

## COUPLE & FAMILY THERAPY FACULTY

**ANDREA K. WITTENBORN, PH.D.**  
**PROGRAM DIRECTOR &  
PROFESSOR**

Depression; Clinical Research;  
Personalized Intervention; Emotionally  
Focused Couple Therapy



**KENDAL HOLTROP, PH.D.**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

Parenting practices; Adaptation and  
implementation of evidence-based  
parenting interventions; Community-  
based research; Underserved families



**ADRIAN BLOW, PH.D.**  
**DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON &  
PROFESSOR**

Military families; Trauma; Common  
factors in CFT theories; Infidelity in  
committed relationships



**TEMPLE ODOM, PH.D.**  
**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

Clinical issues surrounding adoption,  
foster care, and complex families;  
Examining developmental norms and  
grief and loss within these families;  
Clinical supervision and training



**LEKIE DWANYEN, PH.D.**  
**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

Traumatic stress and relationships;  
Immigrant and refugee families;  
Critical, feminist, and anti-racist  
research methods



**DEBRA MILLER, PH.D.**  
**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR &  
CFT CLINIC DIRECTOR**

Evidence-based practice  
implementation; Community-  
engaged research; Behavioral  
health practitioner development;  
Core therapist skills; Family  
engagement



**Andrea K. Wittenborn, Ph.D.**  
**CFT PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

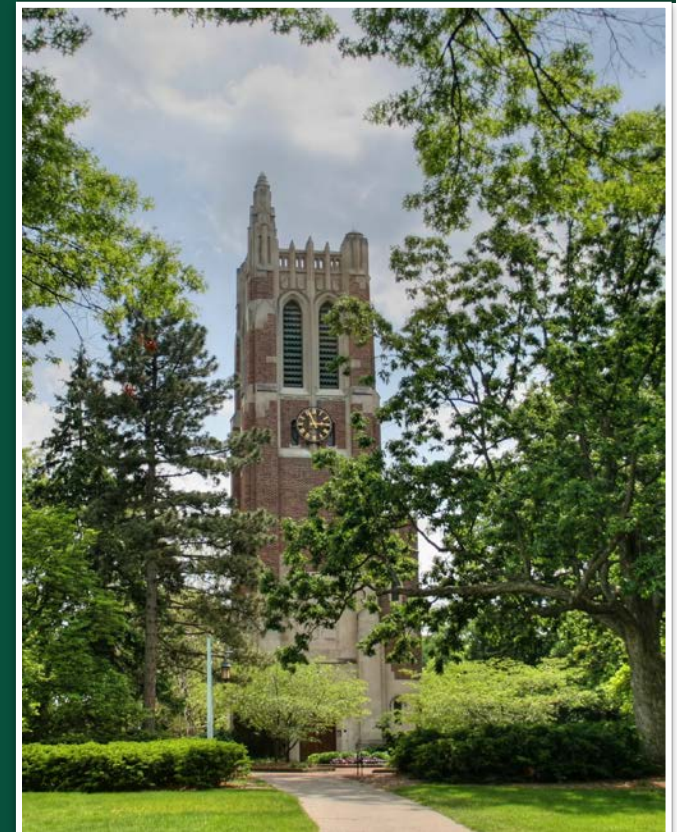
552 West Circle Drive  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824  
andrew@msu.edu

[hdfs.msu.edu/graduate/couple-and-family-therapy](https://hdfs.msu.edu/graduate/couple-and-family-therapy)

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
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# COAMFTE- ACCREDITED PH.D. IN COUPLE & FAMILY THERAPY



**Advancing Knowledge  
Transforming Lives**

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY COUPLE & FAMILY THERAPY DOCTORAL PROGRAM

## OUR MISSION

We are committed to advancing systemic interventions that support the well-being of individuals and families through excellence in clinically-relevant research, empirically-informed clinical practice, and education/outreach. Our activities are guided by our values of inclusion and diversity.

## ABOUT US

Our COAMFTE-accredited Couple and Family Therapy Ph.D. program was first established in 1985. We have a long history of preparing leaders in couple and family therapy education, research, and practice. Our training focuses on relational processes, empirically-supported interventions, and clinical research methodology. Our work is guided by a commitment to inclusion, diversity, and social justice. Our faculty are prominent scholars in parenting, family dynamics, intimate relationships, mental health disparities, immigrant families, trauma, and clinical research; we also have expertise in numerous empirically-supported couple and family interventions. We view doctoral education as a time of apprenticeship in which students receive intensive mentorship in research, practice, and education. Students are guided through the program by their advisor and doctoral committee.



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & REQUIREMENTS

- The CFT Ph.D. program is in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies
- Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)
- Applicants are required to have a master's degree
- Applicants with a master's degree from a COAMFTE-accredited program, or its equivalent, will have met the prerequisites for the program
- Students with a master's degree in another field (e.g., social work, counseling, psychology, family science) may need to complete the necessary coursework and clinical experience equivalent to that of a COAMFTE-accredited master's degree
- Students entering the Ph.D. program with a master's degree in CFT typically finish in 4 years
- Students are required to graduate with 1,000 hours of direct client care, which is consistent with the requirements for licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist in Michigan
- Students complete a 9-month internship that includes research, practice, teaching, supervision, and/or administration.

## PROGRAM GOALS

- 1** **CLINICALLY-RELEVANT RESEARCH**  
Students will conduct research that is relevant to systemic interventions.
- 2** **EMPIRICALLY-INFORMED CLINICAL PRACTICE**  
Students will inform their clinical practice by empirical evidence.
- 3** **EDUCATION/OUTREACH**  
Students will share knowledge with students, practitioners, scholars, and/or community members.
- 4** **INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY**  
Students will demonstrate a commitment to scholarly and clinical work that recognizes social locations, acknowledges power imbalances, and seeks to reduce disparities.

