

Specialist in Counselor Education - Play Therapy Track

Available Online

Training to Meet Registered Play Therapist Requirements

PLAY THERAPIST TRAINING

AT

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

CHILD ADVOCACY AND PLAY THERAPY INSTITUTE

THE FIRST DEGREE PROGRAM IN PLAY THERAPY OFFERED IN THE UNITED STATES

This program can prepare you for the world of play therapy and provide training and supervision needed to become a Registered Play Therapist

through the Association for Play Therapy.

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OVERVIEW

The Child Advocacy and Play Therapy Institute, an approved center for play therapy education by the Association for Play Therapy is pleased to offer a post-master's specialist degree in education for those interested in play therapy and becoming a Registered Play Therapist. Our program is provided online for national and international students.

CURRICULUM

We offer a fall to summer curriculum with a two semester practica experience. Students will complete 18 credit hours and record at least 335 hours of supervised play therapy under the supervision of a Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor. An onsite residency is required for three days in the Summer semesters, normally scheduled the first or second week of June, which provides face-to-face supervision and intensive work in a playroom at the Child Advocacy and Play Therapy Institute.

ADMISSION

You must apply online with the Graduate School in the Educational Specialist's Degree in Counselor Education with an emphasis in play therapy. Please submit your application and transcripts by August 1 to begin coursework in the fall semester. You are encouraged to apply and complete your application process as soon as possible for a prompt review and admission decision. Also, be sure to check the Academic Calendar for other important deadline information.

Admission to the Ed.S. in Play Therapy requires:


- License/Certification
 - Must hold current and active individual state license (or certification) to engage in either independent or supervised clinical mental health practice.
 - Licenses accepted include LCP, LPC, LCSW, LMFT, LSC, LLP, as well as licensed Psychiatrists and psychiatric/mental health nursing
- Educational Degrees
 - Must have earned a Master's or higher mental health degree from an accredited institution of higher education.
 - Must have also completed designated core graduate coursework, i.e. ethics, child development, theories of personality, principles of psychotherapy, and child/adolescent psychopathology.
- Clinical Experience
 - Must have completed at least 1 year and 1,000 hours of supervised post-master's clinical experience.
- Proof of current professional liability insurance.
- A formal web-based interview or face to face interview.
- Access to at least 10 hours of play therapy sessions per week over a 35 week period beginning in November – July.

TUITION

The online Educational Specialist's degree in play therapy charges a flat tuition rate regardless of a student's state of residency. Please refer to On-line Program for further information.

CONTACT

If you have any questions concerning the Ed.S. in Play Therapy, please contact us.



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Play Therapy Curriculum

COURSES

Fall Courses

COUN 770 (3) – Introduction to Play Therapy

COUN 771 (2) - Expressive Arts with Children and Adolescents

COUN 773 (1) – Application of Play Therapy in Schools *or*

COUN 774 (1) – Application of Play Therapy in Mental Health Services

Spring Courses

COUN 772 (2) - Current Theories in Play Therapy

COUN 778 (1) – Play Therapy with Older Adults *or*

COUN 779 (1) – Child-Parent Relationship Therapy

COUN 780 (3) – Practicum in Play Therapy

Summer Courses

COUN 776 (2) - Play Therapy Supervision

COUN 775 (1) - Psychopharmacology in Play Therapy *or*

COUN 777 (1) – Play Therapy in the Courtroom: Legal and Ethical Issues

COUN 780 (3) – Practicum in Play Therapy

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COUN 770 INTRODUCTION TO PLAY THERAPY

This course is a comprehensive overview of counseling children through play. A review of methods used in play therapy, along with the implications for play therapy and multicultural issues will be addressed. Students will learn basic interpersonal skills with children. (3 hour credit course -15 weeks – 67.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 771 EXPRESSIVE ARTS WITH CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

This course is an introduction to expressive arts modalities that can be used in clinical practice with children and adolescents. The course will include: Art Therapy, Music Therapy, Dance/Movement Therapy, Drama Therapy, Poetry/Written Expression Therapy, and Sandtray Therapy. (2 hour credit course – ten weeks – 45 continuing education hours).

COUN 772 CURRENT THEORIES IN PLAY THERAPY

This course is an overview of theoretical foundations of play therapy. Students will learn various theories and will be expected to assimilate those theories in their work with children. Prerequisite: Introduction to Play Therapy Course. (2 hour credit course – ten weeks – 45 continuing education hours).

COUN 773 APPLICATION OF PLAY THERAPY IN SCHOOLS This course will provide a basis for the use of play therapy in schools. Assessment, treatment, and interventions with children and their families will be reviewed from a play therapy perspective. (1 hour credit course – five weeks – 22.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 774 APPLICATION OF PLAY THERAPY IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

This course will provide a basis for the use of play therapy in a mental health setting. Assessment, treatment, and interventions with children and their families will be reviewed from a play therapy perspective. (1 hour credit course – five weeks – 22.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 775 PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY IN PLAY THERAPY

This course is designed to acquaint students with the fundamentals of psychotropic medications. Basics of pharmacology, adverse effects, indications, and drug interactions will be discussed in regards to their positive and negative impact on play therapy. (1 hour credit course – five weeks – 22.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 776 PLAY THERAPY SUPERVISION

This course is designed to provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge of clinical supervision models, methods, and issues. The course will explore supervisory roles, evaluation methods, research, legal and ethical issues, and socio-cultural issues in supervision. (2 hour credit course – ten weeks – 45 continuing education hours).

COUNS 777 PLAY THERAPY IN THE COURTROOM; ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES

This course provides an overview of ethical and legal issues in play therapy related to child abuse and the play therapist, play therapy as a science in the courtroom, and play therapy testimony in court. (1 hour credit course – five weeks – 22.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 778 PLAY THERAPY WITH OLDER ADULTS

This course gives an overview of how to utilize Play Therapy with older adults. This course will provide information regarding the use of play therapy with adults in both individual sessions and group counseling settings. Basic principles are reviewed, then the implementation and synthesis of Expressive Arts Therapies in a clinical setting with older adults will be major focus. (1 hour credit course – five weeks – 22.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 779 PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP THERAPY

This course is an overview of parent-child relationship therapy as well as teacher-child relationship therapy. A review of methods used in relationship play therapy and research findings in relationship play therapy along with multicultural issues are presented. (1 hour credit course – five weeks – 22.5 continuing education hours).

COUN 780 PRACTICUM IN PLAY THERAPY

This course provides supervised experience in play therapy with application of theory, principles, techniques, and strategies acquired in previous course work and clinical experiences. Two semesters (a total of 6 credit hours) of COUN 780 are required for the completion of the certificate program.

