

## MA IN DEVELOPMENTAL & LEARNING DISABILITIES

### **AP 6052      DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY      3 US CREDITS**

The course reviews major clinical syndromes of childhood and adolescence viewed within the context of normal development and explores current theoretical, diagnostic, etiological, and therapeutic viewpoints. The ideas of disability, pathology, and dysfunction and the contrasting ideas of ability, health, and functionality are considered in relation to each other.

### **AP 6070      DEVELOPMENTAL AND LEARNING DISABILITIES      3 US CREDITS**

The course examines developmental disabilities (DDs), mental retardation, autism, learning disabilities, and related conditions from a behavioral perspective. At the centre of this course's focus are the most recent developments on issues of assessment, intervention, integration, and accessibility of psychological and educational services to these populations.

This advanced level graduate course provides an overview of the field of learning disabilities (LD) and developmental disabilities (DD).

The focus of the course is on causes, characteristics, assessment, and instructional needs of students with LD and DD.

### **AP 6071      CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT      3 US CREDITS**

This course is a study of major psychological instruments used in assessment of school-aged children and adolescents; the nature, limitations, and predictive value of these methods; and the procedures for selection, administration, scoring, and interpretation of techniques for evaluation of cognitive and socio-emotional functioning.

### **AP 6072      CHILD AND ADOLESCENT THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS      3 US CREDITS**

This course provides a conceptual framework for interventions with children, adolescents and their families. The course will review research and intervention skills/techniques stemming from the major theoretical approaches to child and adolescent counseling and psychotherapy.

### **AP 6073      CONSULTATION      3 US CREDITS**

Designed to provide the prospective school-based helping professional with the knowledge of theories and techniques to be an effective consultant with administration, staff and parents regarding the school learning environment, classroom management and individual student concerns including ADHD, school violence, anger management, bullying, discipline, crisis intervention.

### **AP 6074      BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT AND APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS      3 US CREDITS**

This course focuses on identifying, recording, evaluating and changing social and academic behaviors of special and diverse populations. Theories of classroom management will be explored and various approaches to management including use of technological advances. Developing classroom and individual behavior management plans will be emphasized. The course will focus on the applications of the experimental analysis of behavior to problems of social importance with a variety of populations and settings. Observational methods, single-subject designs, behavior promotion and reduction, and generalization strategies are reviewed in relation to the needs of students with disabilities. It aims at training students in the process of systematically applying interventions based upon the principles of behavior analysis to improve socially significant and learning behaviors to a meaningful degree, and to demonstrate that the interventions employed are responsible for the improvement in behavior.

### **AP 6075      LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION      3 US CREDITS**

This course will provide an in-depth analysis of instructional strategies for teaching diverse students in inclusive classrooms. It will focus on assessment, methods, materials, management procedures and adaptations of the classroom and educational process.

**AP 6076 LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT****2 US CREDITS**

This course provides a critical examination of the major areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing experiences of young children. Current research, educational practices and instructional materials will be analyzed in relation to different theoretical views of the language arts. Special emphasis will be placed on integrating the language arts skills.

**AP 6077 CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT****3 US CREDITS**

A critical presentation of stages, processes and milestones of normal cognitive, emotional and social development of children, with particular attention to the dynamic interplay between biological, psychological, and socio-cultural forces. Special emphasis is placed on the interdependence of developmental changes in the cognitive, emotional and social domains and on empirical research to integrate theoretical and applied perspectives.

**AP 6578 FIELDWORK****4 US CREDITS****Prerequisites**

AP 6077 Child and Adolescent Development

AP 6070 Developmental and Learning Disabilities

AP 6073 Consultation

AP 6074 Behavior Management and ABA

And

AP 6071 Child and Adolescent Psychological Assessment or

AP 6072 Childhood and Adolescent Therapeutic Interventions or

AP 6075 Learning Disabilities Assessment and Remediation

Fieldwork is designed much like a practicum and provides students with a structured opportunity to gain real-world, hands-on experience in a child and adolescent educational/therapeutic setting. It allows students to apply concepts and practices learned in coursework as they assist in professional-level work under the formal guidance from a qualified supervisor.

Students typically pursue tasks and projects that constitute entry-level professional work. In addition, since fieldwork is meant to be a learning opportunity for students, fieldwork tasks usually involve skills and knowledge that the student has already begun to develop through coursework but for which the student has not yet developed a high level of expertise.

Finally, the taught component of the class helps students develop case conceptualization skills by integrating theoretical knowledge and applying it to real case material for treatment/remediation planning and evaluation. Topics examined through the consultation process include: case conceptualization, professional development, peer supervision, quality assurance, legal and ethical considerations, institutional dynamics, consultation and communication of assessment results.

**AP 6579 CAPSTONE PROJECT****4 US CREDITS****Prerequisites**

AP 6077 Child and Adolescent Development

AP 6070 Developmental and Learning Disabilities

AP 6071 Child and Adolescent Psychological Assessment

AP 6075 Learning Disabilities Assessment and Remediation

And

AP 6023 Qualitative Research or

AP 6043 Advance Analysis and Interpretation of Behavioral Data

Both courses are offered in the graduate psychology area

Students must complete a capstone project after completing all coursework. The capstone project must convey scholarly and/or professional analysis informed by sustained and appropriate application of methodology. The capstone is a significant analytical piece of work: it represents work of a higher standard of what is normally expected from a term paper and provides an opportunity for students to draw on their methodological, analytical and substantive learning in a comprehensive written study.