

The Playful Spirit Within: Play Therapy for Children of All Ages

Course Description

Play is one of the earliest experiences of childhood. Through play, children discover and explore the world around them. Play provides children with the essential tools necessary for problem solving, relationship building, motor skill development, creative/imaginative discovery, and much, much more. Young children thrill at a trip to the park or the opportunity to play with a friend. By the time a child enters adolescence, however, play becomes an experience of the past. For adults, play is nothing more than a distant memory of childhood. The purpose of this workshop is to help students gain an understanding of the value, impact, and importance of play across the lifespan. Workshop participants will have numerous opportunities to explore how early childhood play impacts on human growth and development. Theories and techniques of play therapy will serve as the foundation for this workshop. Throughout the class, emphasis will be placed on the applied aspects of play therapy for children of all ages. Techniques commonly used in play therapy will be introduced, and utilized to facilitate the discovery of the playful spirit that resides within each of us. Lecture, films, experiential learning activities, and group discussions will be used to promote student learning and discovery.

Gaylia J. Borrer, PhD, LICSW, NCC, RPT-S

Dr. Borrer is a professor of Counselor Education at Winona State University. She lives and works in Rochester, Minnesota. Over the past several years she has devoted her professional development activities to expanding her knowledge and skills in the area of play therapy. During the summer of 2006 Dr. Borrer was privileged to be invited to participate in a two-week intensive training program entitled: ***A Gestalt Play Therapy Approach with Children and Adolescents*** under the instruction of Dr. Violet Oaklander at the ***Violet Oaklander Institute*** in Santa Barbara, California. Dr. Borrer earned her PhD in Counselor Education from the University of Iowa. She is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW) in the state of Minnesota, and has been a National Certified Counselor (NCC) since 1984. In the fall of 2001 she was awarded the Registered Play Therapist – Supervisor (RPT-S) credential by the Association for Play Therapy. Dr. Borrer has a real passion for working with children, and has had many years of clinical practice experience in the area of play therapy. Her most recent clinical practice experience was at Child Centered Counseling, Inc. in Rochester, Minnesota. She has taught workshops and courses in the area of play therapy at The University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota, and Winona State University.

Dates/Time	Friday March 2, 2012 – 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Saturday March 3, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. <i>Special Note: Inclement weather make-up dates are March 9-10, 2012</i>
Location	University Center Rochester – Coffman (CF) 206-208 859 30 th Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904 - Map www.winona.edu/media/UCR.pdf
Undergraduate and Graduate Credit Registration	1 Semester Credit - Registration and fees at www.winona.edu/registrar/registration.asp Undergraduate – CE495, Course ID 001683 Graduate – CE595, Course ID 001684
Non-credit Registration	13 contact hours Cost: \$175 Register and pay with credit card online at: winona.augusoft.net

Workshop questions may be directed to:

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