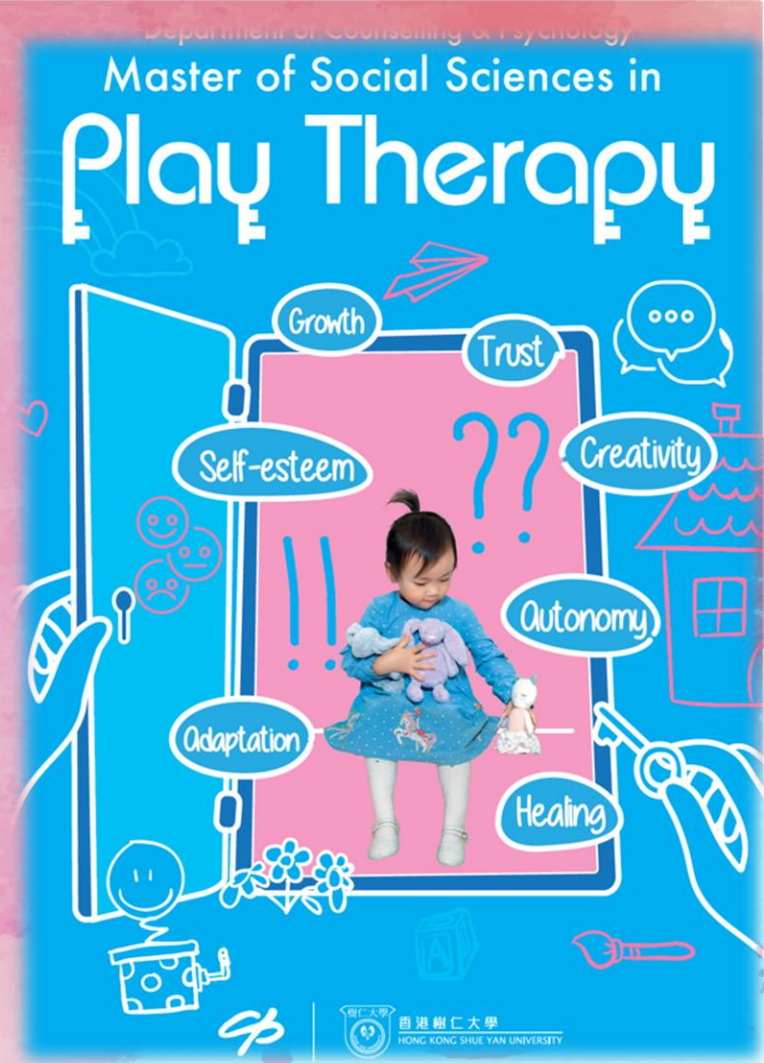


# Information Seminar: Master of Social Sciences in Play Therapy



# Background: Needs of Children in Hong Kong

- Educational Bureau (2021) reported that 56, 640 children with special needs were enrolled in mainstream primary and secondary schools throughout Hong Kong.
- The recent social turmoil and coronavirus-related class suspensions have a significant impact on children. Save the Children Hong Kong (a non-governmental organisation) suggests that as many as 39% of the primary and secondary students may have developed symptoms of mental health disorders during this period (Pawlowski, Pui, Ng & Li, 2020).

# Background: Play and Play Therapy

1

- Play is the language of children.

2

- Play provides children with a means of self-expression and opportunities to process their life experiences, explore their self concept and regain their mastery over life.



# Background: Play and Play Therapy



3

- Play therapy is able to address the needs of a wide range of children, including children with mental health issues, special educational needs, or physical illness.

4

- Play therapy is internationally recognised as a distinct profession, which requires a distinct set of specialised skills.



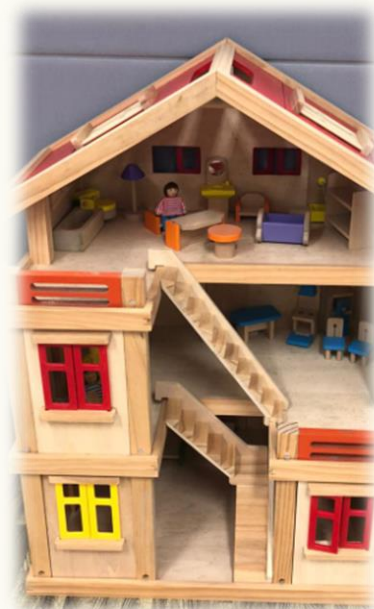
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## **Play Therapy Training at the Department of Counselling & Psychology, Hong Kong Shue Yan University**

- 2013-2015 MSc Play Therapy (3-year part time; Hong Kong Shue Yan University in Collaboration with University of South Wales )
- Currently CP515 Psychotherapy II and CP 500 Play Therapy in Master of Social Sciences in Counselling and Psychology
- 2022, the first cohort of MsocSc Play Therapy (24 full-time/part-time students)



# Master of Social Sciences in Play Therapy

- MSocSc Play Therapy is the only professional master's degree of its kind based in Hong Kong, and the first to be fully developed locally.
- The programme was accredited under the University's Programme Area Accreditation Status at HKQF Level 6 in Counselling and Psychology and is listed under the Qualifications Register.
- The counselling and psychology department of Hong Kong Shue Yan University is committed to train professional play therapists, play therapy researchers, future educators, and leaders in the field.



# Master of Social Sciences in Play Therapy

QF Level	6	
Social Science (Counselling) Programme Area Last Accredited at QF6 by HKCAAVQ	2022	
Commencement of MSocSc Play Therapy Programme	September 2022	
Programme Length of the bi-mode study	Full-time 2 Years	Part-time 3 Years
Number of Credits	45	



## Overview of the Two-Year Full-Time Mode Curriculum

- Cluster I: Theory and Knowledge in Play Therapy
- Cluster II: Practice-Based Competency
- Cluster III: Research: Evidence Based Practice

<b>Fall Semester I</b>			
Cluster	Title	Credits	
I	MPT501 Introduction to Play Therapy	3	
I	MPT502 Micro-Skills in Counselling	3	
I	MPT503 Professional and Ethical Issues in Play Therapy	3	
I	MPT506 Working with Parents and Families	3	
<b>Spring Semester I</b>			
Cluster	Title	Credits	
I	MPT507 Child Psychopathology	3	
I	MPT504 Advanced Play Therapy Skills	3	
I	Electives: PSY503 Lifespan Developmental Psychology or MPT510 Introduction to Expressive Arts Therapy	3	
<b>Summer Semester I</b>			
Cluster	Title	Credits	
III	MPT508 Research Methods in Play Therapy Studies	3	
I	Electives: PSY504 Personality and Individual Differences or MPT509 Filial Therapy	3	
<b>Fall Semester II</b>			
Cluster	Title	Credits	
I	MPT505 Cultural Issues in Play Therapy	3	
II	MPT511 Play Therapy Practicum I	3	
III	MPT514 Research on Evidence-Based Practice Project I	3	
<b>Spring Semester II</b>			
Cluster	Title	Credits	
II	MPT512 Play Therapy Practicum II	3	
II	MPT513 Play Therapy Practicum III	3	
III	MP515 Research on Evidence-Based Practice Project II	3	
	Total	45	



## Overview of the Three-Year Part-Time Mode Curriculum

- Cluster I: Theory and Knowledge in Play Therapy
- Cluster II: Practice-Based Competency
- Cluster III: Research: Evidence Based Practice

<b>Fall Semester I</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
I	MPT501 Introduction to Play Therapy	3
I	MPT503 Professional and Ethical Issues in Play Therapy	3
<b>Spring Semester I</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
I	MPT504 Advanced Play Therapy Skills	3
I	Electives: PSY503 Lifespan Developmental Psychology or MPT510 Introduction to Expressive Arts Therapy	3
<b>Summer Semester I</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
III	MPT508 Research Methods in Play Therapy Studies	3
I	Electives: PSY504 Personality and Individual Differences or MPT509 Filial Therapy	3
<b>Fall Semester II</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
I	MPT502 Micro-Skills in Counselling	3
I	MPT505 Cultural Issues in Play Therapy	3
I	MPT506 Working with Parents and Families	3
<b>Spring Semester II</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
I	MPT507 Child Psychopathology	3
III	MPT514 Research on Evidence-Based Practice Project I	3
<b>Fall Semester III</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
II	MPT511 Play Therapy Practicum I	3
III	MPT515 Research on Evidence-Based Practice Project II	3
<b>Spring Semester III</b>		
Cluster	Title	Credits
II	MPT512 Play Therapy Practicum II	3
II	MPT513 Play Therapy Practicum III	3
	Total	45

# Competent Teaching Faculty and Qualified Supervision Team

- The Department has a total of 25 full-time academic staff, 1 graduate advisor and 1 placement coordinator.
- Thirteen of the existing full-time staffs play different roles in the programme. Ten of them have experiences in teaching or supervising master students. (1 full-time RPTS(APT), 1 part-time RPTS(APPTA), 1 adjunct professor with RPTS(APPTA,BAPT))
- Six potential part-time clinical supervisors with internationally registered play therapist supervisor qualification



# Personal Growth

50 hours of personal counselling or therapy

## Play Therapy Practice with Clinical Supervision Arranged by HKSYU

- 3 play therapy practicums
- 100 hours of direct contact therapeutic work at sites
- 10-hour group intervention
- Weekly supervision with no less than 25 hours of supervision in total.

**Practicum coordinator:** Dr CONNOLLY John Patrick

**Placement coordinator:** Mr SING Chi Hung, Joseph

**Placement arrangement:** The department has signed agreements with kindergartens, primary schools, NGOs and private centres ready to offer placements for student practicums.

# Children and Play Therapy Oriented Research Projects



Research concepts and techniques in play therapy studies will be introduced to students in the course MPT 508, Research Methods in Play Therapy Studies

Students are supposed to complete an evidence-based practice project related to play or play therapy in two semesters.

**Evidence-based practice project coordinator:**  
Dr CHUNG Man Chi Sandrine





# RLG 306: Play Therapy Practice and Research Lab

Facilities	Play room	Play Therapy Research and Practice Lab
<b><i>Parent Consultation area</i></b>	*	*
<b>Teaching and learning area</b>		*
<b>Projector and projecting screen</b>		*
<b>Play area</b>	*	*
<b>Store room</b>	*	*
<b>Work station (With desktop)</b>	*	*
<b>Reference book shelves</b>		*
<b>Single- sided observation mirror</b>	*	
<b>Video cameras</b>	*	*
<b>Soundproof walls</b>		*
<b>Teaching and learning</b>	*	*
<b>Practice and service</b>	*	*
<b>Research and collaboration</b>		*



# RLG 306: Play Therapy Research and Practice Lab



# RLG306 Play Therapy Research and Practice Lab

- To empower child participants and their families through the practice of play therapy



- To enhance professional play therapist training
- To accommodate the supervision-based practicum arrangement
- To develop and disseminate play therapy training materials and videos

- To promote intra- and inter-disciplinary dialogue and research collaboration

# Special Departmental Resources

2 Playrooms (LG314, RLG306; See Section 5.2.1)

1 Counselling Research Centre Staff Office (CRC; LG233-235)

7 Counselling Rooms (Lib105, LG211-214, LG315A, LG315C)

1 Counselling Laboratory (LG302) and Observation Room (LG301)

1 Office for Postgraduate Interns (LG315B)

1 Psychological Test Library (LG102)

1 Psychological Assessment Room (RLG308B)

1 Supervision Room (LIB102C)

1 School Counselling and Psychology Laboratory (RLG305)

1 Psychological Lab Studio of Art and Creativity (RLG309)

1 Computer-Assisted Data Analysis Laboratory (LG303)

1 Cognitive Psychology and Vision Laboratory (LG215-6)

2 Multifunctional Room (Lib101) and Seminar Rooms (Lib103)

1 Neuropsychology Laboratory (LG304)

1 Positive Psychology Lab (RLG303)

1 Positive Technology Virtual Reality Laboratory (RLG307)

1 Social and Health Psychology Laboratory (RLG304)

1 High-Density Electroencephalography (RLG308)

1 Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Lab (RLG308A)

# Two Pathways

Practice: Professional Play Therapist

Further Study: PhD study in child education or doctoral psychology or counselling programme specialized in children, e.g., Counseling PhD specialized in play therapy, North Texas University



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# Opportunities for Graduates

- Play therapists can work with children at primary schools, kindergartens, centres for children with SEN, family centres for children suffering from domestic abuse, orphanages, paediatric healthcare departments in hospitals, children's clinics, and private agencies.
- Health/mental health services for children under the Department of Health, Department of Social Welfare, and Hospital Authorities also have the potential to employ play therapists.





# Registered Play Therapists

Registration associations	Requirements
Hong Kong Academy of Play Therapy (HKAPT)	120 training hours, 250 practice hours(150 hours after training), 25 supervision hours, 800 mental health contact hours after a Master degree
Association for Play Therapy (APT)	State license to provide mental health service (A clinical license should include two years and 2,000 direct client contact hours of supervised clinical mental health experience), Master degree in clinical mental health disciplines with demonstrated course work in child development, theories of personality, principle of psychotherapy, child& adolescent psychopathology, and ethics, 150 hours of play therapy instruction, 350 direct client contact hours under the supervision of an RPT-S, 35 play therapy supervision hours with 5 session observations.
Australasia Pacific Play Therapy Association (APPTA )	Undergraduate degree, Completed the Master of Social Sciences of Play Therapy, 200 hours of play therapy practice (total hours), 50 hours of Supervision, 50 hours of personal therapy (total hours), SCRC and Police Clearance, Indemnity insurance
Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSJU)	100 clinical hours, 25 hours of supervision, 50 hours of personal therapy, SCRC and Police Clearance, Indemnity insurance

# Admission Requirement

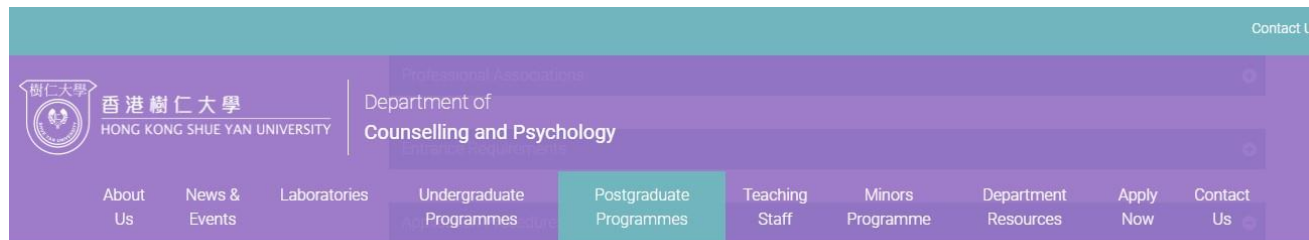
Candidates should:

- hold a bachelor's degree or a postgraduate conversion degree in the field of **counselling, education, psychology, social work, nursing, or related fields** from a recognised local or overseas university;
- provide documentary evidence of having completed the equivalent of at least **one year's full-time experience working primarily in a helping capacity with children** (some or all of which may be in the form of practicums undertaken during the undergraduate degree);

Alternatively, candidates should:

- Possess a bachelor's degree or a postgraduate conversion degree in any field from a recognised local or overseas university;
- Complete the equivalent of at least **two year's full-time experience working primarily in a helping capacity with children**.

# Online Admission



## Information Seminar

MSScPT information seminar will be held on 10 February 2023 (Friday) at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. Please click [HERE](#) for registration.

Tel: 28065197

## Admission schedule (2023/24 Cohort)

1st round of application:

Deadline for Application: 13th March 2023

Interview Day: 23rd, 24th & 25th March 2023

Release of Results: Mid to End of April 2023

2nd round of application (depends on the availability of places):

Deadline for Application: 23rd April 2023

Interview Day: 12th & 13th May 2023

Release of Results: Early to Mid of June 2023

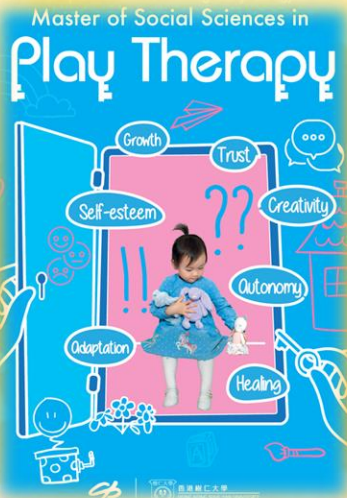
# Tuition Fee

- Individual course credits are presently charged at HK\$2,500
- The entire tuition cost of the MSSPT programme is HK\$112,500 (45 credits) in 2023/24.
- The tuition fee is to be paid in five instalments for full-time mode and seven instalments for part-time mode (one month before the start of each semester)



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“

**I am here. I hear you. I understand.  
I care.**

--Garry Landreth (Landreth, 2012)

***Thanks for Your Attention!***



# References



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