

**ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN  
PLAY THERAPY PROGRAM AT  
BROOKLYN COLLEGE**

NEW 16-credit Graduate Program in  
Culturally Competent Play Therapy  
with Children and Families

# ***The Play Therapy Program at Brooklyn College***

**Prepares practitioners** to engage in play therapy that is:

- culturally competent
- imagination-based
- a creative approach to supporting children's
  - a) mental health,
  - b) development
  - c) learning

# **Culturally competent play therapists support children and family growth by**

- Understanding and responding to the cultural and social contexts of children's development
- Creating settings that facilitate healthy growth
- Working with children through creative and expressive arts
- Engaging children and families in play-based interventions

# ***The Program prepares professionals who can***

- Apply play therapy approaches flexibly with diverse populations of children with
  - ✓ typical development
  - ✓ developmental challenges
  - ✓ learning
  - ✓ language and/or
  - ✓ behavioral concerns

# ***The Play Therapy Program* is designed**

**for an interdisciplinary group of professionals with a BA, master's degree or higher in:**

- Education, special education
- Psychology
- School psychology
- School counseling
- Social work
- Mental health counseling
- Creative arts therapy
- Speech-language pathology
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Nursing
- Other relevant profession

# ***Collaborative and Interdisciplinary***

## **Participants in the *Program* will:**

- Interact with students from a wide variety of professional backgrounds
- Learn in an interdisciplinary, collaborative manner
- Learn to apply play therapy methodology to work with diverse children and families
- Enhance their professional opportunities in a variety of settings.

# ***Flexible and affordable***

- Classes are held at convenient hours for working professionals at the award-winning **Brooklyn College campus**
- Matriculated students are eligible for federal loans and scholarships
- Students may take one or more classes on a non-degree basis
- Students may be concurrently enrolled in a master's program at CUNY or other institution
- Full-time CUNY students pay no additional tuition above 12 credit minimum /per semester.

# Course of Study:

## ***Advanced Certificate in Play Therapy***

- A **coherent** set of four courses for a total of 16 credits
- **Structured sequentially** to develop students'
  - Expertise in **culturally competent play therapy** with diverse populations
  - Proficiency in the **supervision** of culturally competent play therapy with diverse populations
- Each course includes
  - weekly **seminar** meetings
  - professional **speakers and workshops**
  - individual **consultation and mentoring**



# Course Sequence

- **SPCL 7946 Historical, Theoretical and Social Foundations of Play Therapy**
- **SPCL 7947 Play Therapy Methods and Approaches**
- **SPCL 7948 Play Therapy Applications for Special Populations**
- **SPCL 7949: Advanced Seminar in Play Therapy Practice and Supervision**

# **SPCL 7946 Historical, Theoretical and Social Foundations of Play Therapy**

## **Participants will:**

- Critically analyze the history and development of play therapy
- Engage in case-based study
- Explore the social and cultural contexts of play therapy
- Develop a culturally competent approach to play therapy
- Learn the role of the play therapist
- Study the therapeutic relationship
- Develop applied approaches to working with diverse children and families.

# **SPCL 7947 Play Therapy Methods and Approaches**

## **Participants will:**

- Learn play therapy interventions with common presenting problems including
  - anxiety
  - aggression
  - oppositional behavior
- Learn to evaluate play therapy with
  - typically developing children
  - children with autism spectrum disorders
- Develop proficiency in working with diverse families in play therapy

# **SPCL 7948 Play Therapy Applications for Special Populations**

## **Participants will:**

- Extend their study of play therapy interventions with diverse children who have experienced
  - Loss
  - Divorce
  - Migration
  - Trauma
  - Abuse
  - Neglect
- Develop applied skills for conducting and evaluating play therapy interventions in diverse school and community settings.
- Develop clinical sensitivity to working with diverse children who present with a wide variety of psychological needs, and their families.

# **SPCL 7949: Advanced Seminar in Play Therapy Practice and Supervision**

## **Participants will:**

- Take part in an advanced seminar in play therapy practice with diverse populations
- Study advanced play therapy skills
- Draw on their play-based experiences in the field (work or volunteer) in school or community settings
- Take an active role in group supervision of play therapy practice.
- Learn principles of diagnostic play assessment
- Learn about child forensic interviewing
- Learn principles of clinical supervision of play therapy
  - role of the play therapy supervisor
  - impact of vicarious trauma on play therapist and supervisor

# Brooklyn College designated National Approved Center of Play Therapy Education

**Press Release: Association for Play Therapy (Clovis, CA)** “The ***Play Therapy Project at Brooklyn College*** of the City University of New York has earned designation by the Association for Play Therapy (APT) as an **Approved Center of Play Therapy Education** and **Approved Provider of Play Therapy Continuing Education**. The *Project* offers a graduate ***Advanced Certificate Program in Play Therapy***, approved by the New York State Department of Education.”

The ***Play Therapy Project at Brooklyn College*** also offers **professional development and continuing education workshops** in culturally competent play therapy, and workshops tailored to the needs of community providers in schools, community based organizations and agencies, mental health centers and hospitals.

“These offerings may be applied towards earning the **Registered Play Therapist (RPT) and Supervisor (RPT-S)** credentials conferred by APT.”

# Brooklyn College Press Release: NEW Play Therapy Program

## **Brooklyn College School of Education Launches City's Only Advanced Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy**

BROOKLYN, July 8, 2014—The Brooklyn College [School of Education](#) is offering a new, 16-credit [Advanced Certificate in Play Therapy](#)—the only graduate program of its kind in the New York City area—which prepares professionals across a broad range of fields to apply play therapy approaches with children, including those with developmental, learning, language or behavioral concerns.