POST-MASTER’S
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Child and Family Therapy

Program Directors
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Program Description
This specialized one-year program is designed to provide a comprehensive foundation in treating children within a family context. Participants will gain skills in assessing and working with pre-adolescent children using a range of interventions including play-therapy, therapeutic games, and art activities. At the same time, students will learn to understand family dynamics that frequently underlie or exacerbate a child’s distress, and acquire the skills to work with parents in order to improve the child’s home life. Evidence-based practice informs the curriculum.

Program Outcomes
• Gain skills in understanding and working with preadolescent children using a range of interventions, including play therapy, age-specific therapeutic games, family therapy, and group therapy
• Learn to understand family dynamics and how to work with parents
• Consider new strategies for dealing with complex presenting issues

How long will it take me to complete the certificate?
There are 32 two-and-three-quarter-hour weekly sessions organized into trimesters.

Where can I find more information?
For program requirements, dates, times, and other detailed information, go to www.nyu.edu/info/swce/cft or contact ssw.continuinged@nyu.edu.

How many CEUs will I earn?
85 CEUs will be awarded for the entire certificate program. Individual components can be taken with approval. 36 hours are approved by the Association of Play Therapy, APT Provider 09-244.

About the Faculty
The faculty brings a combination of extensive practice and research experience with children and family therapy in varied health, mental health, school, and agency settings, as well as experience in academic teaching.

Course Description

Fall
Child Development:
Addresses child development from infancy to age 12. Students study early infancy attachment, the parent-infant relationship, affect regulation, temperament, and early childhood experiences related to the emerging sense of self. Risk factors, trauma, and abuse as related to development are also explored. Issues of race and diversity are included as related to identity.
Assessment and Diagnosis

This module explores the diagnostic entities related to childhood, including childhood schizophrenia, pervasive developmental disorder (including the Autism Spectrum, Asperger’s Disorder, and mood disorders), depression and suicide, anxiety disorders, PTSD and Reactive Attachment Disorder, substance use in childhood, gender identity disorder, and learning disorders (ADHD, ADD, etc.).

Winter
The Child in the Family Context:

Focuses on family dynamics that influence child behavior incorporating systems, object relations, and emotional regulation theories. Additional areas of study include parentified children, family violence, and family transitions such as divorce. Interventions that help the family redefine and respond productively to a child’s symptoms are discussed.

Play Therapy with the Preschool- and Early School-Age Child:

This course focuses on clinical intervention with the preschool- and early school-age child, and includes goals such as:

1. Understand and incorporate symbolic communication in play therapy.
2. Consider different approaches of play therapy in selecting goals and interventions.
3. Draw on different verbal and non-verbal interviewing and play therapy techniques.
4. Identify and monitor counter transference in doing play therapy with children and in working with their parents.

Spring
Play Therapy with School-Age Through Preadolescent Child:

Covers a range of therapeutic methods of symbolic communication, including play therapy, art therapy, and therapeutic games. Treatment considerations for problems that are most frequently encountered in the elementary and middle school-age range are addressed, with goals such as:

1. Better understand the typical problem areas in assessing children who are treated with play therapy.
2. Consider different play therapy approaches and clinical interventions.
3. Appreciate the need for interdisciplinary collaboration with parents and teachers in developing a treatment plan that effectively addresses a child’s problems.

Parenting Issues:

Prepares students to work productively with parents and explores parenting styles, relationship dynamics, and challenges involved with parents or children who have problems.
To Apply:

An application form for this program may be filled out online or downloaded from our website at:

www.nyu.edu/socialwork/continuing.education/family.therapy.html

A current resume and statement of interest must be attached with the application.

Fees:

The cost is $4,470 for the full certificate program - $1,490 per trimester. Reading materials are included in the costs. Discounts may not be combined.

Discounts:

- 25% discount for NYU SSSW grads, field instructors, and educational coordinators
- 25% discount for applications who have already completed two or more NYU SSSW certificate programs
- 25% discount for three or more applicants from the same agency
- 15% discount for applicants who have already completed one NYU SSSW certificate program

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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