

**SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY**  
**MEDICAL FAMILY THERAPY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE**

**STUDENT PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

The Medical Family Therapy Program has a strong commitment to producing “reflective practitioners in the service of others.” In this regard, the development of ethical and competent family therapists requires attention to the coursework, the development of therapeutic skills, and a commitment to reflection on the student’s interpersonal skills, attitudes, and professional character. Therefore, an integral part of the successful completion of the student’s program of study will include the possession of the dispositions necessary for effective therapy as evaluated by the professional judgment of the faculty. Such judgment is critical as graduates from this program are eligible for socially sanctioned positions as licensed professional counselors, state certified school counselors, and licensed marriage and family therapists. The Personal and Professional Developmental Evaluation (PPDE) will be used to assess the student’s progress in these areas.

Personal and Professional Developmental Evaluation

This evaluation will assess whether the student is demonstrating the professional skills, personal characteristics, and professional disposition commensurate with his/her stage of clinical development. The PPDE will be used in three ways throughout the student’s educational program. First, during the course of the student’s provisional acceptance into her/his program (the first two semesters), the PPDE will be used in all classes taken within the department. The courses included are MFT 522, MFT 530, MFT 540, MFT 541, MFT 577, MFT 532, MFT 650, MFT 672,

1. End of Year PRCs: All new students will be evaluated in each of their MFT courses during the first two semesters using the Personal and Professional Development Evaluation (PPDE). At the end of the first two semesters, a PRC will review each student's PPDEs and academic record, and will interview the student concerning the student's progress and future status in the program.

The PRC for each first-year student will consist of her/his advisor and two other