

**Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Education and Counseling**  
**Marriage, Couple and Family Therapy**  
**MS Track Suggested Timeline**

**YEAR ONE FALL AND SPRING**

- 1) Familiarize yourself with the research agendas of the MCFT faculty
- 2) Begin considering research topics within areas of faculty interests
- 3) Talk with faculty about your ideas; confirm that your interests are within at least one faculty research agenda for the year in which you will be completing your thesis
- 4) Notify MCFT faculty that you are planning on completing the MS track

**YEAR ONE SUMMER**

- 1) Attend summer pre-thesis meetings to further explore ideas
- 2) If you are planning on using qualitative research methods, with MCFT faculty approval, you may be able to take EDLL 741A: Qualitative Methods offered only in summer
- 3) Re-confirm that your interests are within at least one faculty research agenda

**YEAR TWO FALL**

- 1) Complete CPSY 530: Research Methods and Statistics I
- 2) Explore your topic and methodology/methods further through course assignments
- 3) Notify MCFT program director of your topic and request a thesis chair
- 4) Meet with your thesis chair to develop topic and timelines, choose committee members, etc.

**YEAR TWO SPRING**

- 1) Complete Research Methods & Statistics unless you have already taken the summer qualitative research course which can substitute for this spring research course. Make sure you get advise about this before the summer of your first year.
- 2) Enroll for 1 credit of CPSY 594: Proposal Writing
- 3) Work with your thesis chair to complete and defend your thesis proposal
- 4) Complete application for approval from the Human Subjects Research Committee

**YEAR THREE SUMMER & FALL**

- 1) Enroll in 1 credit of CPSY 595: Master's Thesis Research
- 2) Collect data with support of thesis chair
- 3) Analyze data with support of thesis chair

**YEAR THREE SPRING**

- 1) Enroll in at 1 credit of CPSY 595: Master's Thesis Research
- 2) Complete thesis with chair and committee guidance and approval

**YEAR THREE SUMMER**

- 1) Defend thesis
- 2) Make corrections to final version
- 3) Submit electronic and bound versions for thesis completion and graduation