

Infant-Toddler Mental Health Certificate

at Arcadia University

Global Perspectives...Personal Attention...Real-World Integrative Learning Experiences

Coordinator

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Arcadia University Graduate Certificate

Infant-Toddler Mental Health

About the Certificate in Infant-Toddler Mental Health

The certificate in Infant-Toddler Mental Health is a 12-credit part-time interdisciplinary Arcadia University Graduate Certificate, with four courses each requiring 20 practicum hours in a family or educational setting. This certificate is offered fully online and can be completed within one calendar year (January-December).

The Infant-Toddler Mental Health online certificate program is suited particularly for professionals who are seeking additional expertise in the field of infant-toddler mental health and who represent a variety of fields, including early intervention, behavioral health, social work, foster care, early childhood mental health consulting, nurse consulting, occupational and physical therapy, speech and hearing therapy, and child care.

The program is designed to develop leaders in the field, support increased communication among professionals, caregivers and families, and train infant and toddler mental health professionals. The certificate program supports prevention and intervention efforts to address mental and behavioral health issues in early childhood to reduce significant personal and social difficulties in later childhood, adolescence, and adulthood.

The certificate program can be taken as a standalone professional development and skills-building program for those participants who do not have the time or the need for a full-

time master's degree. However, credits earned may be applied to a Master of Education degree.

The online certificate program provides an opportunity for students living and working in a variety of regions to train in the field via the Web. Courses may be taken from anywhere in the world. This is an asynchronous program, and students can log on at a time that is convenient to them to complete the coursework and 20-hour practicum requirement for each course. The practicum is to be completed in a family or educational setting and requires supervisor approval.

Computer Requirements

For the certificate program, students will need access to high speed Internet. The courses are highly interactive and make use of electronic resources that require Flash software. Students also may need a webcam for audio/visual recordings and presentations. Software and hardware requirements are identified at the start of each course.

Admissions Requirements

Arcadia University welcomes applications for this program from college graduates of all majors and professions seeking additional expertise in the field of infant and toddler mental health.

The following are required:

- A graduate application, including personal statement, to be completed online at www.arcadia.edu/gradapp.
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a recommended GPA of a 3.0 in a relevant discipline.

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- One official transcript from each college, university or professional school attended.
- One letter of recommendation. The letter must be of a professional not personal nature.

GREs are not required for admission.

Admission to the online certificate program does not guarantee admission to the Master of Education program. Those interested in pursuing the M.Ed. must submit an expanded application. Credits earned may be applied to the M.Ed. program.

Expenses and Financial Aid

Per credit costs for 2012-13 = \$695

(\$695 x 12 credits = \$8,340)

Additional Expenses:

Books and supplies (estimated) \$250.

Financial aid is available to assist qualified students taking a minimum of six credits/semester in covering tuition and related expenses. Students can apply to receive up to \$20,500 annually (but not more than their cost of attendance), through the Federal Direct Stafford Loan at a fixed interest. For more information on available financial aid and how to apply, visit www.arcadia.edu/finaid and click on Graduate.

Academic Policies and Procedures

A student accepted into the Infant-Toddler Mental Health Certificate program is expected to abide by the regulations set forth by Arcadia University.

The University reserves the right to dismiss a student at any time for unsatisfactory academic performance or for conduct detrimental to the University or to the welfare of other students.

Certificate Requirements

(12 credits)

Required Courses

ED 613A.OL Infant-Toddler Growth and Development(3 credits)

ED 613B.OL Infant-Toddler Assessment (3 credits)

ED 613C.OL Infant-Toddler Mental Health Prevention and Intervention (3 credits)

ED 613D.OL Communication, Consultation and Collaboration in Infant-Toddler Mental Health (3 credits)

Infant-Toddler Mental Health Courses (ED)

613A.OL

Infant-Toddler Growth and Development

The first course is designed to provide professionals with in-depth knowledge about the typical and atypical development of children, birth through age 3. Specific age-appropriate developmental characteristics and milestones across all domains (social, emotional, physical, and cognitive) are discussed and connected to practical application in the field. Review and discussion of theoretical concepts related to ITMH is included as well as family and cultural influences and attitudes and their effect on development. Participants reflect, revise and amend their professional practice and their understanding and application of developmental knowledge. The 20-hour practicum is completed in a family or educational setting and requires supervisor approval.

613B.OL

Infant-Toddler Assessment

Information provided in the second course prepares participants to understand the design, implementation and evaluation of infant and toddler mental health needs. Students explore various types and uses of infant-toddler developmental assessments including DC03-R and DECA to support their own practices and to develop leaders in the field. Applications and reflections of the assessments with evidence-based practices are emphasized. Students identify essential gaps in existing programs serving young children and their families to increase communication among professionals, caregivers and families. The 20-hour practicum is completed in a family or educational setting and requires supervisor approval.

613C.OL

Infant-Toddler Mental Health Prevention and Intervention

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The third course focuses on prevention, early identification and intervention across developmental domains and is designed to provide students with essential knowledge and skills regarding attachment relationships, environments and variables that foster healthy development of children from birth to age 3. Students evaluate evidence-based models of prevention and intervention. The 20-hour practicum is completed in a family or educational setting and requires supervisor approval.

613D.OL

Communication, Consultation and Collaboration in Infant-Toddler Mental Health

The fourth course is designed to provide participants with essential skills and knowledge to become effective communicators and consultants for families, caregivers and other professionals who work with children from birth to age 3. Students learn how to promote the socio-emotional development of infants and toddlers through collaboration with adult caregivers and professionals. Participants in this course will understand the roles and responsibilities of a mental and behavioral health consultant. They also gain knowledge on legislative mandates regarding infant and toddler mental health and identify resources for families and professionals at the local, state and national levels. Systematic reflection on their own professional practice allows students to develop leadership skills to support other professionals, families and young children. The 20-hour practicum is to be completed in a family or educational setting and requires supervisor approval.