Objectives
1. To appropriately reflect on one’s learning process
2. To demonstrate an ability to evaluate one’s own work
3. To demonstrate comprehensive clinical competency through collective coursework and/or related clinical examples
4. To articulate one’s clinical philosophy and theory of change in written, oral, and digital formats.

General Description of the Clinical Portfolio
As your capstone experience in the program, you will compile a portfolio which demonstrates your journey as a developing therapist. The clinical portfolio provides an opportunity to describe your personal growth and transformation. It requires you to articulate your knowledge of professional skills, values, and expected competencies in a way that showcases your therapeutic self, your belief system, and what you do as a therapist.

Although there is not a specific page requirement for the written portion of this portfolio, the general rule is that you are to prepare a well-referenced, well-written portfolio which addresses the content areas outlined below, and then present the salient elements of your portfolio to your advisor and committee member. Any student who does not complete a Clinical Portfolio, Research Portfolio, or Thesis WILL NOT earn his/her degree.

Student Learning Objectives
Students completing the Clinical Portfolio will be able to demonstrate the following SLOs:

Student Learning Outcomes
Students completing the Clinical Portfolio will be able to demonstrate the following SLOs:

#3. Maintain respect for differences and honor factors that reflect diversity in our community, including age, culture, environment, ethnicity, gender, health/ability, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation, spirituality, and socioeconomic status.

#4. Identify the foundations and contemporary conceptual directions of the field of marriage and family therapy.

#5. Interpret and apply the major theories and models of marriage, couple, and family therapy.

#6. Analyze a wide variety of presenting clinical problems in the treatment of individuals, couples, and families from a relational/systemic perspective.

#7. Address contemporary individuals, couples and families as pertaining to gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, etc; comprehend therapeutic strategies with diverse/multicultural populations.

#10. Diagnose mental health, considering major psychopharmacological interventions, physical health issues, using traditional psycho diagnostic and relational categories.
#11. Examine individual and family development across the lifespan.

#12. Maintain a professional identity, engage in professional socialization, and understand the MFT scope of practice, professional organizations, licensure, and certification.

#13. Define ethical issues related to the profession of marriage and family therapy and the practice of individual, couple, and family therapy, including: responsibility to clients, students and supervisees, research participants and the profession; issues of confidentiality; professional competence and integrity; the appropriateness of advertising and financial arrangements.

#14. Identify the legal responsibilities and liabilities of clinical practice and research, including record keeping, reimbursement, the business aspects of practice, and familiarity with regional and federal laws as they relate to the practice of individual, couple and family therapy.

#16. Complete a substantive clinical experience in which students integrate and apply theoretical and practical knowledge from all didactic coursework in the treatment of individual, couple and family problems.

**Process of Completing the Clinical Portfolio**

- Be mindful of collecting and retaining materials for inclusion throughout the program.
- Work closely with your advisor and practicum supervisors to organize and prepare your clinical portfolio and to select examples that best represent your work.
- Register for a total of 6 credit hours of Clinical Portfolio (MFT 750) under your advisor’s section in BOTH summer II and III of your second year in the MFT program.
- Orally present Clinical Portfolio to your advisor and a committee member during a specified day and time slot. Your committee will consist of two members of the faculty. One is your advisor and the other is chosen by the Advisor or faculty.
- Submit a completed e-copy of your personal model or clinical innovation paper to your advisor at least 2 weeks prior to Summer II classes ending or earlier. This should be a good draft or final draft in order to receive a grade.
- Submit a complete e-copy of your portfolio no later than the last week in September to your advisor.
- Prepare e-copies copies of your portfolio for your committee, unless directed to submit hard copies, for your committee members no later than 10 days from your defense. The date of your defense will be approximately one month prior to the end of the fall semester and will probably be on a Friday. You will have 20 to absolutely no more than 30 minutes to make your presentation and answer questions. You may be required to make some final edits and you will have 2 weeks in which to do so.

There are two accepted formats for the clinical portfolio: one including a clinical philosophy/model paper, and another including a clinical innovation paper. The requirements for each format are described below. Students are asked to work with their advisor to determine which format is best suited to your capabilities, professional interests, and goals.

**Option 1: Clinical Philosophy/Personal Model Required Components (in order of presentation)**
1. Title Page (Title of your portfolio, your name, degree for which you are applying, etc.)
2. Table of Contents
3. Clinical Philosophy/Personal Model Paper (Please follow the outline of the paper closely)
   A. Introduction
   B. Discussion of individual/family problems
      i. Change: How does change occur; what brings about change
      ii. Ideas about healthy individuals and families
      iii. Integration: Discuss theoretical integration, if applicable (i.e., the integration of ideas from multiple theories/approaches)
   C. Clinical application of your model. Please include:
      i. Treatment goals
      ii. Role of the therapist
      iii. Assessment
      iv. Preferred interventions
      v. Expected changes/outcome
   D. Integration
      i. Discuss clinical integration, if applicable (i.e., the integration of interventions from multiple theories/approaches)
      ii. Sample case that best represents your work and who you are as a therapist
         a. Briefly describe the case
         b. Describe your theoretical approach
   E. Person-of-the therapist discussion that reflects what has most influenced you in your development as a therapist and in the development of your personal model
   F. Strengths and limitations of your model
4. Two representative writing samples (i.e., papers) from your MFT courses that represent your best written work and/or areas of clinical expertise
5. Self-assessment of your clinical strengths and weaknesses and plan for continuing professional development
6. References
7. Curriculum Vita (ask advisor for examples)

Elements in the Oral Presentation
1. Prepare a powerpoint highlighting your clinical philosophy and personal model
2. Have video clips prepared to show that that demonstrate relevant points discussed within your paper (clips should already be cued up and ready to go). The total running time for the clips would be 5-7 minutes and reflect some part of your major paper.
3. Be prepared to answer questions the committee might pose with regard to your oral presentation or total Clinical Portfolio

Option 2: Clinical Innovation Required Components (in order of presentation)
1. Title Page (Title of your portfolio, your name, degree for which you are applying, etc.)
2. Table of Contents
3. Clinical Innovation Paper (Please follow the outline of the paper closely)
   A. Introduction
   B. Critique of research/methodology and of the existent literature base
   C. Theoretical/philosophical assumptions of your clinical innovation.
i. Discussion of individual/family problems
ii. Change: How does change occur; what brings about change
iii. Integration: Discuss theoretical integration, if applicable (i.e., the integration of ideas from multiple theories/approaches); connection to an MFT framework or larger systemic perspective

D. Clinical application of your innovation. Please include:
   i. Treatment goals
   ii. Role of the therapist
   iii. Assessment
   iv. Preferred interventions
   v. Expected changes/outcome

E. Relevance to ethical/professional identity practices
F. Application to diverse populations
G. Clinical implications/contraindications
H. Recommendations for training

4. Two representative writing samples (i.e., papers) from your MFT courses that represent your best written work and/or areas of clinical expertise
5. Self-assessment of your clinical strengths and weaknesses and plan for continuing professional development
6. References
7. Curriculum Vita (ask advisor for examples)

Elements in the Oral Presentation
1. Prepare a powerpoint highlighting your clinical innovation
2. Be prepared to answer questions MFT faculty might pose with regard to your oral presentation or total Clinical Portfolio

Optional Supplemental Materials
1. Certificates or other verification from each of the clinical trainings and/or conferences you may have attended, participated in, or presented at during your graduate training.
2. Certificates or other verification from any awards, special recognition, honors, and/or grants you may have received during your graduate training.
3. Clinically-relevant publications you may have completed during your graduate training (please include a sample of the article as well as a description of its important and relevance to your approach).

Evaluation and Approval Process of Clinical Portfolio
There are two main elements of the portfolio evaluation: the written/submitted portion of the portfolio and the presentation to the committee. During the presentation, the committee will have an opportunity to ask you anything that seems relevant to your clinical work, as well as anything that may have been covered in the course of your training.

In addition to your presentation of your portfolio, the written portion of your portfolio will also be evaluated. This includes evaluating the accuracy of typing and spelling; predominant use of active voice; correct use of tenses; agreement of subjects and verbs; no misplaced or dangling modifiers; parallel construction; non-sexist and non-ethnically-biased language; correct use of
Students can receive a grade of “S” or “F” in this course. Portfolios are evaluated for their quality and completeness. A description of the grading scale is below:

S: All of the parts of the portfolio that are listed in the table of contents are included and are presented in an organized manner. The personal model paper is clearly written and well organized. The written presentation is consistent with the most recent APA style. The oral presentation of the clinical capstone portfolio is comprehensive in nature and is clearly articulated. Both demonstrate a level of understanding and clinical skills that is commensurate with program expectations for graduates from the program.

F: The items listed in the table of contents of the portfolio are not included in totality or are unorganized and in disarray. The written review and summary of your clinical work is either not included, not clearly written nor well-organized, or it is incomplete in terms of content areas to be included. The oral presentation component of the clinical capstone portfolio is either not completed, not comprehensive in nature and/or is not clearly articulated.

It is important to note that the MFT committee must approve the Clinical Portfolio before graduation. In some cases, the MFT committee might suggest that the Clinical Portfolio undergo revision before awarding final approval. In this event, students will work closely with their advisor to make the necessary changes.