTON, AARON, Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., University of Utah; M.S., Kansas State University; Ph.D., Kansas State University.

Visiting Assistant Professor

JONES, REBECCA LUCERO, Visiting Assistant Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., Brigham Young University; M.S., Texas Tech University.

Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor

JONES, ADAM, Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Family Sciences. B.S., Weber State University; M.S., Utah State University.