

# Faith-Based Couple and Family Therapy Certificate Program

## Curriculum

The Faith-Based Couple and Family Therapy Certificate Program is held online and is comprised of 4 sequential courses, each of which is 10 weeks.

- Introduction to Couple & Family Systems Theory & Practice
- Diversity, Social Justice, and Faith-Based Practice
- Clinical Seminar
- Person of the Faith-Based Leader Seminar

## Eligibility

Applicants must serve as a faith leader or be an aspiring faith leader. A faith leader is defined as anyone in their religious or spiritual environment who has a role in affecting attitudes, behaviors, and/or counseling of faith-based community members or anyone in their religious or spiritual environment aspiring to serve as a faith leader.

## About the Program

The purpose of the Faith-Based Couple and Family Therapy Certificate Program is to provide knowledge of couple and family systems theory and therapy with direct application to faith-based functioning and practice. This program is designed to enhance the skills of faith-based leaders in providing guidance and support to individuals, couples, and families experiencing problems. The Faith-Based Couple and Family Therapy Certificate Program requires a one-year commitment to advanced training.

This online course will enhance the skills of clergy, priests, rabbis, imams, and other religious leaders who provide spiritual guidance to families across diverse communities. This training will help clergy support families, couples, and congregation members through life's joys and challenges.

Training at Ackerman is synonymous with having access to a group of faculty members with several decades of combined classroom and clinical experience. They are as professional as they are passionate about the role of family therapy as an effective therapeutic modality and as a means by which our institute's greater, social justice oriented aims, may be achieved.



## Program Goals

The Ackerman Institute for the Family is a major force in post-graduate training for practitioners committed to family mental health. We work with therapists and community partners to develop the necessary skills to support families from all backgrounds. Visit us online to learn more about our clinical services, professional trainings, and community initiatives.

The Ackerman Institute for the Family is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization.

212.879.4900  
admissions@ackerman.org  
ackerman.org

936 Broadway, 2nd Fl.  
New York, NY 10010

- Integrate couple and family therapy knowledge and skills with faith-based knowledge and skills.
- Apply a relational approach in faith-based leadership.
- Increase self-awareness and self-management within the emotional system of a faith-based organization.
- Understand the relationship between larger contextual issues (e.g., power and privilege) and faith-based practice.

## Why Should Clergy Members Train at Ackerman?

As the leader in couple & family therapy for over 60 years, the Ackerman Institute for the Family is uniquely positioned to help faith leaders better support families and communities. We view systems theory as an integral part of working with family relationships. Our goal is to deliver the most effective skills to professionals who make a difference.