

Child Advocacy Studies Training (CAST)

Social workers, law enforcement officers, nurses, allied healthcare workers, educators and others who may come into direct contact with maltreated children receive limited basic education in child advocacy. Child advocacy involves the recognition and identification of, responses to, and management and investigation of incidences of child abuse and maltreatment. The HCC Foundation has secured grant funding from the Verizon and the Simmons Foundation to develop the Child Advocacy Studies Training (CAST) Program, based on curriculum developed by the National Child Protection Training Center (NCPTC). The project will produce: a short hybrid continuing education course for existing professionals; and a three course certificate for more in-depth study housed within the HCC Human Services Technology degree program.

There are **a limited number of scholarships** (course tuition paid) available for students enrolling in either the short continuing education course or the certificate courses. **Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come-first-serve basis until scholarship funds run out.**

Fall 2013 Course Offerings:

SCWK 1091 Introduction to Child Advocacy *Two sections to choose from!*

(12 contact hours, hybrid course – online and classroom, 20 students per section)

September 3 through October 2, 2013 (September 3 to Sept 24 online, then Sept 25 and Oct 2 in class, 6pm-9pm)

October 21 through November 21, 2013 (Oct 21 to Nov 13 online, then Nov 14 and Nov 21 in class, 6pm-9pm)

Description: A brief introduction to the concepts of child advocacy with an emphasis on the healthcare or public service professional's role in identifying and managing situations involving child abuse and neglect. Students complete guided self-study online then gather for two meetings of live classroom discussion. ***Designed for individuals currently practicing as a healthcare or public service professional.***

SCWK 1092 Child Advocacy 1 – Perspectives on Child Maltreatment & Child Abuse

(48 contact hours = 3 credit hours, hybrid course – online and classroom, 10 students per section)

August 28 through October 16, 2013 (24 hours in class on Wednesdays, 6pm-9pm)

Description: An introduction to the concepts of child advocacy studies. This course covers the history, comparative perspectives, legal framework, responses to child maltreatment, and the skills necessary to do the work of a child advocate. This is the first in a series of a three course certificate. ***Designed for individuals preparing to become, or currently practicing as, a healthcare or public service professional.***

SCWK 1093 Child Advocacy 2 – Global Child Advocacy Issues

(48 contact hours = 3 credit hours, hybrid course – online and classroom, 10 students per section)

October 23 through December 11, 2013 (24 hours in class on Wednesdays, 6pm-9pm, no class 11/27)

Description: This course prepare students to recognize child advocacy issue around the world, including health, maltreatment, cultural, religion, political, and social advocacy issues in the child's country of origin that effect the welfare and well-being of the child. This is the second in a series of a three course certificate. ***Designed for individuals preparing to become, or currently practicing as a healthcare or public service professional.***

Child Advocacy 3 – Professional and Systemic Responses to Child Maltreatment available in Spring 2014.

Location: **HCC Coleman College for Health Sciences – Classrooms TBA**
1900 Pressler Street, Houston, TX 77030

Parking: Pay parking is available in the Texas Medical Center AU Visitors Parking Lot on Pressler Street directly across from Coleman College.

Registration: Interested students must contact ... **hcc-chp@hccs.edu or 713-718-7796** ... to be placed on the waiting list. **Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come-first-serve basis until scholarship funds run out.**