

Welcome to:

**Texas A&M University – Central Texas
M.S. In Marriage and Family Therapy
MFT 5380-110 Addictions in Marriage and Family Therapy**

The course will be 100 % online; we will use the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>] and WebEx as the virtual classroom.

The class is to meet weekly Thursday evenings from 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm for 16 weeks from August the 27th to December the 10th with Thursday November the 27th for Thanksgiving. It will be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous classroom experiences. At least 50% of the classes will be in a virtual classroom setting. I hope that quickly we will be able to create as close to possible a classroom experience with lecture and rich discussion among ourselves. As you know this is a “brave new world” and I will expect that patience and flexibility will be in great supply as the course unfolds.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Paul E. Douthit, PhD, LMFT; Adjunct Professor-TAMUCT

Phone: (254)718-9810

Email: pdouthit@tamuct.edu

Office Hours/Student-Instructor Interaction: I will be available to meet to discuss and resolve class-related issues on an as needed basis. Because I am an adjunct professor, I do not have an office on campus so will create virtual office hours. I will be “available” by Email on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 am. I can also be reached by Email outside of these times and plan on checking Emails frequently. If you have any questions or issues reach out to me by Email and we will work to deal with these as quickly as possible. Remember that I also do not have a support person to assist me, so please allow at least 24 hours for a response when you Email.

Class Decorum: It is intended that the class environment will be conducive to increasing your knowledge about the topic and promoting self-discovery and personal growth. For that to occur, it is expected that every student finishes all class readings and be respectful of the thoughts, emotions, and behaviors of others in this course.

WARRIOR SHIELD

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login>]

to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted policies and practices to minimize virus transmission. All members of the university community are expected to adhere to these measures to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses, course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.) and co-curricular programs:

- Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction. Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.
- Face Coverings— Face coverings must be worn inside of buildings and within 50 feet of building entrances on the A&M-Central Texas Campus. This includes lobbies, restrooms, hallways, elevators, classrooms, laboratories, conference rooms, break rooms, non-private office spaces, and other shared spaces. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not maintained. The university will evaluate exceptions to this requirement on a case by case basis. Students can request an exception through the Office of Access and Inclusion in Student Affairs.
 - o If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the Office of Student Conduct. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day’s class remotely for all students.
- Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in the course and course-related activities.
- Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.
- The university will notify students in the event that the COVID-19 situation necessitates changes to the course schedule or modality.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description

This course, Substance Addiction and Marriage and Family Therapy, will provide students with an overview of substance use abuse, dependence, and addiction using a biochemical, systemic, and contextual framework. The impact of substance abuse to the individual, couple, and the family will be discussed. The course will examine various therapy models used to assist individuals, couple, and families experiencing substance abuse.

Course Objective or Goal

Student Learning Outcomes: this course will target the following Student Learning Outcomes within the MFT program

(SLO-3)- Assess how contextual issues affect individual lives and relational dynamics

(SLO-4)- Formulate treatment plans based on individual issues, relational dynamics, and contextual issues.

(SLO-6)- Develop relationship with other mental health professionals/agencies and the local community.

Competency Goals Statements

Students will understand the behavioral health care delivery system, its impact on the services provided, and the barriers and disparities in the system. (SLO-6) 2.2

Students will understand the major behavioral health disorders, including epidemiology, etiology, phenomenology, effective treatment, course, and prognosis. (SLO-6) 2.3

Students will learn how to assist clients in obtaining needed care while navigating complex systems of care. (SLO 3 & 4) 2.4

Students understand the clinical needs and implications of persons with comorbid disorders (e.g., substance abuse and mental health) (SLO 3 & 4) 2.5

Students will understand the current models for assessment and diagnosis of mental health disorders, substance use disorders, and relational functioning. (SLO 4) 2.6

Students will screen and develop adequate safety plans for substance abuse. (SLO4) 2.7

Students will understand the effects that psychotropic and other medications have on clients and the treatment process. (SLO 4 &6)

Ethics

Students are always expected to conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. You will be expected to follow AAMFT codes of ethics.

Required Reading and Textbook(s)

Reiter, M.D. (2019). Substance Abuse and the Family: Assessment and Treatment. Second

Edition. NY: Taylor and Francis. ISBN 9781138625976

Helpful Resources: these will be available in the library if possible:

*Brand, Russell (2017). Recovery: Freedom from Our Addictions

*Brooks, R. and McHenry, B. (2015). A Contemporary Approach to Substance Use disorders and

*Addiction Counseling. Second Edition. Alexandria, VA: American

*Falkowski, C. (2003). Dangerous Drugs: An Easy to Use Reference for Parents and Professionals. Second Edition. Minnesota: Hazelden

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All writing submitted in this course is to be considered a final draft, free of spelling, grammatical, stylistic, and typographical errors. Students are encouraged to allow ample time for writing, keeping in mind the frequency of computer glitches. Being prepared by reading the assigned chapters in the textbook will not only assist your fellow learners but will also increase your knowledge of the considered material.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Class Participation (15 points): Students should attend classes and engage in the discussions throughout the semester to practice using key concepts, theories, and techniques.

THIS IS NOT A FORMAL ASSIGNMENT! However, I will encourage that if you can attend an open recovery or support meeting that you do so if possible. Your observations will be helpful to discussion,s especially when we consider treatment.

Chapter Presentations(40 points): depending upon the total number of learners, you and a group of 1 or 2 other learns will be assigned a chapter in the treatment section in the textbook to present to the class near the end of the semester. I will detail this assignment closer to assigning the chapter to the groups in the next several weeks.

Case presentation (30 points): Learners are to create a case scenario and analysis concerning a substance and a specific population. You will have significant latitude as to the substance and the population you choose. This assignment will be due the last week of the semester and I will detail the assignment in due time.

Online Discussion Posts (15 points total - 3 separate posts): learners are to post online responses to each post. Your response is to be 350 to 500 words. You will then be expected to respond to at least one of your fellow learners' post in some detail. Remember if you use cite something in your response then you are expected to follow APA rules regarding citations.

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion:

Overview of Grading Scheme

Class participation	15 points
Chapter in the Textbook Presentation	40 points
Case Presentation	30 points
Online Discussion Posts	15 points

Grade Breakdown

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	79-79
D	60-69
F	58 and below

If you have any concerns or difficulties completing the class tasks or assignments, please reach out to me as soon as possible so we can create a path for you to succeed. I expect that you are in the Master's Program in MFT because you have made a commitment to becoming the best psychotherapist possible. I also understand that "life happens" and one's life can become derailed all too quickly. I want you to gain knowledge and grow as a learner in this field.

Posting of Grades

All learner's grades will be posted in the Gradebook. I encourage you to monitor your grades on a regular basis and, again, get in contact with me if you have questions or challenges.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Course Calendar:

***WEEK 1 - August 27, 2020 Opening class on WebEx/virtual**

Introduction to the course, the instructor, and the learners. Please prepare a brief bio to share with your fellow learners

Goals for the course – mine and yours or what do you and I hope to get out of the course!

Discussion will focus on addiction from your perspective

Will begin to provide you my expectations for the course

***WEEK 2 - September 3, 2020 WebEx/virtual**

Prepare for this virtual class by reading/reviewing Chapters 1, 2, and 3 in our textbook for this course, Substance Abuse and the Family, Second Edition. Book is divided up in Part 1- Assessment and Part 2-Treatment

Will lead a discussion of these chapters so be prepared to contribute

***WEEK 3 - September 10, 2020 Part synchronous via WebEx and part asynchronous**

Will spend an hour discussing Chapter 4, The Addicted Family, and then will have you respond

to the first Discussion Post (#1)

You are to discuss your knowledge and experience and understanding of substance addiction coming into this course. This is an exploration of your knowledge and understanding

***WEEK 4 - September 17, 2020 Virtual course room**

Will discuss Chapters 5 and 6 in the textbook

***WEEK 5 - September 24, 2020 Virtual course room**

Will discuss Chapters 7 and 8 in the textbook

***WEEK 6 - October 1, 2020 Virtual course room for first hour; Discussion Post #2-TBA**

***WEEK 7 - October 8, 2020 Virtual course room**

Discuss Chapter 9 and expanding substance addiction to include behavioral addictions

***WEEK 8 - October 15, 2020 Virtual course room**

Tentative guest speaker: will let you know who when this unfolds

***WEEK 9 - October 22, 2020 Virtual course room**

Shifting from assessment of substance addiction to treatment of substance addiction. Will discuss Chapter 10 in the textbook

***WEEK 10 - October 29, 2020 Virtual course room**

Will discuss Chapters 11 and 12 in the textbook

***WEEK 11 - November 5, 2020 Virtual course room**

Will discuss Chapters 13 and 14 in the textbook

***WEEK 12 - November 12, 2020 Discussion Post #3**

The whole time will be taken up by this post...View the video entitled **Integrating Therapy with 12 Step Programs** by Dr. Joan Ellen Zweben in the library in Psychotherapy.net. Then post your thoughts about 12 Step Program in general and what you think about making it a part of therapy with those impacted by substance abuse/addiction.

***WEEK 13 - November 19, 2020 Virtual course room**

Discuss the chapter presentations and general discussion about substance abuse, marriage and family therapy, and self-care

***WEEK 14 - November 26, 2020 Thanksgiving Holiday ENJOY**

***WEEK 15 - December 3, 2020 Virtual course room**

Presentation of Chapters 15, 16, and 17 in the textbook by three groups of learners

***WEEK 16 - December 10th Virtual course room**

Wrap up

Case Presentations are due by 11:59 pm on Friday the 11th.

Important University Dates

Please go to <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html> for significant events and dates regarding TAMUCT.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2Fsubmit%2FForm%2Fstart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](#),

[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](#),

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive

equal access to the university's programs, services, and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](#) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](#) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu .

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Fall 2020 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00–9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00–3:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group workspaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

For Fall 2020, all reference service will be conducted virtually. Please go to our [Library](#)

website [<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>] to access our virtual reference help and our current hours.

OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we do not agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Do not be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

OTHER POLICIES

Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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