Course Description: A didactic and experiential course dealing with counseling techniques applied to the improvement of parent-child relationships. The course focuses on intervention skills of play therapy and parenting education based on an understanding of the family life cycle and family structure.

General Course Information: This course will focus on filial therapy, also known as Child Parent Relationship Therapy (CPRT). This course will equip students to work with parents by teaching parents basic play therapy skills in a group format. Filial therapy supervision is a significant part of the course.

Textbooks:

Recommended reading:

Course Objectives: Students will be able to:
1. Explain the role of play as a medium for developing a therapeutic relationship between parent and child.
2. Identify the objectives of filial therapy.
3. Identify the variables to consider in selecting parents for filial therapy training.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the group dynamic and group process variables utilized in the filial therapy training format.
5. Identify the toys and materials recommended for filial therapy and explain their purpose.
6. Demonstrate the ability to facilitate the learning of basic filial therapy skills by parents: reflective listening, empathic understanding, acceptance, caring, structuring of sessions, therapeutic limit setting, self-esteem building, returning responsibility, and the “do’s and don’ts” of special play times.
7. Demonstrate the ability to provide facilitative feedback in supervision sessions with parents.
8. Identify and use relevant American Counseling Association ethical principles, legal considerations in working with parents and children and appropriate multicultural considerations in filial therapy training. (CACREP 11.K.2.b,c, & d)

**Attendance:** Given that a large part of what we do in class is experiential, class attendance is considered to be crucial. More than two absences will result in the final grade being lowered one grade level. Any late assignment will result in a deduction of 10 points per class for that assignment. Arriving late to class is inappropriate and will count against your grade.

**Digital devices:** It is inappropriate to text, check email, or go online during class time. Laptops will not be used during this class. Confine your use of digital media to breaks.

**Students with Disabilities:**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library Rm 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

**CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC HONESTY**
"All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Polices and Procedures, Conduct) “Graduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work.” (See Section A13.12, Academic Honesty, A&M-Commerce Procedures.)

**Important!** The Department of Counseling is obligated by professional ethics (see ACA Code of Ethics, 2005) and University procedures to assess students as to their potential for meeting the expectations of the professional counseling field. The **Counseling Student Competency Evaluation (CSCE)** will be used as a basis for assessment. Copies of the CSCE are available from the Department website or by contacting the Department of Counseling office.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING*

1. Analysis & Critique: Students are required to complete an analysis of your experience as a filial leader including the progress of your leadership and the progress of filial participants during the 10 weeks. The critique should not extend beyond 5 pages.

2. CPRT Practicum: Students are required to lead a 10-week CPRT group. Grade will be based on the completion of the group, active participation in your supervision group, accuracy of your files, and organization of your group. Groups should begin by the fourth week of class. A minimum of three group sessions will be videotaped for supervision purposes. Students may be asked to videotape more than three sessions. All paperwork must be completed and reviewed by the final class.

3. Supervision: You will be participating in supervision that will meet during the second half of class. You are expected to attend supervision sessions and participate by providing video recordings of your filial group, initiating discussion, and responding openly to supervision.

4. Class presentation: During the last two class periods, you will be required to present a videotaped session of your group and discuss significant issues in the group such as: group interaction and dynamics, progress/resistance of one or two group participants, positive moments in the group, personal feelings about the experience of leading the group, and most difficult challenge for you in leading the group.

*STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO CARRY PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR THIS COURSE. PLEASE CONSULT YOUR INSTRUCTOR.

Grade Assignment:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis &amp; Critique</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filial Practicum/Supervision</td>
<td>240</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class presentation</td>
<td>30</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>210</td>
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Flexible Schedule

**Aug 27**
Introductions, Syllabus, Intro to Filial
*Prior to next class read:* Chapters 1 & 2 in CPRT text

**Sep 3**
Labor Day - no class

**Sep 10**
Chapters 1 & 2 (CPRT Text)
*Prior to next class read:* Chapters 3-7 (CPRT Text), Session 1 in Therapist Notebook, Study Guide, & Parent Notebook of CPRT Manual

**Sep 17**
Session 1, Prepare for First Session, *Prior to next class read:* Chapter 8 (CPRT Text), Session 2 in Therapist Notebook, Study Guide, & Parent Notebook of CPRT Manual

**Sep 24**
Prepare for First Session, *Prior to next class read:* IJPT CPRT Groups
Special Issue, Chapter 9 (CPRT Text), Session 3 in Therapist Notebook, Begin Study Guide, Parent Notebook of CPRT Manual

**Oct 1**
Session 2 & 3

**Oct 8**

**Oct 15**

**Oct 22**
Supervision Groups

**Oct 29**
Supervision Groups

**Nov 5**
Supervision Groups

**Nov 12**
Supervision Groups

**Nov 19**
Thanksgiving week

**Nov 26**
Supervision Groups

**Dec 3**
Class presentations

**Dec 10**
Class presentations, Closing activities

*All final paperwork due*