



GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PLAY THERAPY

This program is designed to provide mental health professionals with advanced training in play therapy philosophies, theories, and interventions. Students will learn how healthy play interactions shape a child's developing brain and relationships, as well as how to apply play therapy knowledge and skills in their work with children and families.

Play is the natural way that children express their emotions and work through problems. This form of therapy allows children to express those thoughts and feelings in a developmentally appropriate way. Play therapy applies the therapeutic benefits of play to help children learn to communicate feelings, modify behavior, develop problem-solving skills, and relate to others. It can be a powerful tool to help children and families connect and process traumatic experiences.

JU's Play Therapy Certificate does not certify individuals in play therapy; however, it can be listed as part of one's professional credentials and is designed to meet the educational requirements of the registered play therapist credential.

Course Requirements

Students seeking the Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy will take the following courses, consisting of 12 credit-hours.

- MHC 610 - Introduction to Play Therapy
- MHC 611 - Special Topics and Group Play Therapy
- MHC 612 - Filial and Family Play Therapy
- MHC 613 - Culturally Responsive Play Therapy

Admission Requirements

- Completed JU Application
- Master's Degree in health-related field from a regionally-accredited university*
- Unofficial transcripts from all degrees conferred
- 3.0 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Statement of Purpose
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae

*Admission to this program can also be achieved if applicant is a current graduate student in the fields of counseling, marriage and family therapy, social work, school counseling, or psychology and in good academic standing.

Learn more
www.ju.edu/grad/playtherapy

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