

# LONG SIGNATURE SHEET



UNC CHARLOTTE

(corrected title)  
OK!  
by  
12/17/08

Proposal Number: CSLG 11-19-08

Proposal Title Establishment of Graduate Certificate  
in Play Therapy  
Originating Department Counseling

TYPE OF PROPOSAL: UNDERGRADUATE \_\_\_\_\_ GRADUATE  UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Separate proposals sent to UCCC and Grad. Council)

DATE RECEIVED	DATE CONSIDERED	DATE FORWARDED	ACTION	SIGNATURES
4/4/08	4/11/08	4/11/08	Approved	<u>DEPARTMENT CHAIR</u> <i>Susan R. Jure</i>
10/30/08	11/04/08	11/04/08	Approved	<u>COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> <i>J. M. Newkirk</i>
			Approved	<u>COLLEGE FACULTY CHAIR</u>
12-2-08	12-16-08	12-26-08	Approved	<u>COLLEGE DEAN</u> <i>Mary Kaye Collier</i>
			Approved	<u>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE &amp; CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> (for undergraduate courses)
			Approved	<u>GRADUATE COUNCIL CHAIR</u> (for graduate courses)
			Approved	<u>FACULTY GOVERNANCE SECRETARY</u> (noting Faculty Council approval on Consent Calendar)
				<u>FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u> (if decision is appealed)

**New Graduate Certificate Program in the College of Education**

**Course and Curriculum Proposal from: Department of Counseling**

Establishment of a Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy

**TITLE:** Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy

**A. Summary**

The Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy will consist of a coherent program of play therapy course work. The certificate program is designed to meet the post-master's educational requirements, as specified by the Association for Play Therapy (APT), for the Registered Play Therapist credential.

Up to six hours taken in post-baccalaureate status may be applied to the Graduate Certificate with the approval of the coordinator. A minimum of twelve credit hours is required for the Graduate Certificate. All course work must be completed within four years.

This program will provide coursework for master's level professional counselors, social workers, and psychologists to become play therapists in clinical and school settings. In addition, students currently enrolled in a Master's program in the Department Counseling profession may take the coursework required for the Graduate Certificate. The program to be added will use existing courses currently being offered in the Department of Counseling.

**B. Catalog Copy**

1. Program Description: Requirements for Completion of the Program

Students must complete 4 of the following classes for completion of the Graduate Certificate:

CSLG 7142 Introduction to Play Therapy. Enhancing the counseling relationship with children by using play media to establish facilitative relationships with children under the age of ten years. This course has a clinical component of conducting play sessions with young children as a part of course requirements.

CSLG 7143 Filial Therapy. Prerequisite: CSLG 7142. This advanced level play therapy course focuses on concepts

and skills for training parents/teachers to be therapeutic agents in children's lives through the utilization of child centered play therapy skills in regularly scheduled structured play sessions with children. This course has a clinical component of conducting filial sessions with parents or teachers as a part of course requirements.

- CSLG 7144 Theory and Practice of Play Therapy Prerequisite: CSLG 7142. An advanced exploration of fundamental issues involved in play therapy, this seminar course will focus on an in-depth study of various theoretical approaches, modalities, techniques, and applications of play therapy. Historical and theoretical foundations of play therapy are presented as are current issues in providing appropriate counseling services to children aged three to ten years old. This course has a clinical component of conducting play sessions with young children as a part of course requirements.
- CSLG 6000 Special Topics in Play Therapy. Prerequisite: CSLG 7142. This special topics course will focus on a variety of topics in play therapy such as group play therapy, diversity issues in play therapy, supervision in play therapy, and using creative arts in play therapy. The course may offer alternative formats, such as week-end sessions and distance learning options.
- CSGL 6200 Introduction to Theories of Family Counseling. Examination of appropriate interventions in working with families focusing on major theorists and techniques in the field.
- CSLG 7435 Internship will **only** be an option for students who are currently enrolled in the counseling program who enroll in the section designated for play therapy students. Prerequisites: CSLG 6100, 6101, 6110, 7130, 7142. Students will participate in delivering counseling services in a field setting and receive supervision of their work with children in play therapy in weekly seminars. A minimum of 20 hours per week in field placement. Offered on a pass/no credit basis.

## 2. Admission Requirements

- A master's degree in counseling, social work, or psychology from an accredited university or a current student admitted to the Department of Counseling
- Online application to Graduate Admissions accompanied by the application fee in effect.
- GPA required for entry into a master's degree program.
- Official transcripts
- Personal statement of interest

## C. Justification

### 1. Need for program.

Many children under 10 years old need the support of counseling services. The Graduate Certificate program will enable counselors to focus on this population and master the skills and content basis necessary to provide high quality services to young children. These skills are particularly critical to school counselors working in elementary school settings. In addition to serving our current students, the Graduate Certificate program would serve the Charlotte region through training licensed school counselors and licensed professional counselors who are currently working with young children and want/need additional training. Finally, the Graduate Certificate program will enable students to receive necessary educational requirements for eligibility as a national Registered Play Therapist through the Association for Play Therapy (APT), an international organization established in 1982. The courses will address the needed content areas of history, theory, techniques/methods, and applications to special settings or populations.

In January, 2008, a survey of 600 persons interested in play therapy in the region was surveyed about their interest in a Graduate Certificate program in play therapy. About 140 responded. Attached is a summary of the findings from this survey. This group of non-students indicated great interest in a Graduate Certificate program, especially one with alternative class formats, such as weekend classes.

### 2. **Impact Statement** (To include how the program affects the department's graduate program, any interdisciplinary programs (if applicable), and the Charlotte region.

The program could provide specialized training to current students in the counseling program as a part of their degree programs. The Graduate Certificate program would provide them with an additional, focused, credential as they pursue employment working with children younger than 10 years of age. In addition, the program would serve the Charlotte region by providing specialized training to professionals with master's degrees in counseling who currently work with young children and lack specified training.

**D. Letters of support and consultation.**

Department of Psychology  
Department of Social Work

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**D. Letters of support and consultation.**

Department of Psychology  
Department of Social Work



# UNC CHARLOTTE

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
9201 University City Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28223-0001

Department of Psychology  
704-687-4731  
Fax: 704-687-3096

September 4, 2008

Dr. Phyllis Post  
Department of Counseling  
UNC Charlotte  
Charlotte, NC 28223

Dear Dr. Post:

I have reviewed your proposal and have asked for input from the director of our doctoral program in health psychology, from our Director of Clinical Training, and from the coordinator of our master's program in Community/Clinical Psychology. We are all in agreement that we wholeheartedly support your graduate certificate proposal in Play Therapy. We feel that there is no overlap with programs in our department. It appears that your proposal offers a quality experience.

Please feel free to call upon me if I can provide additional assistance.

Sincerely,

David C. Gilmore, Ph.D.  
Interim Chair



# UNC CHARLOTTE

College of Health and Human Services  
9201 University City Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28223-0001

Department of Social Work  
704/687-7938  
Fax 704/687-2343

May 13, 2008

Dr. Phyllis B. Post, Professor  
Department of Counseling  
College of Education  
UNC Charlotte

Dr. Post,

I have read the proposal to establish a Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy (GCPT). This letter is written in support of this certificate program.

As Chair of the Department of Social Work and advisor of graduate students in social work, I am familiar with the existing course offerings in Play Therapy. Feedback from social work graduate students and alumni concerning coursework and allied workshops in Play Therapy has been very positive. Many of our graduate students, especially students choosing to work with children and families, have expressed interest in and appreciation of the high quality of existing offerings in Play Therapy.

I concur with your assertion that "Many children under 10 years old need the support of counseling services." Play Therapy is an important mode of intervention and responsive to the needs of children in our region and nation. In addition, a graduate certificate in Play Therapy would result in a valuable credential for helping professionals intervening with young children.

As the GCPT Program moves forward, it would be my pleasure to assist in your effort. Please let me know how the Department of Social Work can be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis D. Long'.

Dennis D. Long, Ph.D.  
Chair and Professor

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				<u>DEPARTMENT CHAIR</u>
				<u>COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u>
				<u>TEACHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> (Teacher Education Program proposals only)
				<u>COLLEGE FACULTY CHAIR</u>
				<u>COLLEGE DEAN</u>
				<u>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE &amp; CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> (for undergraduate courses)
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