Institute for Systemic Therapy

Graduate Degree Programs in Family Therapy

Postgraduate Clinical Training Programs
Nova University

Nova University was chartered by the State of Florida in 1964. The University offers graduate degree programs at the master's, educational specialist, and doctoral levels, as well as postgraduate education. Nova College offers undergraduate education, and The University School, a demonstration school, serves children from pre-kindergarten through high school. In addition, non-degree, continuing education and certificate programs are available.

From the beginning, the University has distinguished itself by its innovative outlook, its unique programs that provide both traditional and nontraditional choices in educational programs, and its research in many fields aimed at solving the problems of immediate concern to mankind.

Nova University's main campus is located on a 200-acre site southwest of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, at 3301 College Avenue in the town of Davie.

The Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy and the International Association of Systemic Therapy are located immediately west of Fort Lauderdale, in the town of Plantation, Florida.

About Systemic Therapy

Systemic therapy typically emphasizes treating patterns that connect the problem behavior of one person with the behavior of other people. This shift in focus from individual behavior to social patterns of organization is historically rooted to the classic traditions of family therapy. With the field of family therapy becoming more and more institutionalized as a profession, its originating insights have become more compromised, allowing for problematic accommodation to medical and scientistic paradigms.

The name systemic therapy is used to recall and re-emphasize the originating understanding that gave family therapy a reputation as a distinct, alternative mental health paradigm. By emphasizing ecology, relationship, and context, systemic therapy encourages a reawakening and continuation of the landmark contributions set forth by such pioneers as Gregory Bateson, Don Jackson, and Milton Erickson, among others.
Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy

Introduction

The Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy was established to provide the foremost creative context for the study and practice of systemic therapies. Its programs, including master's, doctoral, postgraduate, and continuing education offerings, are unique in their emphasis on systemic clinical practice, exploration of alternative methods of inquiry, and encouragement of open dialogue. The goal of the Institute is to facilitate the development of creative systemic practitioners. Programs are built around ongoing clinical work and seminars that relate innovative ideas to clinical practice. Each clinician is encouraged to cultivate his or her own unique style of systemic therapy.

By combining the best of university and clinical institute experiences, the graduate and postgraduate programs encourage the intertwining of intellectual curiosity, pragmatic challenges, and inventive clinical strategies. In addition to meeting requirements for state licensure, students work directly with internationally renowned faculty and clinical associates.

Statement of Philosophy

Clinical training, practice, theory, and research at the Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy are principally based on the ideas and values of ecological and systemic orientations. Although a wide diversity of clinical and academic traditions are examined, the emphasis is upon evolving systemic understandings of therapeutic process. Course readings will draw upon classic clinical texts, as well as contributions from literature, drama, philosophy, and the arts. Faculty members, clinical associates, and students are encouraged to cultivate collegial relationships, practice the art of dialogue, and construct innovative research strategies and co-evolutionary learning structures.

Clinical Training

Clinical training at the Institute for Systemic Therapy provides a foundation in brief systemic orientations to therapy. Advanced clinical training and research focus on the general development and exploration of new therapeutic strategies. In addition, opportunities are available for the specialized study of systemic orientations to treating addictions. Clinical settings are equipped with one-way observation mirrors and state-of-the-art videotape facilities.
Graduate Programs

The master’s and doctoral degree programs in family therapy provide a creative alternative to traditional clinical graduate programs. The Nova family therapy programs do not endorse a monological socio-statistical world view that organizes teaching, research, and clinical practice as data banks for publish-or-perish-quality publications. Rather than the traditional narrow focus on developing so-called “scientist-practitioners,” Nova family therapy programs are strongly committed to an alternative context of free inquiry that encourages therapists to become “scholarly clinicians.” The programs are designed to cultivate critical examination of a wide diversity of formal methods of inquiry, with the principle goal of working toward clinical virtuosity.

Nova students receive supervised clinical training throughout their enrollment. In addition, doctoral students receive a year of training in clinical supervision. A unique feature of Nova University's family therapy training is its uncompromising emphasis upon clinical relevance and dialogue. Research and theory courses are connected to clinical training in ways that facilitate systemic understanding and practice.

At the heart of Nova University family therapy programs is the seminar in which ideas are openly discussed. The seminar provides an opportunity to critically examine the programs' “core reading list,” original texts that are major contributions to systemic understanding and therapeutic practice.

In addition to seminar discussions of the “core reading list,” conversation groups are regularly scheduled which analyze ongoing clinical casework, theoretical, political, and ethical issues in the field, and the development of clinically relevant research strategies. Students and faculty jointly participate in these ongoing conversations throughout the duration of their program residency.

The Master of Science Degree in Family Therapy

The Master of Science degree requires 45 semester hours of course work and may be completed on a full- or part-time basis. All courses carry 3 credit hours. Course requirements are as follows:

Master of Science Degree Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Study</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Family Therapy</td>
<td>(4 course sequence) 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Family Systems</td>
<td>(2 course sequence) 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Individual Development</td>
<td>(Select 2 courses) 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Professional Studies</td>
<td>(1 course) 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Supervised Clinical Practice</td>
<td>(2 course sequence) 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Research</td>
<td>(1 course) 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Electives</td>
<td>(3 courses) 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>45</strong></td>
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The Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Family Therapy

The Doctor of Philosophy degree requires 90 hours of course work and may be completed on a full- or part-time basis. All courses carry 3 credit hours. Course requirements are as follows:

### Doctor of Philosophy Degree Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Study</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Family Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Individual Development</td>
<td>(select 2 courses) 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Professional Studies</td>
<td>(1 course) 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Supervised Clinical Practice</td>
<td>(2 years of continuous enrollment) 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Supervision Practicum</td>
<td>(2 course sequence) 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Research</td>
<td>(3 courses) 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Electives</td>
<td>(4 courses) 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Dissertation</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Dissertation

Doctoral students are encouraged to design an original dissertation topic or project immediately relevant to his or her own unique interests and professional development. Alternative, creative, and innovative dissertations are emphasized. Exemplary dissertation topics follow:

- *An Ethnographic Study of a Session Conducted by Carl A. Whitaker*
- *Postmodern Designs for the De-Institutionalization of Mental Health Care Systems*
- *The Family Treatment of the Brothers Karamazov: A Literary Fantasy Is Family Therapy Research Clinically Irrelevant?*
- *The Use of Humor in Life-Threatening Situations*
- *A Comparison of Psychoanalysis and Strategic Therapy*
- *A Biographical Study of Milton H. Erickson*
- *Trance as Rhetoric*
- *Therapy as Play*
- *A Typology of Alternative Research Strategies for Studying Family Therapy*
- *Discourse Analysis of Provocative Therapy*
- *Family Therapy Techniques for Nurses*
- *Neurolinguistic Programming and the Mental Health Establishment: Where's the Difference?*
- *A Systemic Theory of Feldenkrais Movement Therapy*
- *Training and Utilizing “Street People” as Therapeutic Consultants*
- *Development of a Treatment Program for Women's Protective Agencies*
- *Systemic Feminism*
- *Ecological Designs for Pastoral Care*
- *A Critical Study of a Case Involving Family Violence*
- *Systemic Interventions for Treating Cocaine Addiction*
Special Tracks

Specialized tracks of study are also available in the following areas:

1. Systemic treatment of addictions
2. Family therapy and gerontology
3. General systemic studies

For further information, contact the Director.

Admission Requirements

1. A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
2. Submission of a completed application form, together with a non-refundable application fee of $30.00.
3. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
4. Three letters of recommendation indicating your ability to do advanced study.
5. An interview with family therapy faculty.

Expenses 1988 - 1989 Academic Year

All courses carry three semester hours of credit. Tuition is based on each credit hour of instruction, with the current rate set at $190.00 per credit hour for courses numbered in the 5,000s and $300.00 per credit hour for courses numbered in the 6,000s and above. All required courses in the Master's program are numbered in the 5,000's and charged at $190.00 per credit hour. Approximately half of the courses in the Doctoral program are numbered in the 5,000s, with the remainder in the 6,000s and above. There is also a $25.00 registration fee for each semester the student is enrolled and registered for courses.

Financial Aid

Through the Office of Student Financial Planning and Resources, the University offers a number of academic scholarships and grants. The Family Therapy Program will offer a limited number of clinical assistantships. In addition, the University offers a variety of work-study and student employment programs. For more information contact: Nova University, Office of Student Financial Planning and Resources, 3301 College Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314.
Postgraduate Clinical Training Programs

In addition to granting master’s and doctoral degrees in Family Therapy, the Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy provides a variety of offerings in postgraduate clinical training, continuing education, workshops, major conferences, supervision, and consultation for mental health professionals and human service workers. All clinical training and supervision can be applied toward Clinical Membership in the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, and Florida State Licensure.

Two Year Clinical Externship in Systemic Therapy

The Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy offers a clinical training and supervision program designed to accommodate the professional who has already earned a graduate degree. The clinical externship provides a context for acquiring state-of-the-art clinical skills in the practice of systemic therapy. Externs will be encouraged to create and develop their own unique style of systemic therapy. The program strives to develop innovative practitioners, teachers, and leaders in the mental health fields.

Clinical Practicum and Supervision

Supervision and consultation will be held for 3-5 hours per week throughout the academic year. Supervision is conducted in teams and includes direct observation of therapeutic sessions, analysis of videotapes and case consultations. Trainees will have opportunities to work with both faculty and distinguished clinical associates.

Seminar

Seminar discussions will be held each week covering ideas and strategies of systemic therapy.

Eligibility

Applicants should have a Master’s degree and an aptitude for systemic therapy.

Tuition

$3,200 per year.

Monthly Externship in Systemic Treatment of Addictions

This externship provides clinical training for mental health practitioners interested in systemic approaches to treating addictions. Under the supervision of Bradford P. Keeney, the group will meet one day per month throughout the academic year. The program will focus on designing treatment strategies for ongoing cases.

Tuition

$1,250
Special Resources and Programs

Supervision and Consultation

By special arrangement, Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy faculty will provide individual supervision, agency training, and consultation services. Contact the Institute for further information.

Training for Supervision

This offering is designed for advanced therapists with supervisory responsibilities. Format, fees, and schedules will be arranged individually.

Special Programs

Special programs can be individually tailored to outside students who are unable to participate in the regularly scheduled course offerings. During one's stay, attendance in training groups, workshops, and other experiences can be arranged. For further information regarding special programs, contact the Institute Director.

Systemic Therapy Archival Resource Center

The Nova University Institute for Systemic Therapy is developing an extensive videotape, audiotape, and archival resource center. Numerous videotapes and audiotapes are available for learning purposes at a minimal fee. In addition, an archive of written material is being gathered which at present includes the donations of an extensive collection of the writings of Gregory Bateson and Don Jackson. For further information, contact Curator Wendel Ray.

Workshops

The Institute for Systemic Therapy hosts a variety of workshops conducted by its staff. Topics include the following:

- Introduction to Systemic Therapy
- Evolving Your Own Clinical Style
- Brief Systemic Therapy with Family Violence
- Systemic Strategies for School Problems
- Family Therapy and Gerontology
- Family Therapy with Youthful Sex Offenders
- Using Therapeutic Teams in Mental Health Agencies
- A Systemic Orientation to Treating Addictions

Workshops typically run for a full day at a fee of $50.00. Group rates and scholarships are available. Please contact the Institute for dates, location, and further information.
Faculty

Bradford P. Keeney, Ph.D., Professor, Director, Institute for Systemic Therapy
Monte Bobele, Ph.D., Visiting Director of Clinical Training
Ann S. Brandt, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Gianfranco Cecchin, M.D., Clinical Teaching Fellow
John M. Flynn, Ed.D., Professor, Dean, School of Social Sciences
Olga Silverstein, M.S.W., Clinical Teaching Fellow
Carl A. Whitaker, M.D., Clinical Teaching Fellow
Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D. Cand., Clinical Supervisor
Douglas G. Flemons, Ph.D. Cand., Clinical Supervisor
Anne Rambo, Ph.D. Cand., Clinical Supervisor
Wendel Ray, Ph.D. Cand., Clinical Supervisor

Institute Associates

Ronald D. Simon, Ed.D., Associate Dean, School of Social Sciences
Linda Bayless, Ph.D., Director, Institute for Resources to Families
Gerald Gluck, Ph.D., Director, Family Therapy Center
Harry Kramer, Ph.D., Director, Elaine Gordon Treatment Center

Clinical Associates

Brent Atkinson, Ph.D., Northern Illinois University
Luigi Boscolo, M.D., Milan, Italy
Sam Braudt, M.A., Texas Tech University
Brian Cade, M.A., Sydney, Australia
Klaus Deissler, M.A., Marburg, West Germany
Paul Gibney, Ph.D., Brisbane, Australia
Harold Goolishian, Ph.D., Houston, Texas
Jurgen Hargens, M.A., Meyn, West Germany
Anthony Heath, Ph.D., Northern Illinois University
John Kaye, Ph.D., University of Adelaide, Australia
Tullio Maranhao, Ph.D., Rice University
James Morris, Ph.D., Santa Fe, New Mexico
James Nelson, Ph.D., Minneapolis, Minnesota
Gilbert Probst, Ph.D., University of Geneva
William Quinn, Ph.D., University of Georgia
Jeffrey Ross, M.D., Santa Fe, New Mexico
Klaus Schmidt, Ph.D., Utrecht, Netherlands
Jim Sheehan, M.S.W., Dublin, Ireland
Leonard Siegel, M.D., Sydney, Australia
Richard Simon, Ph.D., Washington, D.C.
Umberta Telfener, Ph.D., University of Rome
Paul Trachtman, Washington, D.C.
Stephen Tyler, Ph.D., Rice University
Heinz von Foerster, Ph.D., Pescadero, California
Gregory Williams, M.A., Gravel Switch, Kentucky
Lee Winderman, Ph.D., Houston, Texas
Stefan Zora, M.D., Harvard University
International Association of Systemic Therapy

The International Association of Systemic Therapy (IAST) was created to promote and encourage the advancement of systemic approaches to treating problematic situations.

From the home office at Nova University, IAST publishes periodicals, monographs, and books related to systemic therapy. The forthcoming Annual Review of Systemic Therapy will highlight significant contributions to the field. In addition, an annual conference will provide opportunities for participating in unique conversations immediately relevant to practicing clinicians.

IAST is presently developing a set of standards for accrediting training programs in systemic therapies.

The Fort Lauderdale Area

The waterways and canals of South Florida are home to a unique tropical paradise famous for soft sand beaches, exotic palms, year-round sunshine, and crystal blue waters. The "Yachting Capital of the World" and the "Venice of America," as the area is often called, is the natural setting for a wide range of water recreation, cultural events, and festivals.

For further information, contact:

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Institute for Systemic Therapy
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(305) 476-7661