

TOCCOA MFT MATTERS

The Toccoa Falls College Marriage & Family Therapy Newsletter



TOCCOA SPRINGS: A SEASON OF RENEWAL AND CELEBRATION

Dear MAMFT Family,

Spring invites us into a season of renewal, a time marked by growth, hope, and fresh starts. For many, this season also carries the significance of Easter, a reminder of restoration, purpose, and new life. These themes resonate deeply within our MAMFT community as we witness our students continuing to grow into thoughtful, skilled professionals prepared to serve others with compassion and integrity.

At the same time, this season calls us to celebrate meaningful endings. With graduation approaching on Friday, May 15th, we recognize the dedication, perseverance, and commitment it has taken for our students to reach this milestone. Completion is not simply an ending, but a transition, one that marks the beginning of your professional journey in the field of Marriage and Family Therapy. We are proud of each of you and look forward to the impact you will make.

I would also like to take a moment to reflect on the recent residency weekend which brought together students and faculty for an engaging and enriching experience. Dr. Brodarick's MFT 683 Premarital and Marital Therapy and Dr. Blum's MFT 653 Treatment Planning courses provided meaningful opportunities for connection, learning, and professional development. It was a joy for our faculty to be part of this time together, and it is our hope that the experience proved to be an invaluable resource as you prepare to enter the MFT field.

As we move through this season, may we embrace both the excitement of new beginnings and the fulfillment of well-earned accomplishments.

Warmly,
Dr. Jamie Brodarick
Program Director
Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy
Toccoa Falls College



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IMPORTANT DATES REMINDER

**REGISTRATION
SUMMER & FALL REGISTRATION
IS OPEN NOW**

**SUMMER REGISTRATION
DEADLINE MAY 1ST, 2026**

**WORKSHOP
DOCUMENTATION DEEP DIVE
WITH DR. BRODARICK, LMFT.
MAY 12TH, 2026
7:00 - 8:30 PM EST**

**SPRING SEMESTER ENDS
MAY 13TH, 2026**

**GRADUATE STUDIES RECEPTION
MAY 15TH, 2026
2 PM EST**

**GRADUATION
MAY 15TH, 2026**

**SUMMER SESSION BEGINS
MAY 26TH, 2026**

**SUMMER SESSION ENDS
JULY 17TH, 2026**

**FALL REGISTRATION
DEADLINE AUGUST 1ST, 2026**

APRIL 2026 | ISSUE 4

SUMMER / FALL REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for both Summer and Fall 2026 courses, and students are encouraged to secure their schedules as soon as possible.

SUMMER 2026 COURSE OFFERINGS

MFT673 ASSESSMENT & PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING IN MFT
MFT583 RESEARCH & EVALUATION IN MFT
MFT723 SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT & MFT
MFT663 PRACTICUM
MFT753 INTERNSHIP 1
MFT763 INTERNSHIP 2

FALL 2026 COURSE OFFERINGS

MFT533 HISTORY & FOUNDATIONS OF MFT (SUB-TERM A)
MFT633 THEORIES OF COUNSELING & MFT 1 (SUB-TERM A)
MFT553 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY & DIAGNOSIS (SUB-TERM A)
MFT 593 SPIRITUALITY & WORLDVIEW (SUB-TERM A)
MFT793 PROFESSIONAL & SPIRITUAL IDENTITY
(CAPSTONE) (SUB-TERM A)
MFT543 FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS FOR MFT & COUNSELING
(SUB-TERM B)
MFT743 FAMILY THERAPY (SUB-TERM B)
MFT733 THEORIES OF COUNSELING & MFT 2 (SUB-TERM B)
MFT663 PRACTICUM
MFT753 INTERNSHIP 1
MFT763 INTERNSHIP 2 (16 WEEKS)

DOCUMENTATION DEEP DIVE WITH DR. JAMIE BRODARICK, LMFT

Students are encouraged to take advantage of an upcoming professional development opportunity, *Documentation Deep Dive* with Dr. Jamie Brodarick, LMFT, designed to enhance clinical writing and documentation skills essential for effective practice in the MFT field. Dr. Brodarick will walk participants through best practices for crafting clear, accurate, and ethically sound intake notes, progress notes, treatment plans, and treatment summaries. Emphasis will be placed on meeting professional and legal standards, and on developing documentation that reflects thoughtful clinical reasoning and supports quality client care. This workshop is especially valuable for students currently in practicum or internship, as well as those preparing to enter clinical work. The session will be held on Tuesday, May 12th, 7:00–8:30 PM EST via Teams. Students interested in attending should RSVP directly to Dr. Brodarick at JBrodarick@tfc.edu to reserve their spot.



WORKSHOP

KEEPING IN TOUCH: ALUMNI VOICES

DANA "KITTY" ROBINSON

Tell us about the work you are doing since graduating with your MAMFT degree.

I work at a lovely local private practice where I am the only clinician in our area. I have also seen a lot of students this year at a local middle school. I am also taking on a second job at Maverick Marriage Therapy, where the majority of my caseload will be comprised of couples. I will also have the opportunity to conduct marriage intensives.



What advice would you offer current students that you wish someone would have given you?

This process will not only prepare you for your career as an MFT – it will change you! Try to think of the assignments as more than just something you are turning in for a grade or to prepare you for helping others. Really lean into them as an agent of change for yourself. If I never worked a day as an MFT, the time and money that I spent on my degree was worth it for the impact it had on my own marriage and family (as a result of my personal growth).

What is your favorite memory from your time at TFC?

Attending all four of the residencies (for Foundational Counseling Skills, Pre-Marital and Marital Therapy, Family Therapy, and Treatment Planning). I've also made some wonderful life-long friends!

What is the hardest and best part about being a MFT?

The toughest part about being in this field for me is the gray space that many ethical dilemmas fall into. Before launching my career, I lamented over the two additional years we spend under supervision as associates. Now, however, I am extremely thankful for the process because I need every bit of that built-in support. I am sure that even when I'm full licensed, I will rely on others in the field for guidance on those tricky ethics.

The best part is everything else... having a profession where previously perfect strangers invite you into the darkest parts of their experience and allow you to stay there in it with them to look around and explore together. It feels like holy ground every time.



What do you hope to be doing in 5 years?

I hope to be doing more of what I do now. Perhaps some more speaking/couples events would be in that future picture, too. I am content working at someone else's private practice as opposed to hanging my own shingle out, because while I love the relational aspect of this work, logistics are my kryptonite, so I am more than happy with letting some else handle that.





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT GRADUATE EDITION


**CANAAN BEST****CAROLINE DOBBS****JENNIFER MINISH****BEFORE YOU ENTERED THE MAMFT PROGRAM, WHAT WERE YOU DOING?**

Before I entered the MAMFT program, I was helping my parents run their restaurant.

I graduated from TFC with my degree in Counseling Psychology before I entered the MAMFT program. I decided to stick with TFC for my master's due to the wonderful experience and impact my undergraduate professors had on my life.

Before entering the MAMFT program, I was completing my undergraduate degree while already working in a helping role and feeling a strong pull toward this field. As I was finishing my bachelor's degree, I knew I wanted to pursue my master's and was hoping to stay at TFC. Around that same time, the MAMFT program opened, and it felt like a clear answer to prayer and confirmation of the direction I was being called to. The timing made it especially meaningful and set the path for continuing my education in a place that already felt like home.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR TIME IN THE PROGRAM.

During my time in the program, I struggled a lot. It had been a long time since I had been in school and I was completely thrown by all the reading, writing and understanding APA formatting. However, through the Grace of God, I was put into a class in my first semester that introduced me to one of my favorite professors that offered me understanding with my plights and I made some amazing connections that got me through the two years of the program.

I have learned more about myself and human behavior than I ever thought was possible in just a few short years. I thank the Lord for every person I met through this program.

My time in the program has been stretching in the best way. I've grown clinically, personally, and spiritually. I've learned to slow down, think systemically, and look at problems through a relational lens. The program also taught me that treatment planning takes longer than expected, genograms drawn by hand are a humbling artistic experience, and coffee is sometimes a necessary clinical tool.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY FROM YOUR TIME AT TFC.

My favorite memory is coming to TFC for residency weekend. These were always my favorite times in the program, but I remember one in particular where we had the opportunity to spend time with Dr. Fred and Dr. Heather together and listen to them discuss an unresolvable issue in their marriage. This was a very eye opening experience.

While I do not have a specific favorite memory, I always looked forward to residency. I had the opportunity to connect with my fellow classmates. Residency weekends were very enjoyable, and I always felt refreshed at the end of each one.

My favorite memories were the residency weekends. It was really special meeting people I had no idea would end up becoming close friends. Residency gave us the chance to slow down, spend time together, and really connect. I also really valued being able to spend time one-on-one with professors, eating meals together, getting to know more about their families, laughing, and sharing a lot of good jokes that I hope are still being utilized. Those weekends made the program feel more personal and meaningful, and they ended up being some of my favorite parts of the experience.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS POST-GRADUATION?

At this time, I am still working in the same place I did my internship in Florida. However, my plan is to become licensed in Georgia once I take the MFT exam and begin to work at a practice that has offered me a job once this is complete. I would love to do private practice work with individuals, couples and families.

My post-graduation plan is to work at my current internship site. I am looking forward to continuing my work in the private practice setting.

After graduation, I plan to continue working toward licensure as an LMFT while pursuing my doctorate. I hope to continue working with individuals, couples, and families, and doing what God has called me to do while following His will. And at least for a little while, I'm looking forward to not having homework after graduate school, just in time to start my doctorate.



THROUGH THE LENS RESIDENCY WEEKEND

Pre-Marital Group

Treatment Planning Group

