FAMILY-PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION CERTIFICATE

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate
https://www.towson.edu/cla/departments/familystudies/grad/famprofessionalpbc/

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The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate program in Family-Professional Collaboration is an interdisciplinary graduate program that is designed to enhance the education and subsequent practice of professionals working in school, health and community settings. A focus on family-professional relationships has evolved into an important area of competency for educators, related school personnel and practitioners in health care and community agencies. The courses within the program prepare individuals for applying principles of family-based practice in their own professional work. Individuals already employed in disciplines such as psychology, sociology, education and health care will advance their knowledge of and research skills in family-related areas of study. The program is especially beneficial for professionals who need to enhance skills related to implementing public laws and policies that mandate actively involving families in developing education and health care plans for children with special needs.

The interdisciplinary design of the program allows students to benefit from a carefully designed sequence of study that uses case study research, needs assessment and program development to understand and enhance collaboration with families in the community.

The program’s flexibility makes it ideal to accommodate the demands of a working professional’s schedule. The curriculum design is intended to work with existing master’s degree programs. Many graduate programs that offer up to 9 units of electives can integrate this graduate certificate in Family-Professional Collaboration within their 9 units of electives. The certificate may also be earned as a stand-alone for those not wishing to pursue a master’s degree. This program can be completed in one to two years.

Admission Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university**
- An undergraduate GPA minimum of 3.00 (2.75 for conditional admission) in either the cumulative units of the degree or the last 60 units of the degree. An admission exception policy is in place for eligible candidates with undergraduate degrees obtained at least 5 years ago.
- A résumé included with the online application (http://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply)
- An interview with the program director

Non-immigrant International Students

Program Enrollment: F-1 and J-1 students are required to be enrolled full-time. The majority of their classes must be in-person and on campus. See the list of programs that satisfy these requirements (https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/international/programs-complying-j1-f1-regulations.html), and contact the International Student and Scholars Office (https://www.towson.edu/academics/international/issos) with questions.

Admission Procedures: See additional information regarding Graduate Admission policies (https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/policies.html) and International Graduate Application (https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/international) online.

**See Exceptions to Policy in Graduate Admissions (https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/policies.html).

Certificate Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FMST 601</td>
<td>APPLIED FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMST 610</td>
<td>FAMILY-PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMST 615</td>
<td>APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS IN FAMILY SCIENCE 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMST 620</td>
<td>PROJECT IN FAMILY FOCUSED PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>500-700-level Elective 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
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1 Other courses must be approved by the program director.
2 Course must be approved by the program director.

Programs that may be well-suited to integrate the graduate certificate in Family-Professional Collaboration within their 9 units of electives include:

- Applied Gerontology
- Elementary Education
- Human Resource Development
- Nursing (community-based)
- Occupational Science
- Occupational Therapy (post-professional occupational therapists)
- Professional Studies
- Reading
- Secondary Education
- Women’s and Gender Studies

Programs that may be well-suited to integrate the graduate certificate in Family-Professional Collaboration with some additional course work include:

- Clinical Psychology
- Counseling Psychology
- Early Childhood Education
- Health Science
- Nursing
- Occupational Therapy (professional master’s degree)
- School Health Education
- School Psychology
- Social Science
- Special Education
- Teaching (MAT)
1. Participate in ethnographic interviews to understand family relationship and world views and to recognize objective and subjective information from a variety of sources.

2. As part of a collaborative team, conduct action research to understand and identify ways to enhance family/professional relationships (University Core Learning Outcome #3).

Courses

FMST 505 PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIPS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN (3)
Parent-child relationships from pregnancy and childbirth through the death of elderly parents using systems and life perspectives. Cultural and contextual factors shaping the parent-child relationship. Prerequisites: FMST 101 or consent of instructor.

FMST 515 SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH (3)
Overview of supports and services necessary to foster healthy development in children, youth, and families. Focuses on the role of family and community influences in socializing children. Prerequisites: FMST 201, FMST 301, FMST 302, FMST 303, ECED 201, and (FMST 305 OR EDUC 201) or consent of the instructor.

FMST 540 THE HOSPITALIZED CHILD AND FAMILY (3)
Psychosocial and developmental needs of infants, children, adolescents and families in a health care context, with a focus on the roles and interventions of the child life specialist. Prerequisites: FMST 240, PSYC 101, SOCI 101, and PSYC 203.

FMST 545 INTRODUCTION TO ART THERAPY (3)
An overview of the art therapy field, presenting its history, major practitioners, and theoretical bases. Prerequisites: FMST 101, PSYC 101, and PSYC 203. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

FMST 550 FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR (3)
Overview of non-profit organizations, roles and responsibilities of leaders in the non-profit sector, issues concerning nonprofits. Junior/Senior standing required. Prerequisites: PSYC 101, SOCI 101, ENGL 102, FMST 101, FMST 201, and consent of Chair.

FMST 555 FUNDRAISING, FRIENDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT (3)
How nonprofit organizations generate and manage financial and human resources, including the theoretical, behavioral and pragmatic foundations of philanthropy, fund development, and volunteerism. Prerequisites: FMST 350/ FMST 550 and MKTG 341.

FMST 570 SPECIAL TOPICS IN FAMILY STUDIES (3)
In-depth study of a selected topic in Family Studies. May be repeated for a maximum of nine units. Prerequisite: FMST 101.

FMST 601 APPLIED FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS (3)
Course explores the fundamental components of the development and maintenance of family relationships. Students will critically analyze various perspectives and techniques of interpersonal relationships and will apply knowledge through case analysis. Content will include topics such as conflict resolution, intimacy and distance in relationships, relationship enhancement and maintenance, and exploration of family stories through case analysis. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of program director.

FMST 603 THERAPEUTIC BENEFITS OF PLAY (3)
Examination of the history of hospital play programs, theoretical basis for play and how play techniques are used to promote healing, growth and development for children and adolescents as it relates to the profession of child life. Prerequisite: consent of department.

FMST 604 Bereavement, Grief and Loss: A Child Life Prospective (3)
Investigation of bereavement, grief and loss in child life practice. Prerequisite: consent of department. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

FMST 610 FAMILY-PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION (3)
Problem-based learning from a multidisciplinary perspective to enhance professional and family collaboration. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of instructor.

FMST 615 APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS IN FAMILY SCIENCE (3)
Program evaluation methodology for assessment of practice of human services. Prerequisites: Graduate standing.

FMST 620 PROJECT IN FAMILY FOCUSED PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (3)
Exploration of complex relationships in family program development, and student involvement in a family focused service learning project. Students will conduct initial field exploration to identify a focus area that could benefit from creative family programming. Potential service areas are school communities, social service agencies, and non-profit programs. The project will require a comprehensive needs assessment to identify problems and a program plan designed to offer intervention. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of Program Director.

FMST 640 MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ILLNESS: A CHILD LIFE PERSPECTIVE (3)
An overview of the childhood disease process and its possible impact on child and family. Prerequisites: FMST 340/540 and graduate standing.

FMST 670 SPECIAL TOPICS IN FAMILY STUDIES (3)
Study of selected topics in Family Studies. Topics will vary according to instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 units. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of program director.

FMST 691 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN FAMILY STUDIES (1-6)
The independent study course provides student with the opportunity to explore an in-depth topic specified to the area of concentration under the direction of graduate program faculty member. This course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of program director.

FMST 697 GRADUATE INTERNSHIP IN FAMILY STUDIES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (4)
Graduate human service internship experience. Prerequisite: department permission [consent of program director].

FMST 880 GRADUATE PROJECT IN FAMILY STUDIES (3)
Implementation and documentation of a research project specific to child life or administration of child life programs or family involvement in a practice setting. Project examples: FMST 620 program implementation, graduate faculty research project, and research project in a child life setting such as a hospital (for students who have completed FMST 640). Prerequisites: FMST 615 or approved research methods course, FMST 601, FMST 610, and FMST 620; students must submit the project approval form and receive approval from instructor and department graduate committee; research projects may require the completion of an independent study prior to FMST 880.
FMST 897 FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICE THESIS (6)
Original investigation using an acceptable research method and design conducted under the direction of a faculty member. Graded S/U.
Prerequisites: completion of a minimum of 26 units toward the MS in CLAFC including completion of FMST 615 and FMST 620; permission from Graduate Program Director and Department Chairperson.

FMST 898 FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICE THESIS (3)
The previous course, FMST 897, taken over two semesters. Prerequisites: completion of a minimum of 26 units toward the MS in CLAFC including completion of FMST 615 and FMST 620; permission from Graduate Program Director and Department Chairperson.

FMST 899 FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICE THESIS CONTINUUM (1)
Continuation of graduate thesis. Prerequisite: previous registration for graduate thesis.