

Curriculum and Clinical requirements

In Year 1, candidates will be introduced to psychoanalytic theories and principles to broaden their understanding of child, adolescent, and youth behaviour and development. Using guided readings and group discussion, candidates will explore phenomena across ages and stages of development from various psychoanalytic viewpoints including classical Freudian theory, ego psychology, object relations, self psychology, and relational psychoanalysis. Infant and toddler development will be examined in detail.

In the first year, candidates will undertake an observation of an infant in its family home and a toddler in a day care setting. Candidates' weekly observations will be followed by class discussions on the psychoanalytic theory of infant and toddler development and their relationships with their caregivers.

The following academic years focus on early childhood, latency, adolescent development, understanding family dynamics, and working with parents. Assessment, formulation skills, and psychostructural diagnosis will be taught. Therapeutic and professional practice issues will also be covered. Specific topics such as ADHD, anxiety, conduct disorders, depression, eating disorders, learning disorders, OCD, phobias, trauma and adoption are also covered as part of the core curriculum. Candidates are required to conduct a minimum of three assessments and four treatment cases. At least three separate stages of development must be represented in this work.

Additionally, candidates need to complete a minimum of 215 supervision hours and a minimum of 450 client contact hours.

Completion of the above curricular and clinical requirements provide eligibility for clinical membership in the Canadian Association of Psychoanalytic Child Therapists. Additionally, graduates may apply to the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario.