

# School of Medicine

## Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences

### Child and Adolescent Mental Health

#### Why Child & Adolescent Mental Health?

Mental Health problems in children and adolescents are a major concern. The Ministry of Health has stated that 3% of young people in New Zealand need access to Mental Health services. Barriers to meeting this need include the serious shortage of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Clinicians, and the limited training available: few health professionals have undergraduate or specialized training in the area.

#### Where will my postgraduate studies lead me?

These courses are offered to graduates in medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, social work or clinical psychology who work, or wish to work, in child and adolescent mental health services and want to gain further skills and knowledge in this field. Papers can be credited towards a Postgraduate Diploma and then towards a Master of Health Sciences or other degrees, depending on the background of the student. It is important to note that the Certificate programme does not by itself equip trainees to work clinically with children - a basic clinical training is also required.

For **administrative issues**, please contact the Programme administrator:

Janine Joubert

Email: [j.joubert@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.joubert@auckland.ac.nz)

Phone: +64 9 373 7599 ext 89717

For **academic advice** please contact the Programme coordinator:

Vas Ajello

Email: [v.ajello@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:v.ajello@auckland.ac.nz)

---

#### Courses

##### PSYCHIAT 747 Child and Adolescent Development 15 points Semester One

The focus is on exploration of major concepts and theories of development and associated research. This includes the study of theories of attachment, cognitive development and social and emotional development in the context of the family, and of development of identity and self-concept in adolescence. With less than two days of on-campus teaching, use is made of e-learning with pre-recorded presentations on the course website and use of Cecil (the University's web based learning management system). Students also give a presentation to peer groups in Auckland or at regional centres.

**Campus Days:** Monday & Tuesday, March 5 & 6

**Assessment:** Library assignment 5%, Student presentation 20%, Online discussions 25%, Essay 20%, Answers to topic questions 30%

##### PSYCHIAT 740 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology 15 points Semester Two

This course is designed for self-study and is delivered entirely extramurally. No face-to-face teaching is scheduled. Use is made of e-learning with pre-recorded presentations on the course website and use of Cecil (the University's web based learning management system). The course covers classification of psychopathology; the history, presentation and diagnosis of important and common disorders that present in childhood and adolescence; Maori and Pacific cultural issues.

**Assessment:** Two short essays 30%, Online discussions 30%, Answers to topic questions 40%

##### PSYCHIAT 768 Clinical Skills in Child, Adolescent & Family Mental Health Assessment

##### 30 points Double Semester

A clinically orientated course that focuses on normal and abnormal development, psychopathology and ability to assess family function in a culturally appropriate way. It teaches the clinical skills of assessment, formulation and case recording of children and adolescents and their families within a mental health setting. This course is an amalgam of theory and practice including methods of assessment, assessment of specific psychiatric disorders, assessment interviewing skills, processing and synthesis of clinical assessment information in written work.

**Campus days:** Wednesdays & Thursdays 9am - 5pm on  
March 7 & 8, May 16 & 17, July 18 & 19,  
Sep 19 & 20

**Assessment:** Workbook 55%, Case study 20%, Videotaped interview 25%

---

#### University Admissions and Enrolment

Student Services Online is the new and improved way to apply to the University, enroll in classes, view your timetables, update your details and much more.

This site contains help guides and video tutorials.

[www.studentservices.auckland.ac.nz/uoa](http://www.studentservices.auckland.ac.nz/uoa)

#### International Students

If you are an international student (that is, you do not have citizenship or permanent residency in New Zealand or Australia) then you should contact Auckland International for application information ([international@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:international@auckland.ac.nz))

All students must complete a formal Application for Admission if they wish to enrol at The University of Auckland

**General Inquiries:** Auckland University Student Info line 0800 61 62 63

[www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz)



**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF AUCKLAND**

**FACULTY OF MEDICAL  
AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

09/11