POST-BACCALAUREATE AUTISM STUDIES CERTIFICATE

Michelle Rowe, Ph.D., Chair, Health Services Department

Program Goals/Objectives

Goal 1: Students will know and understand the potential causes, symptoms and diagnostic criteria of autism spectrum disorders as well as the specific needs of individuals with autism across the lifespan and how they are treated.

Objective 1a. Demonstrate knowledge of the current theories on the causes of autism spectrum disorders.

Objective 1b. Demonstrate knowledge of the frequency, characteristics, symptoms, and diagnostic criteria of individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

Objective 1c. Demonstrate knowledge of the nature of stereotypes, stigma, and discrimination of individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

Goal 2: Students will know and understand the unique and specific behavioral needs of individuals with autism as well as both medical and behavioral approaches to autism treatment and related issues.

Objective 2a. Identify the behavioral needs of children and adults with autism spectrum disorders and demonstrate the current behavioral approaches to treating behavioral issues of individuals with autism using Applied Behavior Analysis and medically related therapeutic services.

Objective 2b. Demonstrate the ability to communicate orally and in writing in the language of the discipline and particularly on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis.

Goal 3: Students will understand, follow and demonstrate the ethics guidelines and professional codes of conduct for working with individuals with autism.

Objective 3a. Demonstrate the roles and responsibilities of behavior analysts, therapists, allied health professionals and related staff, and demonstrate understanding of ethics guidelines in working with individuals with autism.

Objective 3b. Graduates will act as responsible citizens, embracing personal and career objectives that honor and serve individuals with autism and their families.

Goal 4: Students will identify and understand the difficulties that families face in coping with autism and the impact of paying for autism-related services, as well as the social and economic impact on families and on society.

Objective 4a. Identify the impact on parents, siblings, families, and friends of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and demonstrate how to best help these individuals cope with associated stress.

Objective 4b. Identify the impact of political issues, including funding and approval of services, around autism spectrum disorders.

Goal 5: Students will demonstrate how to collect behavioral data using Applied Behavior Analysis; to measure the progress of individuals with autism; to develop behavioral plans for individuals with autism; and/or to conduct research on individuals with autism or on related treatment plans.

Objective 5a. Collect data on the progress of individuals with autism and develop behavioral plans; or collect data for the purpose of conducting research on a particular topic in the field of autism.

Objective 5b. Identify and demonstrate methods to empirically assess and evaluate the progress of individuals with autism spectrum disorders for the purpose of developing intervention plans.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IHS 465</td>
<td>Intro:Autism Spectrum Disorder</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHS 466</td>
<td>ABA and Autism Treatment</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>IHS 473</td>
<td>Advanced Principles of ABA</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHS 474</td>
<td>Functional Analysis and Ethics</td>
<td>4</td>
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Practical requirements (IHS 480-IHS 482). Those who plan to pursue the BCaBA credential must also complete 3 practicum courses (19+ hours per week – supervised by a person with the BCBA credential).