

HDFS496

Course Summary

Course : HDFS496 **Title :** Practicum Experience

Length of Course : 8 **Faculty :**

Prerequisites : HDFS401 **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description:

This course is an elective option for the Child Life Certificate and the BA in Human Development and Family Studies degree/Child Life option. The course is accepted by the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) towards the elective requirement for certification eligibility. It is not accepted towards any of the 7 specific courses. It is the student's responsibility to secure their own practicum. APUS is open to establishing affiliation agreements with hospitals for the purpose of supporting a practicum placement. Note: Student will need to meet all of the requirements set forth by the clinical placement which may include a medical physical, immunizations, criminal background check and drug screens prior to being enrolled in the course. (Prerequisite: HDFS401)

Course Scope:

Students will put into practice their knowledge and understanding of the scope of service of a Child Life Specialist. Students' primary role is to shadow a CCLS, and to participate in therapeutic play either in the playroom or at patient bedside. Academic course provides academic support throughout clinical practicum.

Objectives

After successful completion of HDFS496 students will be able to:

1. Explain the role of a Child Life Specialist in various healthcare settings.
 2. Develop a Child Life Specialist plan of care for a specific child population.
 3. Analyze concepts of professionalism related to the Child Life Specialist.
 4. Assess theoretical foundations of Child Life.
 5. Create a cover letter and resume applying for an internship or job as a Child Life Specialist.
 6. Develop a personal education and certification plan to obtain the designation of Child Life Specialist.
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Outline

Week 1:

Learning Outcomes:
Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 1 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 1

Week 2:

Learning Outcomes:
Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 2 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 2

Week 3:

Learning Outcomes:
Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 3 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 3

Week 4:

Learning Outcomes:
Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 4 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 4

Assignment - Resume and Cover Letter

Week 5:

Learning Outcomes:
Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 5 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 5

Week 6:

Learning Outcomes:

Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 6 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 6

Week 7:

Learning Outcomes:

Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 7 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 7

Assignment: My Education and Certification Plan

Week 8:

Learning Outcomes:

Required Readings:

Links to this week's readings can be found in the Content section of the classroom.

Assignments:

Week 8 Discussion

Reflection Journal Week 8

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Discussions	40.00 %

Week 1: Welcome and Introduction	5.00 %
Week 2: Hospital Charting	5.00 %
Week 3: Shadowing	5.00 %
Week 4: Use of Praise and Rewards	5.00 %
Week 5: Use of Technology	5.00 %
Week 6: One Voice	5.00 %
Week 7: Legacy Building	5.00 %
Week 8: Self Care	5.00 %
Journals	40.00 %
Journal #1	5.00 %
Journal #2	5.00 %
Journal #3	5.00 %
Journal #4	5.00 %
Journal #5	5.00 %
Journal #6	5.00 %
Journal #7	5.00 %
Journal #8	5.00 %
Assignments	20.00 %
My Education and Certification Plan	10.00 %
Resume and Cover Letter	10.00 %

Materials

Book Title: The Handbook of Child Life: A Guide for Pediatric Psychosocial Care - e-book available in the APUS Online Library. Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the eReserve by course #.

Author: Thompson, Richard

Publication Info: Lib

ISBN: 9780398078324

Links to required reading materials are included inside of the classroom.

Course Guidelines

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me **before** the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Late submissions that are submitted without prior approval will be graded according to the APUS Late Policy.

APUS Late Policy

Students are expected to submit assignments by the due dates listed in the classroom. Late assignments, including but not limited to Assignments, Discussions, posts and responses, quizzes, and exams, may or

may not be accepted after the course end date. Submitting an assignment after the due date may result in a penalty of up to 10% of the grade per day late, not to exceed a maximum 50% of the grade. The amount of the penalty is at the faculty member's discretion. Faculty recognize that students have limited time and may be more flexible if potential delays are communicated ahead of time.*

*Doctoral and Programs with specialty accreditation may have different late policies.

**Students with DSA accommodations may have different late policies applied. For more information

Citation and Reference Style

Students will follow the current edition of the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Guide as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to this course. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow APA formatting.

Discussion Assignments

These are interactive dialog assignments designed to help you connect with your classmates in course related discourse and form a learning community. They are located under the "Discussions" of your course screen. Please carefully read the discussion prompt each week. Post your initial response by 11:59 PM on Wednesday of the week and 2 reply posts to classmates by 11:59 PM on Sunday of the week. The grading rubric and requirements for discussions can be found in the Discussion section of the classroom. You are encouraged to post substantively and on-time as this facilitates the advancement of the discussion.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

Humor Note: Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), J

APUS Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Communications

Student Communication

To reach the instructor, please communicate through the MyClassroom email function accessible from the Classlist of the Course Tools menu, where the instructor and students email addresses are listed, or via the Office 365 tool on the Course homepage.

- In emails to instructors, it's important to note the specific course in which you are enrolled. The name of the course is at the top center of all pages.
- Students and instructors communicate in Discussion posts and other learning activities.
- All interactions should follow APUS guidelines, as noted in the [Student Handbook](#), and maintain a professional, courteous tone.
- Students should review writing for spelling and grammar.
- [Tips on Using the Office 365 Email Tool](#)

Instructor Communication

The instructor will post announcements on communications preferences involving email and Instant Messaging and any changes in the class schedule or activities.

- Instructors will periodically post information on the expectations of students and will provide feedback on assignments, Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams.
- Instructors will generally acknowledge student communications within 24 hours and respond within 48 hours, except in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness).
- The APUS standard for grading of all assessments (assignments, Discussions, quizzes, exams) is five days or fewer from the due date.
- Final course grades are submitted by faculty no later than seven days after the end date of the course or the end of the extension period.

University Policies

Consult the [Student Handbook](#) for processes and policies at APUS. Notable policies:

- [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)
- [Student Deadlines](#)
- [Video Conference Policy](#)

Mission

The [mission of American Public University System](#) is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

Minimum Technology Requirements

- Please consult the catalog for the minimum hardware and software required for [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) courses.
- Although students are encouraged to use the [Pulse mobile app](#) with any course, please note that not all course work can be completed via a mobile device.

Disclaimers

- Please note that course content – and, thus, the syllabus – may change between when a student registers for a course and when the course starts.
- Course content may vary from the syllabus' schedule to meet the needs of a particular group.