

Five-day Basic Training on Child-centered Play Therapy

By Ms Lau Suet Ha, Lottie
B.Soc.Sc. & M.Ed.



INTRODUCTION

Child-centered Play Therapy, originated by Virginia Axline as Nondirective Play Therapy, is an approach that emphasizes the provision of therapeutic conditions for children to naturally open up and express themselves fully through their own language – play. Empirical studies have shown this approach to be effective with emotionally disturbed children exhibiting difficulties, such as over-withdrawal, rebellion, aggression, school maladjustment, anxieties, and social skills problems, etc. With deep beliefs in children’s growing potentials and resiliency, this approach aims at helping children work through negative feelings, restore the necessary sense of security and trust towards people, develop self-initiatives, and build up better self-esteem. In short, this approach works towards strengthening children’s inner resources and enhancing their coping abilities. Familiarity with the use of this approach serves as a good base for integrating other play therapy approaches, including directive ones, into the process of working with children using play. (Information provided by Ms Lottie Lau)

TRAINER

Ms Lottie LAU is a pioneer who has introduced and cultivated the approach of Child-centered Play Therapy in Hong Kong since the early 1990s.

Ms LAU received her Bachelor social work degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. After that, she pursued her postgraduate counseling study in The University of North Texas, where she specialized in learning Child Centered Play Therapy from Dr Garry Landreth, an internationally renowned scholar who developed the therapy based on Virginia Axline’s nondirective approach.

Ms LAU has accumulated more than 25 years of clinical experience in counseling work. She has been particularly keen and well versed in steering psychological healing in emotionally disturbed children by means of Child Centered Play Therapy. In the 1990s, in addition to her formal teaching in tertiary education, Ms LAU began to spread the concept of Child-centered Play Therapy by pioneering systematic training programs on the therapy. Over the years, she has laid down the cornerstone of the therapy in the local scene through hundreds of related training programs conducted with continual up-to-date refinement. Accumulatively, Ms LAU has delivered her basic training courses to 9000 helping professionals and parents. She has received numerous positive comments and her courses have always been fully enrolled with unreserved recommendations from participants.

CE20191205

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CONTENT

The training will illustrate both theoretical and technical aspects of the Child-centered Play Therapy. Theoretical illustrations will include the rationale for using play in child counseling, basic beliefs and philosophy of the therapy, stages of development that children may go through in the therapy process, and differentiation of adjusted versus maladjusted children in play, etc. Technical illustrations will cover techniques and procedures with children that help to realize the therapeutic conditions of the therapy, selection of therapeutic toys, setting up and management of playroom, handling of difficult play behaviors during the play sessions, and procedures of working with parents in the context of play therapy, etc.

OBJECTIVE

The training aims to provide participants with the theoretical background of Child-centered Play Therapy and equip them with basic skills in practicing the therapy. It is expected that participants may begin to try out this nondirective approach with individual children in their work setting after attending the workshop.

FORMATS

Mini-lecture. Video demonstration, Case illustration, Exercise, Discussion & Role-play

Important Note on Attendance

- **Full attendance** of the **FIRST DAY** of workshop is compulsory and absence is not expected.
- **Certificate of Attendance** will **NOT** be given to participants who fail to attend the first day of workshop.



Entry Requirement*

Professional counseling personnel, including **registered social workers, clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, psychiatrists, and counselors with qualified academic training where internship/placement under supervision is included as a compulsory part of the academic program.**

*Qualified academic training is required for corresponding profession;

*Proof of qualification may be requested for verification during enrolment process;

*Preferably with at least one year experience in working with children;

*Priority will be given to applicants who attempted to apply for the same course in 2019 but were put on waiting list. This priority only applies to applications made **on/before Sept 30, 2019**. (This is a discrete arrangement to address the need of non-successful applicants in 2019; it does not imply similar arrangement in fu-

Workshop Details

Course Code : CE20191205
Course Name : Five-day Basic Training on Child-centered Play Therapy
Date : Dec 5, 2019 (Thu, full attendance required)
Dec 6 (Fri), 13 (Fri), 19 (Thu), 20 (Fri), 2019
Time : 9:00 am - 6:00pm
(40 hours, 90% attendance required)
Venue : CUHK
Language : Cantonese (Supplemented with English materials)
Class Size : 40 participants
Course Fee : HK\$ 5,800
Application Deadline: **Nov 14, 2019**

Discount Scheme

(on or before Oct 17, 2019)

- **10%** (HK\$5,220) discount for Early Bird Registration
- **20%** (HK\$4,640) discount for CUHK Department of Social Work's members (Current staff, current students, SWK Alumni Association members, or CPE members)
[20% discount is only applicable to registration through POST]

Application Methods

1. Send the following application form together with a crossed cheque payable to 'The Chinese University of Hong Kong' to CPE, the Department of Social Work, CUHK, Shatin, N.T. Hong Kong.
2. Register the workshop online via our website: <https://web.swk.cuhk.edu.hk/en-gb/continuing-professional-education/programmes-information>

Remark: Email notification on application status will be sent only when application and payment have been received by CPE, please contact us if you do not receive any notification after 7 days.

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The application will start at 11:30am on Dec 4, 2019.