

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED STUDIES: CHILD TRAUMA AND PLAY THERAPY

CHILD TRAUMA AND PLAY THERAPY

Instructor: Katharine Wenocur, DSW, LCSW, RPT-S

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an understanding of the environmental factors that contribute to and constitute adverse childhood experiences, and the effects on children's development and subsequent behavior. Particular attention will be paid to the importance of understanding children's play in both the assessment and treatment of post-traumatic symptoms. Discussion will include attachment theory and the influence of attachment on development, historical and contemporary research on adverse childhood experiences and subsequent mental health and illness, and an overview of prevention and intervention. Students will be introduced to the common structure of stage-based trauma treatment for children, explore the application of play therapy to trauma treatment, and consider the integration of playful interventions into evidence-based models of trauma therapy.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Articulate the history of the field of play therapy and the therapeutic powers of play
- Identify three benefits of play therapy for children who have been exposed to trauma
- Prepare to integrate sand tray interventions into a variety of treatment settings
- Explain how both children's lived experiences of trauma and historical trauma might manifest in their play
- Discuss applications of play therapy and other play-based interventions to the treatment of childhood traumatic stress
- Describe how to recognize, assess, and clinically respond to post-traumatic play
- Critique use of play therapy in several case studies of traumatized children

COURSE DETAILS FOR FALL 2022

Thomas Jefferson University – 4201 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Thursdays 5:30-7:30 pm 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8

**This course is approved by APT for 28 hours of
Contact Play Therapy Specific Education**

REFERENCES

- Jaxon, J.H. et al. (2019). Child-centered play therapy for youths who have experienced trauma: A systemic literature review. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*, 12, 365-375.
- Locatelli, M.G. (2020). Play therapy treatment of pediatric medical trauma: A retrospective case study of a preschool child. *International Journal of Play Therapy*, 29(1), 33-42.
- Ryan, K. et al. (2017). A multidisciplinary model for treatment in early childhood. *International Journal of Play Therapy*, 26(2), 111-123.



Participants will be notified via e-mail of any changes to programming. In the event of cancellation, registration costs will be refunded in full. Participants may cancel for a full refund up to 48 hours before the program start. Please contact Neil.Andress@jefferson.edu to notify of cancellation and request a refund.

APT Approved Provider 20-608

Contact Katharine.Wenocur@jefferson.edu for more information about play therapy at Jefferson