

Psy 490: Autism Practicum

In Search of Motivated Students Interested in Working with Children with Autism

When?

Winter Semester

Where?

GVSU

Ottawa and Kent County Schools



What's involved?

Working in a classroom setting with preschool and elementary age children with autism providing small group and 1:1 instruction and behavior support

How do I sign up?

This opportunity is offered through a section of the Psychology 490 Practicum and requires 10 hours/week with the children plus a weekly seminar. The class is 6-credits (C/NC).

Instructor permission is required.

Recommended Coursework/Experience:

Some combination of Behavior Modification, Developmental Psychopathology, Exceptional Child and relevant experience helpful for not required

If interested, please contact Amy Matthews in the Psychology Dept. at 331-3513, matthewa@gvsu.edu, or ASH 2212

Psychology 490: Autism Practicum

The Autism Practicum is a combination of practical experience working with preschool and elementary age children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) along with a complementary seminar that emphasizes effective practices in working with children with ASD. Students gain experience working in a classroom setting while providing behavior support, individual teaching, and assistance in small group instruction. The emphasis of the teaching approach used in the classrooms is applied behavior analysis, which will be taught in the seminar. Classroom teaching staff and the faculty instructor provide training and supervision for students.

The course is a 6-credit, credit/no credit course offered each winter semester. Students work in a classroom at one of the school sites for 10 hours a week during the school day. Most of the school programs run from 9:00-3:00. The seminar typically takes place on Tuesday evening from 6:00-8:50. Topics addressed in seminar include: applied behavior analysis, behavior support, social and communication skills, evidence based practices, controversial issues, Asperger syndrome, among others.

The practicum placement will be located at a school site in Ottawa or Kent County.

Pre-requisites/Requirements:

- Interview with faculty instructor
- Completion of the Autism Practicum application
- Relevant experience and/or relevant coursework (e.g., behavior modification, exceptional child, developmental psychopathology)

For more information or to set up an interview, contact Amy Matthews at 331-3513 or matthewa@gvsu.edu