

Child Life Specialist Certificate

The Child Life Certificate includes the coursework required by the Association of Child Life Professionals for eligibility to complete official child life internships and take the Child Life Professional Certification Exam.

Completing the Child Life Certificate does not constitute certification by the Association of Child Life Professionals.

Certified Child Life Specialists often work in pediatric hospitals but may also work in other spaces (e.g., courtrooms, funeral homes or bereavement services) where children may experience trauma. The field of Child Life is evidence-based, providing interventions (e.g., therapeutic play, education, self-care, stress reduction, distraction, etc) with children and families that are developmentally appropriate. As members of a child's care team, Child Life Specialists serve an important role in improving the illness-related experiences of both patients and their families.

Students may not declare the Child Life Specialist Certificate and either the Child Studies and Youth Development or Family Relationships minor.

Students must complete an application in order to be admitted to the certificate. The application is available at: <https://miamioh.edu/ehs/academics/departments/fsw/academics/majors/family-science/child-life/undergraduate/index.html>

Program Requirements

(33-35 credit hours)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required courses:		
FSW 245	Children and Families: Ages Conception - 12	3
FSW 261	Diverse Family Systems Across the Life Cycle	3
FSW 295	Research and Evaluation Methods	3
FSW 318	Child Life Theory and Practice	3
FSW 435	Death Studies	3
FSW 445	Therapeutic Play for Child Life Specialists	3
FSW 481	Adolescent Development in Diverse Families: Ages 13-25	3
FSW 340	Internship	3
Choose 3 of the following:		9-11
FSW 375		
FSW 385		
FSW 415	Culturally-Informed Practice	
FSW 451	Interpersonal Violence	
FSW 455	Child Abuse & Neglect: Assessment & Child Safety	
FSW 475	Family Theories	
BIO 161	Principles of Human Physiology	

KNH 209	Medical Terminology for Health Professionals
KNH 245	Issues of Health & Wellness for the Young Child
KNH 424	Public Health Disparities Past and Current
PHL 375	Medical Ethics
PSY 111	Introduction to Psychology
PSY 242	Introduction to Psychopathology
Total Credit Hours	33-35