Child Advocacy Studies

Courses

CAST 3290 Traumatic Stress in Childhood and Adolescence: 3 semester hours
Same as PSYCH 3290. Prerequisites: PSYCH 2270 (majors), PSYCH 1268, or consent of instructor. Exploration of the impact of stressors experienced during infancy, childhood, and adolescence. Integrates how theoretical frameworks, cultural considerations, and policy implications apply to child development research and practice.

CAST 4398 Child Maltreatment: A Multidisciplinary Approach: 3 semester hours
Same as PSYCH 4398 and SOC WK 4398. Prerequisites: PSYCH 2270 (majors), PSYCH 1268, child development course equivalents in other disciplines, or approval from the instructor. This course focuses on clinical aspects of child abuse with attention to identification, reporting, intervention, and prevention. Perspectives from the disciplines of psychology, social work, and other child advocacy fields are provided.

CAST 4498 Forensic Investigation of Child Abuse: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: CAST 4398/PSYCH 4398/SOC WK 4398. Designed for students across multiple disciplines where knowledge of child abuse investigation and advocacy are necessary. Focuses on the investigative and prosecutorial responses of professionals involved with child abuse cases to expand the student's knowledge and skills in the most effective response to child abuse investigations. Includes competency-based skills training such as conducting a cursory interview, participating in peer review, doing case presentations, and producing investigative documentation.

CAST 4598 Child Abuse Assessment and Intervention: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: CAST 4398/PSYCH 4398/SOC WK 4398. Provides students with knowledge and skills to intervene effectively and empathically with families that experience child abuse and neglect. Uses experiential learning to develop skills in trauma-focused screening, assessment, and crisis intervention for vulnerable children and their families who are involved with child serving systems such as law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, and physical and mental health.

CAST 4698 Internship in Child Advocacy Studies: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: PSYCH 4398, completion of or concurrent enrollment in PSYCH 4498 and PSYCH 4598, and approval from the CAST director. Internship under CAST staff supervision in child or youth-serving setting. Approval from the CAST director is required prior to enrolling. This course must be taken concurrently with the CAST field education seminar (CAST 4700).

CAST 4700 Field Education Seminar in Child Advocacy Studies: 1 semester hour
Prerequisites: Consent of CAST director and concurrent enrollment in an approved CAST field education course. In this course, students will synthesize their learning from the Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) certificate courses with their field experiences.