



THE KING'S
UNIVERSITY

MaMFT Handbook

2025-2026



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WELCOME MESSAGE



Dr. Linda Hoover, LP **Program Director**

We are delighted to introduce you to our program. As a Spirit-filled university, we are committed to equipping future Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC) and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT) with the knowledge, skills, and faith-informed approach needed to serve individuals, couples, and families.



Our rigorous clinical training, combined with Christian values, prepares students for licensure and meaningful careers in counseling. Our dedicated faculty serve as both mentors and educators, walking alongside you as you develop the competence and confidence to make a lasting impact.

Whether you feel called to private practice, community mental health, or ministry settings, our program provides a strong foundation for professional and spiritual growth. We invite you to explore how you can be part of a community committed to both academic excellence and the mission of healing and restoration. If you have any questions, we would love to connect with you and share more about how our program can help you fulfill your calling.

WHO WE ARE



THE KING'S
UNIVERSITY

PURPOSE

The MAMFT program at TKU is designed to prepare individuals for positions in private, public, and faith-based organizations, with a focus on addressing the mental health needs of clients through a Christian perspective. Rooted in biblical principles, our program affirms the inherent value and dignity of every person, highlighting their individuality and worth in the eyes of God. Understanding that people are created for community, our program recognizes the common desire to find meaning, fulfillment, and connection in various aspects of life, including work, relationships, and community engagement. Through an integration of faith and learning, we seek to empower students to serve others with compassion, wisdom, and grace, reflecting the love and compassion of Christ in their professional practice.

VISION

The vision of the TKU MAMFT Program is to be a student-centered, relationship-focused, and spiritually driven program. By fostering diversity, transparency, integrity, and community engagement, we aim to cultivate leaders who positively impact clients, students, and the counseling profession, contributing to the well-being of humanity.

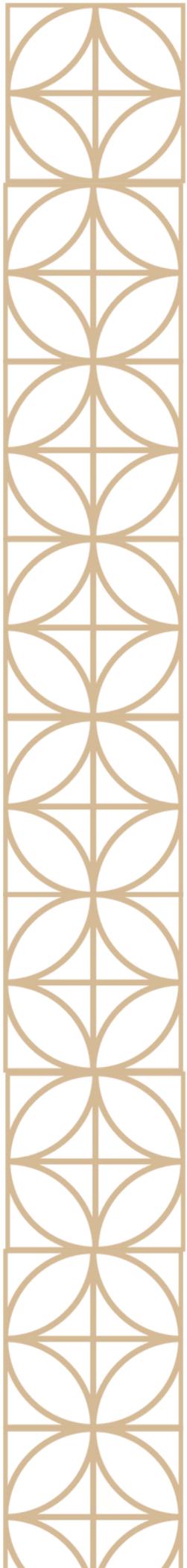
MISSION

The Counseling Program at The King's University is dedicated to fostering human development through a holistic approach encompassing education, research, and service. Our mission is to advance the profession of counseling and promote scholarship while emphasizing spiritual development and service. We are committed to preparing highly competent counseling professionals, including counseling associates, entry and advanced level counselors, counselor educators, counselor supervisors, counseling researchers, marriage and family therapists, and counseling administrators. Emphasizing spiritual development, we strive to instill a sense of purpose and compassion in our counseling professionals.

MAMFT OBJECTIVES

The MaMFT Program aligns with professional and national standards, ensuring comprehensive preparation in the following

- Demonstrate mastery of core counseling knowledge for licensure in Texas.
- Identify a guiding theory of counseling through personal and professional reflection.
- Cultivate effective, culturally responsive counseling relationships across the lifespan.
- Acknowledge and grow from personal strengths and limitations through supervision and professional development.
- Develop, manage, and evaluate mental health services and programs for vulnerable populations.
- Provide mental health counseling and interdisciplinary advocacy for clients at risk.
- Perform administrative and professional responsibilities essential for success as a professional counselor.





THE KING'S
UNIVERSITY

ACCREDITATION

The King's University is accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) (15935 Forest Road, Forest, Virginia, 24551, 804.525.9539) at the Category IV level (through the first professional doctorate level) and by the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) (5850 T.G. Lee Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32822, 407.207.0808). Both the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools and the Association of Biblical Higher Education are members of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

The Institution is listed in the current edition of both The American Council on Education's Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education and in the Higher Education directory. The Institution is acknowledged on the United States Department of Education website as an accredited postsecondary institution and participates in the United States Department of Education Title IV Program, which offers students access to Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunities Grants, and the Stafford Education loan programs. The King's University has been authorized to participate in the Montgomery GI Bill Veteran's Benefits program and the Southlake, TX, and Van Nuys, CA, campuses are approved to enroll international students.

OBJECTIVES OUTCOMES REQUIREMENTS

Degree Overview

The Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy (MAMFT) is an intensive 60-hour degree program designed to provide students with the necessary courses to ready them for the national licensure exam by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists and the Texas State Board of Examiners Licensed Professional Counseling. Typically, A full-time student can complete this degree in 2.5-3 years. Full-time status defined as enrollment in 9 semester hours for graduate students. GPA requirement: 3.0 minimum

Please note: The MaMFT Degree is only offered at the Southlake, TX campus. While there are a number of courses offered online and live via Zoom, the program is written to be completed in residence through the Southlake, TX campus.

Program Objectives

This degree seeks to enrich students in the following areas:

- **Ethical Counseling Skills:** Prepare students to ethically counsel individuals, couples, groups, and families from a systemic perspective.
- **Holistic Awareness:** Equip students with self-awareness, global-awareness, cultural and diversity, and spiritual-awareness to prepare them to become effective clinicians.
- **Research Competence:** Prepare students to read, interpret, and conduct empirically based research.
- **Comprehensive Mental Health Understanding:** Provide students with an adequate understanding of various aspects of the mental health field, including various levels of care.



OBJECTIVES OUTCOMES REQUIREMENTS



Program Objectives

At the completion of this degree students will be able to:

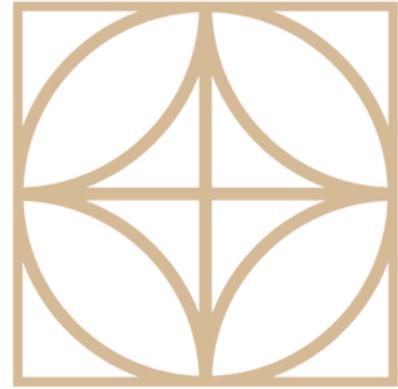
- Demonstrates understanding of professional codes of ethics and legal standards in the field of marriage and family therapy and counseling
- Conducts thorough intake assessments, including comprehensive family histories and systemic assessments, including DSM diagnosis requirements
- Demonstrates expertise in specific areas of clinical focus (e.g., couples, family, relationship, individual, group)
- Develops comprehensive and evidence-based treatment plans addressing client needs and goals
- Demonstrates proficiency in a wide range of counseling skills and interventions
- Exhibits core counseling attributes such as empathy, genuineness, respect, and cultural competence

Coursework and Practicum Overview

Students must complete a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework, including all required courses in the degree plan, with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 to graduate. Of these required courses,

- The student must complete a minimum of nine (9) credit hours of practicum.
- Students must make a grade "B-" all MAMFT courses or retake the course.
- There are two licensure tracks (LMFT and LPC) both of which require 300 total practicum hours. The LMFT consists of 150 direct hours including a minimum of 75 systemic hours involving meeting with a couple or family.
- The LPC student must earn 100 direct hours.
- Practicum classes are offered near the end of your course work. In the final semester, the student may apply for graduation.

MAMFT POLICIES



Professional Organizations

Students in the MAMFT program are encouraged to join at least one professional organization during their time at TKU. The American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), The American Counseling Association (ACA), American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), Texas Counseling Association (TCA), or an equivalent professional organization.

Grading System, Satisfactory Progress, & Academic Integrity

- GPA: All courses are 3 credit hours within the MAMFT program. The MAMFT student must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, which is the minimum GPA required for graduation. Failing to maintain the minimum GPA jeopardizes the student's ability to graduate.
- Paper Formatting: Students will be required to use the American Psychological Association (APA) format for writing in all course work and submitted materials.
- Practicum: Program Directors (with insight from all TKU faculty and staff) reserve the right to delay practicum if student does not seem ready. Failure to maintain academic and institutional integrity could result in this decision.

Transfer Credits

Students are permitted to bring in no more than 12 hours from another institution, the remainder of the degree must be completed at TKU.

Directed Studies

Students are only permitted 2 courses (6 hours) in directed studies per degree program. Directed studies are not an ideal learning experience, and they are only offered under circumstances that would greatly impact the student's desired graduation date.

Social Media Policy

Students who use social networking sites (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, X, TikTok, etc.,) should be mindful of how their communication may be perceived by clients, colleagues, faculty, supervisors, and other mental health professionals. For this reason, we suggest that students avoid posting material that may be deemed inappropriate for a professional counselor. We urge students to set all security settings to "private" and not to post information and/or photos nor use language that could jeopardize their professional image or reflect poorly on them as an individual and/or a student representative of The King's University. Students should consider limiting the amount of personal information they post on these sites and should carefully consider whom they include as part of their social network. Students must never include clients in such social networks as this is a breach of the client's right to confidentiality. Engaging in such unethical behavior is cause for corrective action procedures with the student; one potential outcome could be dismissal from the program.

Student Financial Services

Student Financial Services (SFS) Office:

Phone: (817) 722-1730

Email: financialservices@tku.edu

FAFSA Requirements

- Acquire your tax documents
- Apply for FAFSA www.studentaid.gov
- School Code: 035163

Payment Plans

Student Financial Services Offers a 3 and 4 month payment option. Paperwork for these must be filled out prior to the upcoming semester. Pay attention to emails to get due dates for these forms.

**Failure to pay in full by the first day of the semester OR provide first installment of payment plan will result in being dropped from enrollment.

Scholarships

- TKU Scholarship Applications:
<https://www.tku.edu/admissions/financial-aid/scholarships/>
- Check with home churches and employers about scholarships! Some denominations have scholarships co-ops, and many employers offer tuition reimbursement.

MaMFT

Sample Course Sequencing

Full Time
3 Year

Year 1

Fall

- BIBC 5303
- BIBC 5308
- BIBC 5306

Spring

- BIBC 5313
- BIBC 5314
- BIBC 5317

Summer

- BIBC 5315
- BIBC 5316

Year 2

Fall

- BIBC 5304
- BIBC 6302
- BIBC 6307

Spring

- BIBC 6303
- BIBC 6305
- BIBC 5309

Summer

- BIBC 6304
- BIBC 6306
- BIBC 7300

Year 3

Fall

- BIBC 7302

Spring

- BIBC 7303

Summer

- BIBC 7303
-

Part Time
4 Year

Year 1

Fall

- BIBC 5303
- BIBC 5308

Spring

- BIBC 5317
- BIBC 5306

Summer

- BIBC 5315
- BIBC 5316

Year 2

Fall

- BIBC 5304
- BIBC 5314

Spring

- BIBC 6303
- BIBC 5309

Summer

- BIBC 6304
- BIBC 6306

Year 3

Fall

- BIBC 6302
- BIBC 6307

Spring

- BIBC 6305
- BIBC 5313

Summer

- BIBC 7300

Year 4

Fall

- BIBC 7302

Spring

- BIBC 7303

Summer

- BIBC 7304

**This sequencing is a SAMPLE based on Fall start dates. Courses may get moved around depending on your course load and admission date. Your academic advisor will know the best course of action in planning your degree.

MaMFT

Course Rotation

Fall Courses

- BIBC 5303: Advanced Counseling Theories
- BIBC 5304: Marriage and Family Therapy I
- BIBC 5306: Ethics and Legal Issues in Counseling
- BIBC 5308: Advanced Systemic Counseling Skills
- BIBC 6302: Abnormal Behavior: Effect of Trauma and Crisis
- BIBC 6305: Assessment and Treatment
- BIBC 6307: Psychopathology and the DSM-5
- BIBC 6304: Research Methods

Spring Courses

- BIBC 5303: Advanced Counseling Theories
- BIBC 5306: Ethics and Legal Issues in Counseling
- BIBC 5308: Advanced Systemic Counseling Skills
- BIBC 5309: Career Counseling
- BIBC 5313: Counseling Diverse Populations
- BIBC 5314: Advanced Group Counseling
- BIBC 5317: Personal and Professional Self-Awareness
- BIBC 6303: Marriage and Family II
- BIBC 6305: Assessment and Treatment

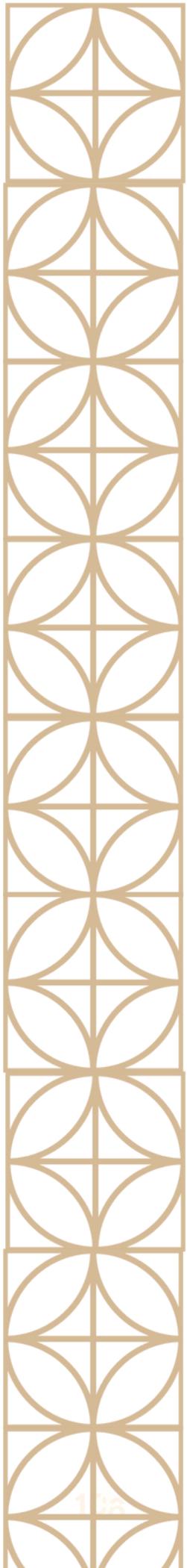
Summer Courses

- BIBC 5315: Advanced Human Development
- BIBC 5316: Healthy Family Systems
- BIBC 6304: Research Methods in Counseling
- BIBC 6306: Addictions Counseling

Offered Every Semester

- BIBC 7300: Professional Orientation
- BIBC 7302: Counseling Practicum I
- BIBC 7303: Counseling Practicum II
- BIBC 7304: Counseling Practicum III

****Course Rotation is subject to change based on student needs or available faculty at the discretion of the TKU Staff and Faculty.**



Course Descriptions

BIBC 5303: Advanced Counseling Theories

An analysis of major counseling theories, psychotherapy, and integrative techniques that equip an individual to apply them in a counseling environment.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5304: Marriage and Family Therapy I

An analysis of the underlying assumptions, theories, foundations, and intervention strategies that make up the field of Marriage and Family Therapy.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5306: Ethical and Legal Counseling Issues

An introduction to the ethical codes in all main counseling associations active in the state of Texas that highlights the requirements of the Texas State Licensing Boards for LPC and LMFT.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5308: Advanced Systemic Counseling Skills

An analysis of advanced counseling theories and skills essential for developing treatment plans for diverse populations in diverse counseling settings.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5309: Career Counseling

An analysis of representative theories and approaches for advising clients regarding vocation and career choices.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5313: Counseling Diverse Populations

A comprehensive analysis of culturally applicable and socially acceptable counseling practices.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5314: Advanced Group Counseling

An analysis and development of the skills necessary for leading group therapy in different settings, including agencies, treatment centers, and therapeutic environments.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5315: Advanced Human Development

An analysis of the stages of human life and development from birth to old age.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5316: Healthy Family Systems

An analysis of biblical concepts and teachings that contribute to healthy individual and family life.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 5317: Personal and Professional Self-Awareness

An introduction to various concepts that facilitate self-awareness in the counseling profession

3 Semester Hours

Course Descriptions

BIBC 6306: Addictions Counseling

Provides students with a comprehensive understanding of addiction theories, evidence-based interventions, and ethical considerations. Emphasizing practical skills, the course prepares students to address substance use disorders, addictions, and related issues in diverse clinical settings.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 6302: Abnormal Behavior: Effects of Trauma and Crisis

The study of abnormal psychology with a specific emphasis on the impact of trauma. Students learn evidence-based theories and approaches to crisis intervention, equipping them to assess, understand, and intervene with individuals, couples, and families experiencing psychological distress resulting from traumatic events.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 6303: Marriage and Family Therapy II

An analysis of systemic counseling skills, techniques, theory, and best practices that may be used when working with individuals, couples, and families.

3 Semester Hours **Prerequisite: BIBC5304**

BIBC 6304: Research Methods in Counseling

An evaluation of scholarly and consumer-based research in the field of marriage and family therapy and professional counseling that includes qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods of research. 3

Semester Hours

BIBC 6305: Assessment and Treatment

Equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary for comprehensive clinical assessments, standardized, and non-standardized instruments in counseling practice.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 6307: Psychopathology and DSM-V

Exploration of psychopathological conditions, abnormal psychology, disorders related to gender, race, and sexuality, and the use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). Students gain knowledge and skills in assessing, diagnosing, and understanding mental health disorders, preparing them for ethical and effective clinical practice.

3 Semester Hours

BIBC 7300: Professional Orientation

This pre-practicum and professional orientation provides students with foundational knowledge and skills essential for successful engagement in future counseling practicum experiences. Students gain an understanding of professional ethics, client confidentiality, and the development of core counseling competencies, setting the stage for their journey towards clinical practice.

3 Semester Hours **Prerequisite: BIBC5303, BIBC5306, BIBC5308, BIBC5317**

BIBC 7302: Counseling Practicum I

Counseling Practicum I course offers students a supervised, hands-on experience in applying counseling theories and techniques in real-world settings. Through direct client interactions, students develop foundational counseling skills, enhance self-awareness, and receive constructive feedback to cultivate professional competence.

3 Semester Hours **Prerequisite: BIBC5303, BIBC5306, BIBC5308, BIBC 5317, BIBC7300**

Course Descriptions

BIBC 7303: Counseling Practicum II

with advanced opportunities for supervised clinical practice. Emphasizing the application of diverse counseling modalities, students further refine their skills, deepen their self-reflective capacities, and integrate ethical considerations for competent and compassionate client care.

3 Semester Hours

Prerequisite: BIBC5303, BIBC5306, BIBC5308, BIBC 5317, BIBC7300, BIBC7302

BIBC 7304: Counseling Practicum III

Counseling Practicum III course represents the culmination of supervised clinical training, offering students advanced opportunities for intensive and diverse clinical experiences. Building upon prior practicum courses, students refine their therapeutic skills, deepen self-awareness, and engage in comprehensive ethical decision-making, preparing for the transition to professional practice. 3 Semester Hours

Prerequisite: BIBC5303, BIBC5306, BIBC5308, BIBC 5317, BIBC7300, BIBC7302, BIBC7303

Practicum Info

Practicum students will receive a separate handbook specifically for practicum upon entering their first practicum course.

Need to Know's

- Students will complete three consecutive semesters of practicum in the final three semesters of their MAMFT program.
 - **Total of 300 Hours- Divided up between 3 semesters with flexibility of hours per semester**
- Students will be required to have completed the following courses prior to enrollment in practicum.
 - BIBC 5308: Advanced Systemic Skills
 - BIBC 5303: Advanced Counseling Theories
 - BIBC 5306: Ethical and Legal Issues
 - BIBC 5317: Personal and Professional Self-Awareness
 - BIBC 7300: Professional Orientation
 - **This course will prepare you step by step on practicum placement, personal liability insurance, and Time2Track.**
- Students will have access to a list of potential practicum sites, choose their site supervisor, and will also be assigned a practicum supervisor to staff any cases and provide support in their therapeutic practice.
- **Necessary Practicum Items**
 - Personal Liability Insurance prior to the commencement of their first practicum course
 - Time2Track Account
 - Student will be responsible for the cost of these items.
- **Program Directors (with insight from all TKU faculty and staff) reserve the right to delay practicum if a student does not seem ready. Failure to maintain academic and institutional integrity could result in this decision.**

Licensure : LPC & LMFT

What do I Do?

- **During your first semester of practicum, you are able to sit for the NCE.**
- NCE Exam Website <https://nbcc.org/exams/nce>
- Texas Board of Counselors Website <https://bhec.texas.gov/texas-state-board-of-examiners-of-professional-counselors/>
- Study Materials
 - There are hard copies of study materials available to check out- just email the Program Coordinator
 - Mometrix Study Guide <https://www.mometrix.com/academy/nce-study-guide/>
 - Dr. Pam Turner Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/@DrPamTurner/featured>

FAQ

- Is there a time limit between graduation and taking the NCE?
 - No.
- Is there a time limit between passing NCE and applying for licensure?
 - Yes, 5 years.
- How long do I have to get all my hours after licensure?
 - Minimum of 1.5 years & Maximum of 5 years.
- How many hours do I need once I am licensed?
 - 3000 Hours. The track you choose determines how much direct or indirect hours you will need.
- Can I transfer my licensure to another state?
 - In most cases, yes. However, different states have different standards. You may have to enroll in some courses at another university in order to meet those requirements. A small amount of states require a CACREP degree. We are not CACREP accredited, so please keep that in mind when applying.
- Can I transfer by license to another country?
 - Maybe, it depends on that countries standards. Similar processes as transferring licensure within the USA will be relevant here. TKU is only knowledgeable on the State of Texas' standards, so you will be responsible for researching standards outside of Texas and contacting relevant institutions.
- How do I get supervision?
 - The same way you got supervision for practicum! The Texas Board also has a link on their website that helps find supervision. Additionally, a google search in the area you are looking will provide lots of places to find supervision.
- Do I have to pay for supervision?
 - Yes, supervisors charge a session fee similar to the way all counselors charge for a session with a client.
- Will I be able to find a job?
 - YES!!! Mental Health Professionals are in short supply and needed in so many places: school districts, non-profits, private practice, hospitals, doctor's offices, churches, and so much more! There are diverse demographics you can serve, as well. It's a very flexible career field!!!

MaMFT Program Staff and Faculty

- **Program Director**
 - Dr. Linda Hoover, LP
 - linda.hoover@tku.edu
- **Associate Directors**
 - Glenna Massey- Practicum
 - Shayla Rumsey- Clinical Readiness
 - Brady Daniel- Spiritual Integration
- **Program Coordinator**
 - Caitlyn Lynch
 - caitlyn.lynch@tku.edu
- **Graduate Advisor**
 - Nathalia Lima
 - nathalia.lima@tku.edu
- **Professors**
 - Dr. Mary Dainty
 - Samara Orr
 - Shayla Rumsey
 - Glenna Massey
 - Rachael Gilbert
 - Jared Hoover

Acknowledgement of Student Responsibilities Form

I, _____(insert name), hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed The King's University Marriage and Family Therapy Student Handbook. I understand that my enrollment status in the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy is contingent upon my continued fulfillment of all academic program requirements, which include maintaining satisfactory grades, engaging in professional and personal development, background check, and demonstrating adequate counseling skill development throughout my graduate studies.

I am aware that failure to meet these requirements and comply with the outlined policies, as well as those set forth by the university, may result in my dismissal from the program at any time.

I understand that my suitability for the field of marriage and family therapy will be continuously assessed, and I acknowledge that the University reserves the right to amend the policies outlined in the Marriage and Family Therapy Student Handbook and the Academic Catalog as necessary. Should any modifications occur, I will be promptly informed via my TKU email.

(SIGNATURE)

(DATE)

**Please detach this page from the handbook and turn completed acknowledgement into Program Director or Coordinator
OR fill out digitally and email Program Director or Coordinator**