

Faculty Profile for RMT-Cefam and LST Websites (as of January 18, 2021)

Maria Cecilia Gregorio Ascalon

Lecturer, Family Ministries and Pastoral Counseling

Contact Information

RMT- Center for Family Ministries Foundation
Ateneo de Manila University
Loyola Heights, Quezon City
Tel. (632) 8426-4289 to 4292

Courses

Pastoral Psychology and Counseling
Family Spirituality and Sexual Ethics

Areas of Interest

Family Life and Child Development, Elderly care and welfare, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their families

Background

Maria Cecilia Gregorio Ascalon is a Pastoral Counselor of the RMT-Center for Family Ministries. She studied at the University of the Philippines in Diliman from Nursery to College. She finished her degree in Bachelor of Arts in Communications major in Journalism at the UP College of Mass communication. She completed the Professional Diploma in Family Ministries: Pastoral Psychology and Counseling at the Loyola School of Theology in Ateneo de Manila and Certificate of Clinical Apprenticeship in Pastoral Care and Counseling (An advanced supervision program for graduates of the Professional Diploma Program) at RMT CEFAM -Center for Family Ministries in Ateneo de Manila. She completed the iSAGE web-based mini-fellowship for Successful Aging Mini-Fellowship Program at the Stanford University School of Medicine in California, USA. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Family Life and Child Development Program at the University of the Philippines College of Home Economics in Diliman.

She is an accredited Triple P or the "Positive Parenting Program. Global Practitioner/ Provider for Level 4 and Level 5." The overall goal of the program is to enhance the knowledge, skills, and [confidence](#) of parents in order to prevent behavioral, emotional, and developmental problems in children and adolescents. She attended several training programs in San Francisco, California: Understanding and Supporting Families with Domestic Violence Issues, Clinical Training in Gender Responsive Theory and Trauma , Psychophysiology of Trauma Clinical Training and Certified Youth Mental Health First Aid, Case Management: Understanding and Supporting Families with Dependency Issues.

She received the Certificate of Completion for Perspectives on Poverty and Well-being from the Ateneo de Manila Development Studies Program and United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

In 2015, Cecile was awarded the *Filipina Women's Network (FWN) Top 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the World (FWN Global 100) Award* (Behind the Scenes Category Award) for assisting the Filipino Seniors and families to access all types of health, housing, medical, legal and labor related resource. She developed programs where the Filipino families can benefit from a wide range of health, education, recreation, and wellness programs. She also created an environment where Filipino and Filipino Americans can raise and enhance their sense of dignity and self-worth, inspiring and enabling them to be independent and be more involved in community activities. She improved the Center's services and information on aging and created an emotional support system. She also strengthened the Parent-Child Relationships Program and the Filipina Breast Cancer Support Services Program.