

Fariha M. Niazi, Ph.D., LMFT, LMHC
Dept. of Family Therapy
College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
Nova Southeastern University
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Education

- **Ph.D.** Family Therapy (2009)
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- **M. S.** Family Therapy (1999)
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- **M. S.** Anthropology (1997)
Dept of Anthropology
Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan
- **B.A.** English Literature and Journalism (1994)
Lahore College for Women, Lahore, Pakistan

Work Experience

- **Interim Chair / Assistant Professor** (January 2020 – Present)
Dept. of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Providing leadership and direction for the department and its academic programs in achieving immediate and long-term goals, expectations and standards, as set forth by the college, university and accreditation entities, while working collaboratively with the university and college administrators, department faculty and students, and stakeholders. Teaching, supervising and training graduate students in COAMFTE accredited M.S. and Doctoral programs.
- **Visiting Assistant Professor** (Fall 2019)
Dept. of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Teaching, supervising and training graduate students in COAMFTE accredited M.S. and Doctoral programs and completing responsibilities as a full-time faculty.

Graduate Courses Taught:

- DMFT 6400 - Evidence-Based Research
- SFTM 5310 - Introduction to Systems Theories
- SFTM 5322 - Clinical Practice in Marital and Family Therapy
- SFTM 5335 - Human Development Across the Life Cycle

○ **Adjunct Faculty** (2009 – 2019)

Dept. of Family Therapy

Nova Southeastern University

Fort Lauderdale, FL

Teaching, supervising and training graduate students in COAMFTE accredited M.S. and Doctoral programs.

Graduate Courses Taught:

- SFTM 5310 - Introduction to Systems Theories
- SFTM 5320 - Introduction to Marital and Family Therapy: Counseling Theories and Techniques
- SFTM 6333 - Theories of Personality and Psychopathology
- SFTM 5330 - Group Psychotherapy
- SFTM 6558 - Couples Therapy: Theory and Application
- SFTM 5322 - Clinical Practice in Marital and Family Therapy
- SFTM 5335 - Human Development Across the Life Cycle
- SFTM 5321 - Theories of Marriage and Family Therapy
- SFTM 5311 - Substance Abuse/Addictions and Critical Issues in Systems Theories
- SFTM 5350 - Research in Marriage and Family Therapy
- SFTM 6300 - External Practicum
- SFTM 5400 - Internal Practicum (M.S.)
- SFTD 5010 - Systemic Family Therapy I
- SFTD 6200 - Internal Practicum (Doctoral)
- FSHC 5000 - Family Systems Health Care I
- FSHC 5300 - Integration and Collaboration of/among Health Care Systems
- FSHC 6400 - Human Systems in Healthcare
- FSHC 5500 - Politics and Economics of Health Care

○ **Adjunct Faculty** (2009 – 2019)

Dept. of Social Sciences and Counseling

St. Thomas University

Miami, FL

Teaching and supervising graduate students in family therapy and mental health counseling programs.

Graduate Courses Taught:

- CPS 740 - Introduction to Family Therapy and Evaluation
- CPS 742 - Intermediate Family Therapy
- CPS 741 - Transitions in Family Life
- CPS 745 - Abnormal Psychology
- CPS 749 - Intermediate Counseling
- CPS 734 - Therapeutic Issues of Infancy and Childhood
- CPS 792 - Field Experience in Marriage and Family Therapy I
- CPS 793 - Field Experience in Marriage and Family Therapy II

- ***Training Manager*** (2014 – 2018)

Magellan Health
Miami, FL

Developing and implementing effective training programs for an integrated Medicaid health plan; assuming overall responsibility for the development and implementation of new employee orientation as well as ongoing education programs either required per contract or identified by performance improvement processes; providing leadership/support regarding new-hire and advanced training activities to staff located in the office and in the field; designing and implementing training programs in consultation with the management team (directors, medical directors, and vice presidents) internal departments (such as Human Resources, Medical, Network, Claims, Quality Improvement) and stakeholders regarding innovative training initiatives including best practice, leadership development, cultural competency, and customer service; researching, developing and maintaining manuals and documentation of customized service center procedures, training programs, support materials, and training/job aids; developing clinical training modules, new hire and advanced training materials and format to assure that additional training needs of the site are met; and developing new training programs as regulations are updated to ensure compliance with federal, state and contractual requirements.

- ***Utilization Manager/Reviewer*** (2007 – 2013)

Magellan Health
Miami, FL

Monitoring inpatient and intermediate level of care services related to mental health and substance abuse treatment to ensure medical necessity and effectiveness; Performing initial and concurrent reviews for inpatient care and other levels of care as allowed by scope of practice and experience; In conjunction with providers and facilities, developing discharge plans and oversaw their implementation; Providing telephone triage, crisis intervention and emergency authorizations; Providing information to members and providers regarding mental health and substance abuse benefits, community treatment resources, mental health managed care programs, and Magellan Health Services policies and procedures, and criteria; Interacting with Magellan Medical Directors and Physician Advisors to discuss clinical/authorization questions and concerns regarding specific cases; Participating in quality improvement (QI) activities, including data collection, tracking, and analysis; Participating in Call Management Center (CMC) activities that help improve Care Center performance, excellence and culture; Supporting team

members and participated in team activities to help build a high-performance team; Demonstrating flexibility in areas such as job duties and schedule in order to aid CMC in better serving its members.

- **Regional Director** (2003 – 2007)
 Institute for Family Centered Services, Inc.
 Pompano Beach, FL
 Overseeing the operational, clinical service delivery, public relations and marketing aspects of a mental health agency (regional office) as well as supervising administrative staff, clinicians (with Master's degrees) and over 100 families (who were receiving clinical services every month, under diverse funding sources such as Medicaid, state/federal grants and contracts etc.).
- **Family Centered Practitioner/Clinician** (2003)
 Institute for Family Centered Services, Inc.
 Pompano Beach, FL
 Providing in-home family centered therapy to children and adolescents with diverse emotional and behavioral issues.
- **Behavioral Health Overlay Services Counselor** (2001 – 2002)
 Psychotherapeutic Services of Florida, Inc.
 Pembroke Pines, FL
 Providing individual, group and family counseling to youths, ages 12-17, at a Dept. of Juvenile Justice level six (moderate risk) residential facility.
- **Intake Therapist/Coordinator** (2000 – 2001)
 Family Therapy Associates/Brief Therapy Institute
 Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 Completing intake assessments with incoming clients, scheduling appointments for the clients and assisting with administrative functions at the center.
- **Group Facilitator/Leader** (2001)
 Growing up with Divorce: A court-ordered 4-hour class
 Family Therapy Associates
 Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 Teaching *Growing up with Divorce* class (a court-ordered 4-hour class) to parents coping with divorce.
- **Family Therapist** (1999 – 2000)
 Intensive Crisis Counseling Program (ICCP)
 Family Therapy Associates
 Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 Providing in-home family centered therapy to children and families referred by Department of Children and Families (DCF).

- **Teacher's Aide** (1999)
Baudhuin Oral School
Therapeutic Intervention Program (TIP) for Autistic Children
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Providing assistance to children in the classroom to ensure an enriching, safe and clean classroom and playground environment; Assisting in the implementation of a developmentally appropriate curriculum to ensure a stimulating learning experience; Supervising children during arrival, dismissal, playground time and lunch to ensure children are safe and accounted for at all times; Communicating with parents, coordinator and other primary care givers to ensure a positive, participating environment; Preparing classroom learning materials and displays to ensure appropriate learning support materials are available at all times; Assisting with monitoring and coordinating activities to provide children with an enhanced learning experience.
- **Clinical Internship Experience** (1998 –1999)
 - New River Middle, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 - Stephen Foster Elementary, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 - Family Therapy Associates, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 - Pembroke Pines Police Dept./ Pines Middle School Project
Family Therapy Associates, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Other Supervisory and Teaching Experience

- **Supervisor and Consultant** (2015 – Present)
SHAFAs Consultants
Davie, FL
Providing clinical supervisions and consultations to family therapists and mental health counselors.
- **Teaching Assistant** (2001 – 2002)
Dept. of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Courses:
 - Family Therapy IV- Natural Systems Theory
 - Personality & Psychopathology
 - Language Systems
 - Medical Family Therapy II - Bereavement & Loss
- **Guest Lectures**
Developing Cultural Competency (2003)
Course: Family Counseling
Dept. of Counselor Education
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL

Chronic Pain Management (2000/2001)
 Course: Medical Family Therapy I-Chronic Illnesses
 Dept. of Family Therapy
 Nova Southeastern University
 Fort Lauderdale, FL

Grief Across Cultures (2000)
 Course: Medical Family Therapy II-Bereavement & Loss
 Dept. of Family Therapy
 Nova Southeastern University
 Fort Lauderdale, FL

Research

- Learning from the exceptions: A phenomenological inquiry into the experiences of family therapists working in hospice programs
 A Ph.D. Dissertation at the dept. of Family Therapy (2008)
 Nova Southeastern University, Ft Lauderdale, FL
- Desire for sons: An ethnographic study (in rural Pakistan)
 A M.S. Thesis at the dept. of Anthorpology (1997)
 Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan

Presentations

- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (Sep, 2004). Harnessing the Storm: Working with Grieving Families. Presentation at the Annual Conference of American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (Oct, 2003). To Recovery and beyond: Therapy with Substance Abusing Clients. Presentation at the Annual Conference of American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, California.
- **Niazi, F.**, & Akhtarullah, S. (Oct, 2003). Coping with Loss: Grief and Bereavement Across Cultures. Presentation at the 14th Annual Family Central Education Conference, Ft Lauderdale, Florida.
- **Niazi, F.**, & Akhtarullah, S. (May, 2003). Picking Up the Pieces: Understanding the Multidimensional Phenomena of Grief, Bereavement and Loss. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Delray Beach, Florida.
- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (May, 2003). Building Bridges: Working with Substance Abusing Clients. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Delray Beach, Florida.
- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (May, 2003). Revisiting the Matrix: HIV/AIDS from a Biopsychosocial/Spiritual Perspective. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Delray Beach, Florida.

- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (Oct, 2002). Healing Families: Bereavement, loss and grief Across Cultures. Presentation at the Annual Conference of American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- **Niazi, F.**, & Akhtarullah, S. (May, 2002). The reluctant clients: Doing therapy with adolescents. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Orlando, Florida.
- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (May, 2002). Living with loss: Understanding bereavement and grief through the lifespan. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Orlando, Florida.
- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (May, 2002). Looking through the prism: Viewing HIV/AIDS from a biopsychosocial/spiritual perspective. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Orlando, Florida.
- Akhtarullah, S., & **Niazi, F.** (2001, May). Nowhere but home: Doing home-based therapy. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Orlando, Florida.

Publications

- Kopp, S., Akhtarullah, S., **Niazi, F.**, Duncan, B., & Sparks, J. (2001). Freaked out by forms: Why I should do this. In B. L. Duncan & J. Sparks (Eds.), *Heroic clients, heroic agencies: Partners for change*. Florida: Nova Southeastern University Press.
- Kopp, S., Akhtarullah, S., **Niazi, F.**, Duncan, B., & Sparks, J. (2001). The seamless use of measures: The nuts and bolts of accountability. In B. L. Duncan & J. Sparks (Eds.), *Heroic clients, heroic agencies: Partners for change*. Florida: Nova Southeastern University Press.

Summary of Qualifications

- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (Nov 2002)
- Licensed Mental Health Counselor (Aug 2002)
- Qualified Supervisor, Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling (2004 – Present)
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)
Approved Supervisor (2002 – present)
Clinical Member/Fellow (2002 – present)
- National Organization of Victim Assistance, Crisis Response Team Training, 35 Continuing Education Credits (2005)
- Training in Hypnosis, 50 Continuing Education Credits (1998)

Achievements

- **Member**, Master's Curriculum Committee (2013 – 2019)
Dept. of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

- **Abstract Reviewer** (2003, 2004)
AAMFT Annual Conferences
- **Reviewer** (2002)
Treatment Improvement Protocols (TIP)
Substance Abuse and Family Therapy
Center for Substance Abuse and Treatment (CSAT)
- **Graduate Assistant** (2002)
Dept. of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- **Employee of the Month** (February) (2002)
Behavioral Health Overlay Services (BHOS) Counselor
Canon Point Youth Academy/Thompson Academy
Psychotherapeutic Services, Pembroke Pines, FL
- **Dean's Scholarship** (1999)
School of Social and Systemic Studies
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- **Broward International Women's Club Scholarship** (1998)
Broward County, FL
- **Dean's Scholarship** (1998)
School of Social and Systemic Studies
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- **Graduate Assistant, Serials Department** (1998-1999)
Einstein Library
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL