



# FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE PROGRAMS



## Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health Certificate

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Fairfield University offers a 9-credit certificate for mental health professionals to serve a diverse range of sexual and gender minority (SGM) youth and adults. If you hope to or are currently working with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ), polyamorous, kinky, and other SGM clients, this certificate will give you the resources, skills, and self-awareness you need to feel confident in your work.

#### Required Courses

- Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health (3 credits, spring)
- Affirmative Care with Gender Minority Youth and Adults (1.5 credits, summer)
- Affirmative Care with Sexual Minority Youth (1.5 credits, summer)
- Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health Capstone (3 credits, fall)

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Suited for marriage and family therapists, counselors, social workers, psychologists, nurses, and more
- One year of flexible, online learning that can fit into a busy schedule
- Highly engaging, interactive online courses taught by passionate and knowledgeable practitioners
- A focus on intersectional, relational, life cycle, and self-reflective perspectives to foster a holistic view of both client and clinician
- An opportunity to create and implement a project, program, or product that impacts LGBTQ mental health

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and demonstrate a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.67 across all degrees.

The program is intended for mental health professionals or graduate students with some clinical experience. Students are expected to have, at minimum, a basic knowledge of clinical assessment, diagnosis, and treatment and possess basic clinical skills.

Applications will be reviewed when they are complete and submitted. The application deadline for the spring semester is December 1.

### ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Those seeking admission to this certificate program must complete and submit the following:

1. Apply online and complete the formal application.
2. Pay a non-refundable \$60 application fee.
3. Submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
4. Submit a professional resume or CV that includes education and employment history.
5. Submit a personal statement In 750 words or less, please describe the following:
  - Your professional training or experience related to mental health
  - Your personal or professional training or experience with sexual and gender minority individuals, relationships, or communities
  - How you see this certificate program furthering your personal or professional goals

Submit transcripts and any other documents that cannot be uploaded to:

Fairfield University  
Office of Graduate Admission  
Kelley Center  
1073 North Benson Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824

### GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**Erica Hartwell, PhD, LMFT**  
Associate Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy  
Program Director of the Certificate in Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health  
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Fairfield University

Graduate School of Education  
and Allied Professions

## **TUITION/FINANCIAL AID**

[www.fairfield.edu/gradfa](http://www.fairfield.edu/gradfa)

## **MORE INFORMATION**

### **ADMISSION QUESTIONS**

Questions about the application process should be directed to the **Office of Graduate Admission**.

Phone: 203-254-4184

Fax: 203-254-4073

E-mail: [gradadmis@fairfield.edu](mailto:gradadmis@fairfield.edu)

### **OFFICE OPERATIONS**

Days: Monday-Friday

Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center

## **GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS WEBSITE**

[www.fairfield.edu/gseap](http://www.fairfield.edu/gseap)

## **ONLINE CATALOG**

For detailed course descriptions and other University information, please refer to our online catalog

[www.fairfield.edu/catalogs](http://www.fairfield.edu/catalogs).