TU TOWSON UNIVERSITY™

Autism Studies

Graduate Certificate

➢ For all teachers, OTs, SLPs, guidance counselors, and others working with children or teens with autism.

Towson University's **two year, 16 credit** Graduate Certificate in Autism Studies offers advanced training for professionals working with individuals on the autism spectrum or with other complex and overlapping challenges (e.g., behavior problems, social difficulties, anxiety disorders, executive function issues, and rigidity/resistance to change). Students gain an **enormous breadth and depth of autism-focused knowledge.** Topics covered include:

- Typical traits of individuals on the autism spectrum *(gifts/challenges, from infancy to adulthood)*
- Co-occurring conditions *(e.g., anxiety, ADHD)*
- Evidence-based interventions *(ABA, social skills training, interventions focused on executive functioning)*
- Program planning and problem solving
- Family impact

Students in the program interact and network with other professionals who also have a passionate interest in autism. Each brings insights from their field, as well as their setting, from pre-school to high school. Some know about a certain group, like teenagers preparing for the transition to adulthood or toddlers with behavioral issues. All together, they bring a wealth of perspectives to the program, enriching each other's learning.

- Courses are offered in an online, synchronous format using BlackBoard Collaborate. You will meet weekly on the computer at a scheduled time.
- Admission requirements: Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (2.75 for conditional admission).
- Tuition for 3 credit courses is $900. Please ask about agreements with specific counties.

Course Sequence

Fall 1	**IDHP 621** Contemporary Issues for Infants and Children on the Autism Spectrum (3)
Spring 1	**IDHP 623** Contemporary Issues for Adolescents and Adults on the Autism Spectrum (3)
Fall 2	**FMST 610** Family and Professional Collaboration (3) - *Asynchronous*
	IDHP 681 Seminar in Autism Spectrum Issues (1) – *1 credit course meets "live" online four times*
Spring 2	**IDHP 641** Communication, Behavior, and Participation Linkages for People on the Autism Spectrum (3) *features key evidence-based interventions and classroom strategies*
	IDHP 642 Program Design and Implementation in Autism (3) *Ziggurat Model for designing individualized programs for children/teens with ASD* (Courses given back-to-back, 7 weeks each)

Note: this Graduate Certificate is an academic credential and not a certificate from the MDSE.

Please contact Alyssa Zumpano -- azumpano@towson.edu -- for more information