

*Advanced study programme*  
**MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY**  
Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana

**Presentation of the study programme**

**1. Information on the study programme**

Second cycle study programme *Marital and Family Therapy* brings 60 ECTS credit points and takes 2 years (4 semesters).

**2. Fundamental objectives of the programme and general competences**

Fundamental objectives of the programme: Study of family and marital therapy provides advanced professional education of graduates from various professions who work with family as a whole, individuals as family members, and married and unmarried couples. The programme is designed to upgrade theoretical knowledge of family and partner relationships, parenting, intimate relationships, life cycles of family and individual, and family psychopathology, and to qualify participants for the use of this knowledge in therapeutic practice. The programme provides evaluated education for any number of vocations that include work with people, and enables integration in Slovenian and international professional therapists' associations and chambers.

*General competences obtained by the programme*

After they finish the programme, participants will be qualified for:

- Autonomous conducting of therapy with families, couples and individuals due to acquired implementation skills of marital and family therapist such as: establishing and maintenance of contact with clients, diagnostic assessment of cases, setting therapy goals, use of interventions, communication skills, personal skills and skills of conducting a therapy session.
- Understanding of intimate relationships and individual psychopathology, by means of which they acquire conceptual and perceptual skills of marital and family therapist such as: identifying theoretical backgrounds, thinking from the systemic perspective, identifying therapeutic models, perceiving oneself as therapist, identifying and setting hypotheses, and integration of theory and practice.
- Empathetic monitoring and advising, emotional regulation of traumatic experiences, work with individuals experiencing crises and traumatized individuals, verbalization of emotional processes.
- Planning therapeutic sessions and conducting therapy, ethical assessment of therapeutic interventions, concluding therapeutic processes and development of professional therapist attitude.
- Evaluation of therapeutic work and self-evaluation.

*Subject-specific competences obtained in the programme*

When they finish the programme, participants will have the following competences:

- Understanding of historical and theoretical foundations of system-relation model in psychoanalysis and psychotherapy.
- Understanding of family development and changes in family rules, roles, communication patterns, emotions, and interpersonal perceptions.
- Understanding of fundamental concepts of individual psychopathology and classification of mental disorders.
- Understanding of development science and its laws in studying interpersonal relationships and attachment, knowledge of theories and research on intimate partner relationship and laws of its development, awareness of the significance of research in marital and family therapy.
- They will be qualified for identifying and verbalizing affective intergenerational and interpersonal dynamics within family; for identifying dysfunctional types of attachment in families; for identifying and evaluation of bio-psychological foundation of attachment and relations in family development.
- Independent planning and conducting of family therapy process, ability to conduct their own professional practice and collaborate with other mental health professionals.
- Establishing connection with clients through empathetic addressing emotional and body processes in family therapy.
- Ability to integrate specific therapeutic techniques and strategies (integration of theory and practice, ability to explain applied therapeutic intervention and evaluate its appropriateness).
- In family therapy: use of interventions which regulate violent affects and stress, strengthen borders between family members, and deter from blaming.
- Conducting and planning family therapy with critical assessment of the appropriateness of therapeutic interventions.
- Identifying changes in the process of family and partnership therapy.
- Long-term conducting, planning and supervising family and partnership therapy (developing the skill of evaluation of therapy process and self-evaluation, building of a therapist self-image and directing their professional development towards ever more constructive interaction with clients).
- Development of personal therapist skills such as empathy, patience, coping with their own anxiety, healthy self-criticism, emotional maturity, professionalism, flexibility, absence of pathology, building professional image and professional therapist attitude and stance.
- They will acquire personal therapeutic experience in marital therapy.

### **3. Admission criteria and criteria when numerus clausus is applied**

Second cycle study programme Marital and Family Studies is open for those who completed a university study programme (adopted prior to 11 June 2004) or first cycle study programme (or equal education according to the Higher Education Act) in adequate professional fields (humanistic, pedagogical, social, health-care, or social sciences).

Graduates from other fields of study can enrol if prior to enrolment or in the first year of study they fulfil study requirements which are determined, in regard to differences of the area of expertise, by an appropriate Faculty body, in the scope of 16 ECTS credit points.

Graduates of programmes with a degree higher than the required may also enrol in the programme.

In accordance with Article 121 of the Statute of the University of Ljubljana (hereinafter: the UL), candidates who have completed an equal education programme abroad fulfil admission criteria. The procedure is conducted by an authorized person of the UL, while content wise the recognition of education obtained abroad is decided by the TEOF Senate or the UL Senate in accordance with Articles 77 and 47 of the UL Statute.

### **4. Criteria for proceeding through the programme**

For proceeding **from the first to the second academic year**, the participant should pass all four examinations from the group of compulsory subjects of the first year or 19 credits. Requirements for the subject Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) I should be fulfilled in order to fulfil requirements for the subject Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) I. Requirements for the subject Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) II should be fulfilled in order to fulfil requirements for the subject Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) II.

For recognizing knowledge obtained prior to enrolment in the programme, the following criteria will apply:

- appropriateness of the conditions for enrolment and required prior education for enrolment in the programme,
- comparability of the scope of education with the scope of the subject where the requirement is recognized,
- adequacy of the contents of education according to the contents of the subject where the requirement is recognized.

If the committee determines that the acquired knowledge may be recognized, it is evaluated with the number of ECTS credits that equals the number of credits with the subject.

In accordance with the decision of the senate of the Faculty of Theology (25<sup>th</sup> senate meeting on 5 May 2008) and with Article 153 of the Statute of the UL, a student proceeding to the next

year can exceptionally have up to 6 ECTS of study obligations overlooked, if there are justified reasons for doing so. Justified reasons are specified in the Statute of the UL.

## **6. Criteria for completing the study**

To complete the advanced study programme, a student acquires 60 credits.

## **7. Assessment of knowledge**

Participants' work is assessed with written and oral examinations, in seminars, reports and tutorials. Prerequisite for an examination are fulfilled requirements in tutorials, seminars and reports. The methods of assessment of respective subjects are defined for each subject in curricula. Assessment scale ranges from 6 to 10 (positive marks) and from 1 to 5 (negative marks):

10	excellent	exceptional results with negligible mistakes
9	very good	knowledge above average but with some mistakes
8	very good	solid results
7	good	good knowledge but some major mistakes
6	satisfactory	knowledge meets minimal criteria
5-1	fail	knowledge does not meet minimal criteria

Examination regime is in compliance with the UL Statute and Regulations and Study rules of the TEOF UL.

## **8. Curriculum of the study programme**

Curriculum consists of 8 compulsory and 7 optional subjects which students choose from offered optional subjects. Compulsory subjects cover the vast field of systemic theories, therapeutic models, approaches and methods which every family therapist is supposed to know and master, theoretically as well as in practice.

### **FIRST YEAR**

First year, first semester
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No.	Learning unit		Contact hours					Independent student work	Hours TTL	ECTS
			Lect.	Sem.	T	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study			
1	Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) I					60		90	150	5
2	Systemic and Relational Approaches in Psychotherapy		40	10	10			90	150	5
3	Optional subject 1		10	10	10			60	90	3
4	Optional subject 2		10	10	10			60	90	3
TOTAL			60	30	30	60		300	480	16
PERCENT			33%	17%	17%	33%				

First year, second semester										
No.	Learning unit		Contact hours					Independent student work	Hours TTL	ECTS
			Lect.	Sem.	T	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study			
1	Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) I					60		90	150	5
2	Marital Psychopathology		30	5		10		75	120	4
3	Optional subject 3		10	10	10			60	90	3
4	Optional subject 4		10	10	10			60	90	3
TOTAL			50	25	20	70		285	450	15
PERCENT			30.3%	15.2%	12.1%	42.42%				

Optional subjects, first year, first and second semester										
No.	Subject		Contact hours					Independent student work	Hours TTL	ECTS
			Lect.	Sem.	T	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study			
1	Treatment of Sexual Abuse in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
2	Psychopathology: Diagnostics and Terminology		10	10	10			60	90	3
3	Therapeutic Treatment of Families with Chronic Diseases and Special Needs		10	10	10			60	90	3
4	Treatment of Attachment Issues in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
5	Treatment of Violence in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
6	Ethical, Legal and Research Aspects of Work in Marital and Family Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
7	Family Development Cycles		10	10	10			60	90	3
8	Treatment of Existential Issues in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
9	Supporting Mental Health in Therapeutic Practice		10	10	10			60	90	3
10	Developmental Psychology for Marital and Family Therapists		10	10	10			60	90	3
11	Developmental Neuropsychology		10	10	10			60	90	3
12	Treatment of Sexuality in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
13	Therapeutic Work Within Groups		10	10	10			60	90	3

14	Therapeutic Treatment of Addiction		10	10	10			60	90	3
15	Treatment of Infidelity and Divorce in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
16	Treatment of Children and Adolescents in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
17	Therapeutic Work With Different Types of Families and Co-existence		10	10	10			60	90	3
TOTAL			170	170	170			1020	1530	51

## SECOND YEAR

Second year, first semester										
No.	Learning unit		Contact hours					Independent student work	Hours TTL	ECTS
			Lect.	Sem.	T	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study			
1	Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) II					60		90	150	5
2	Treatment of Conflict in Therapy		30	15				75	120	4
3	Optional subject 5		10	10	10			60	90	3
4	Optional subject 6		10	10	10			60	90	3
TOTAL			50	35	20	60		285	450	15
PERCENT			30.3 %	21.2 %	12.1 %	36.4 %				

Second year, second semester										
No.	Learning unit		Contact hours					Independent student work	Hours TTL	ECTS
			Lect.	Sem.	T	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study			
1	Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) II					60		90	150	5
2	Therapeutic Treatment of Families with a Mentally Disturbed Member		40	20	15			105	180	6
3	Optional subject 7		10	10	10			60	90	3
TOTAL			50	30	25	60		255	420	14
PERCENT			30.3%	18.18%	15.15%	36.36%				

Optional subjects, second year, first and second semester										
No.	Subject		Contact hours					Independent student work	Hours TTL	ECTS
			Lect.	Sem.	T	Clinical tutorials	Other forms of study			
1	Treatment of Sexual Abuse in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
2	Therapeutic Treatment of Families with Chronic Diseases and Special Needs		10	10	10			60	90	3
3	Treatment of Attachment Issues in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3



4	Treatment of Violence in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
5	Ethical, Legal and Research Aspects of Work in Marital and Family Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
6	Therapeutic Work With Different Types of Families and Co-existence		10	10	10			60	90	3
7	Treatment of Existential Issues in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
8	Supporting Mental Health in Therapeutic Practice		10	10	10			60	90	3
9	Developmental Neuropsychology		10	10	10			60	90	3
10	Treatment of Sexuality in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
11	Therapeutic Work Within Groups		10	10	10			60	90	3
12	Therapeutic Treatment of Addiction		10	10	10			60	90	3
13	Treatment of Infidelity and Divorce in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
14	Treatment of Children and Adolescents in Therapy		10	10	10			60	90	3
TOTAL			140	140	140			840	1260	42

*Key: Lect.=lecture, T=tutorials, Sem.=seminar*

Second cycle study programme Marital and Family Therapy which takes 2 years (4 semesters), consists of 60 ECTS credit points or 675 contact hours (lectures, tutorials, seminars), i.e. 1800 hours of participant's study load.

## 10. Optional subjects and mobility

Participants choose optional subjects which enable in-depth study and qualification in the specific field of family and couples therapy. The programme comprises 39 KT (65%) of compulsory and 21 KT (35%) of optional contents.

## **11. Short introduction of subjects:**

### **11.1. Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) I**

Clinical tutorials (in a form of personal therapeutic experience) according to relation family therapy model focusing on the following topics: presentation of basic approaches of relation family therapy in clinical situations with the emphasis on psychotherapy work with family; systemic, intrapsychic and interpersonal levels of experiencing; intergenerational transfer of psychic contents; basic mechanisms in relation family therapy: fundamental affect, affective psychological construct, projection-introjection identification, compulsive repetition and affect regulation; psycho-organic states and their regulation in therapeutic process; relational dynamics in systemic theory: system integrity, hierarchy, subsystems, borders, circular causality, rules, roles, level of deviation, system needs, system dynamics (triangulation); therapeutic techniques in relation family therapy; therapeutic interventions in family therapy in the case of single-parent family, conflicts between children and parents due to learning difficulties, eating disorders, psychosomatics; the role of therapist in family therapy process; genogram with family affective dynamics.

### **11.2. Systemic and relational approaches in psychotherapy**

The subject presents basic concepts within the relational conception of man and his development, history of relational paradigm in psychoanalysis and psychotherapy, and basic concepts of various systemic and relational traditions. Participants get acquainted with methods of systemic and relational therapeutic work which have firm empirically verifiable foundation and therapeutic relevance, and develop the skill of critical and conceptually analytical observation and understanding of historical development of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy.

### **11.3. Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) I**

Clinical tutorials according to relation family therapy model focusing on psychotherapy work with couples and the following topics: presentation of marital/partner therapy models in clinical situations; attachment theory basics; basic concepts of affective psychological construct, projection-introjection identification, compulsive repetition, fundamental affect and affect regulation in relation family therapy with couples; psycho-organic states and their regulation in therapeutic process; dynamics of intrapsychic non-aggression pact; therapeutic techniques in relation marital therapy: therapeutic interventions in marital/partner therapy in the case of conflicts related to communication, emotional numbness, problems with raising small children, empty nest, unemployment, adrenaline sports, workaholism, religious fanaticism, hypochondria, intergenerational issues, anxiety, premarital conflict, unplanned pregnancy; the role of therapist and the course of therapy process with affective dynamics of participants' primary families which impacts intrapsychic images and perception of oneself in relation to important others, and their perception of each other; genogram with the couple's and their primary families' affective dynamics.

### **11.4. Marital psychopathology**

The subject addresses fundamentals of innovative relation marital therapy such as: the basics of attraction, affect regulation-dysregulation, psychoorganic states, projection-introjection identification, intrapsychic pacts, transference and countertransference, the impact of attachment styles, family of origin, therapeutic relationship and communication of affective-psychoorganic contents on partners' relationship, its dynamics and therapy process itself. Within these topics partnership combinations with various personality disorders are presented (obsessive-compulsive-histrionic, narcissistic, narcissistic-borderline, dependent-narcissistic, avoiding-narcissistic, borderline-antisocial, borderline-schizoid, schizoid-paranoid, hypomanic-melancholic, bipolar, anxious and anorexic-bulimic partnerships).

### **11.5. Treatment of Sexual Abuse in Therapy**

The subject covers fundamental traits of clinical work with sexual abuse trauma, sexual abuse dynamics, connection of the brain and hormones with compulsive repetition and attraction, stages of therapeutic processing of sexual abuse trauma on essential levels of human functioning. Work with trauma is presented in the context of relation family therapy, focused on transference and countertransference in clinical work with the sexually abused, affect regulation, affective psychological constructs, elimination and processing of symptoms of trauma in therapy and, finally, interventions in the times of crisis.

### **11.6. Psychopathology: Diagnostics and Terminology**

Participants learn fundamental concepts of classification and diagnostics of mental disorders in DSM 5 system. They are able to identify various factors of individual disorders, their mutual effects and intertwining, and know the types of psychotherapeutic and other treatment. They develop the ability of systematic observation of diagnostic criteria, and of conducting and planning adequate treatment.

### **11.7. Therapeutic Treatment of Families with Chronic Diseases and Special Needs**

The subject consists of lectures, seminars and tutorials where participants become familiar with topics such as coping with acute, chronic or life-threatening disease, disability and special needs. In a practical context, students learn about fundamental methods of work in medical family therapy and various types of intervention to help individuals with illness and their families. The objective is to learn about and develop some basic therapeutic techniques and methods in treating acute and chronic diseases and losses with an individual.

### **11.8. Treatment of Attachment Issues in Therapy**

The subject introduces findings and research of attachment and development theories. Students develop the skill of conceptual and emotional understanding and recognizing the meaning, development and types of relationships, being able to use this knowledge in adapting their work to individuals and groups within various social welfare contexts.

### **11.9. Treatment of Violence in Therapy**

Understanding violence in family. Early relational trauma and PTSD. Violence in family and subsequent personal disorders: borderline, antisocial. Intergenerational transference of trauma. Secondary traumatization. The cycle of violence in marriage and family. Relational approach

to healing of marriage and family. Family support in addressing severe complications in adolescents: violence, drugs, debauchery, promiscuity.

#### **11.10. Ethical, Legal and Research Aspects of Work in Marital and Family Therapy**

Ethics, ethical code and legal issues in marital and family therapy, most typical examples of violation of ethical code in practice, and legal problems. Professional organizations and their characteristics. Limitations, permissions and authorization within marital and family therapy. Characteristics and basic research methods in marital and family therapy. Adequate methodology for research and evaluation of one's therapeutic practice. Knowledge of sources of information on research in marital and family therapy and their integration in one's therapeutic practice. Understanding the concept 'evidence-based family therapy' and its application.

#### **11.11. Family Development Cycles**

Participants learn about foundations of modern developmental science and science of life processes in family. They learn about family and individual development stages, connecting them with their knowledge of family and partnership dynamics and psychopathology. They identify areas and factors within family system which are crucial for occurrence and repetition of developmental pathological patterns.

#### **11.12. Treatment of Existential Issues in Therapy**

The most common existential questions related to: meaning and meaninglessness of human existence, man's spiritual belonging and isolation, death and human limitations, man's freedom and responsibility, man's spiritual experience, love, old age and transcendence. Dynamics of these existential issues which, if not addressed, leave consequences in individual's life and his/her relationships, especially in partnership/marriage and family, and with strategies addressing these issues in therapeutic practice. Treatment of these questions in therapeutic practice in specific life situations such as: coping with one's own death and with death of family members, coping with old age, coping with one's chronic illness or disability, or chronic illness or disability of family members, coping with suicide, coping with life failure.

#### **11.13. Supporting Psychological Health in Therapeutic Practice**

Participants become familiar with main areas of positive psychology and their applicability in relation family therapeutic practice. Apart from learning about research results in numerous areas of positive psychology (sympathy, gratefulness, self-awareness, strengths and values, persistence, efficiency), within tutorials participants adopt basic skills of positive attitude towards oneself, others and the world, and are capable to appropriately motivate their clients for practicing positive psychology skills.

#### **11.14. Developmental Psychology for Marital and Family Therapists**

The subject covers factors and principles of man's comprehensive lifelong development. It presents fundamental development tasks in each development stage, and developmental areas

of an individual, as well how they are intertwined (physical, cognitive, emotional, social, moral, spiritual areas). Students learn about major traditional and contemporary development theories. A special emphasis is placed on the identification of development problems and disorders and related planning and monitoring whole personal growth and development in individuals, couples and families; various therapeutic interventions are presented to encourage optimal development.

#### **11.15. Developmental Neuropsychology**

The subject contents are: the basics of brain structure, fundamental principles of brain function and development, and physiological mechanism of affect regulation. Participants learn to identify various emotional states and develop the skill of understanding, identifying and verbalizing their own emotional states and emotional states in relationships; they also understand the physiology of effective regulation of identified states.

#### **11.16. Treatment of Sexuality in Therapy**

Students learn about how to professionally deal with sexuality-related issues, how to address physical, emotional, cognitive and spiritual aspects of sexuality, how to encourage healthy sexuality between two partners, how to make a clinical assessment of sex-related problems, how to determine when medical treatment of sexuality issues is in order and when (psycho)therapy is recommendable, and how to therapeutically deal with specific disorders related to gender and sexuality. Students learn about personal filters through which they judge client sexuality, as well as clients' personal filters (worldview, religion, etc.). They learn about therapeutic treatment of specific aspects of female and male sexuality, and touch upon issues related to gender identity and sexual orientation.

#### **11.17. Therapeutic Work within Groups**

The subject introduces understanding and knowing basic definitions of a group and its characteristics, types of groups, research of groups and processes within groups. Participants learn about the meaning of cohesiveness, structure, influence and strength of a group and typical roles of group members; developmental stages of a group; the role of group leader, characteristics and efficiency of leading a group; conflict within a group, its causes and escalation, types of conflict and conflict management in a group.

#### **11.18. Therapeutic Treatment of Addiction**

Different models of understanding addiction: moral, medical, psychological and sociological model. Relation family understanding of addiction: a substitute for relationship. Unmet basic self-object needs as a cause for addiction behaviour. Addiction on systemic, interpersonal and intrapsychic level, and on cognitive, behaviour, and affective level. Basic therapeutic interventions in treating the syndrome of addiction to alcohol, gambling, prescription drugs, Internet, sex, and religion. Basic interventions for establishing and maintaining abstinence. The most common transference contents in working with addicts. Institutions offering treatment of various forms of addictions.

#### **11.19. Treatment of Infidelity and Divorce in Therapy**

The subject enables student to identify emotional dynamics of infidelity and divorce and to use theoretical knowledge of marital dynamics in practice. Students obtain personal experience in working with married couples in cases of infidelity and/or divorce. Getting acquainted with clinical practice in working with infidelity and divorce procedure in marital therapy is based on the following topics: stages in dealing with infidelity in therapy; therapeutic interventions which enable taking responsibility for infidelity; therapeutic interventions which enable coping with emotional aspects of infidelity in both partners; process of healing and forgiving infidelity in marital therapy; pre-divorce procedure and therapeutic interventions to bridge emotional gap in marriage; decision for divorce and therapeutic interventions of coping with divorce and informing family members; divorce procedure and therapeutic interventions of assisting an individual in divorce procedure; processing parental distress in divorce procedure.

#### **11.20. Treatment of Children and Adolescents in Therapy**

The subject brings fundamental knowledge in therapeutic treatment of children and adolescents. It consists of lectures and tutorials where students learn about different therapeutic models, methods and strategies, and qualify for their implementation in therapeutic practice. Special emphasis will be placed on perceiving children experience, knowing children communication and establishing empathetic therapeutic relationship.

#### **11.21. Therapeutic Work with Different Types of Families and Co-existence**

Specifics of work with different types of families such as adoptive families, patchwork families, couples who live separately, infertile couples, homosexual couples etc. Therapeutic interventions according to a type of family or co-existence, with emphasis on understanding developmental characteristics of every type, vulnerability of all members of these families when family structure is changing, considering also regulation of existing forms in Slovenia. Implementation of therapeutic process with different forms of family and co-existence with development of professional and ethical attitude.

#### **11.22. Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) II**

The subject is an upgrade of Relation Family Therapy (clinical tutorials) I contents, and its basic objectives are to deepen understanding of family dynamics and further qualification for therapeutic work with family. Through experiential learning, students obtain personal therapeutic experience. They learn about the following topics: affect regulation in family therapy as an organically conditioned response in participants and therapist; relational trauma, intergenerational trauma and re-traumatization within family; physical responses to trauma and dissociation in family dynamics, and addressing dissociated elements through SIBAM model in family therapy; traumatic memory recall in therapy, and dual awareness as a boundary between present physical experience and past experiences, elimination of trauma symptoms in family therapy and processing of traumatic memories in family therapy; therapeutic interventions in cases of divorce within family, addiction, depression, violence and runaway adolescent.

#### **11.23. Treatment of Conflict in Therapy**

Participants learn about the dynamics of conflict in family and marriage and addressing these dynamics. They get acquainted with conflict-solving methods and are capable of developing strategies appropriate for individual conflicts.

They also learn about the process of forgiveness and strategies to promote forgiveness in therapy process.

#### **11.24. Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) II**

The subject is the upgrading of Relation Marital Therapy (clinical tutorials) I, and its basic objectives are deeper understanding of marital dynamics and further qualification for couple therapy. Through experiential learning, students obtain personal therapeutic experience. They learn about the following topics: affect regulation in marital therapy, physical responses to trauma and dissociation in marital dynamics, and addressing dissociated elements through SIBAM model in marital therapy; traumatic memory recall in therapy, and dual awareness as a boundary between present physical experience and past experiences, in marital therapy; clinical work with psycho-organic memory in marital therapy, clinical work with body sensations/trauma-related psychobiological states in marital therapy; therapeutic interventions in marital therapy in cases of sexual abuse, infidelity, infertility, addiction to pornography, abortion, self-injury, suicide, chronic illnesses, eating disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic attacks, physical violence, psychological violence, financial violence.

#### **11.25. Therapeutic Treatment of Families with a Mentally Disturbed Member**

Participants learn the development and theoretical background of mental disorders classification; they understand basic interpersonal dynamics of disorders in family and couples; they understand and are capable of argued discussion on dilemmas related to disorders and treatment.

#### **11.26. Supporting Mental Health in Therapeutic Practice**

Participants become familiar with main areas of positive psychology and their applicability in relation family therapeutic practice. Apart from learning about research results in numerous areas of positive psychology (sympathy, gratefulness, self-awareness, strengths and values, persistence, efficiency), within tutorials participants adopt basic skills of positive attitude towards oneself, others and the world, and are capable to appropriately motivate their clients for practicing positive psychology skills.

### **12. Envisaged number of enrolled students and other information**

Envisaged number of enrolled participants in an academic year is 30.