

April is Autism Acceptance Month

We invite you to join our celebration, learn about the Meredith Autism Program, and discover ways you can get involved with the program as a student or supporter.

Why  gold?

"Gold as a color for today is preferred as it is based on the chemical symbol for gold being 'Au', the first two letters of autism, but also because throughout history gold has been something that is strived for and of immense value – often missing from the lives of autistic people. Autistic people are often empathic, sensitive, caring people, but dominant narratives would suggest otherwise; and because of that we can spend our lives not being accepted and often not being valued for who we are. @theautismconnected

Meredith Autism Program

A HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



PSY-342: Introductory Autism Practicum

2 credits; 7hrs/week of 1:1 teaching with a child

Prerequisite: PSY-100

If a student does well and wants to expand their knowledge of autism and ABA, there are two other courses to explore. The third level course has an option to obtain the national credential of Registered Behavior Technician (RBT).

PSY-343: Intermediate Autism Practicum

2 credits; 7hrs/week of 1:1 teaching with a child

3 credits; 10hrs/week of 1:1 teaching with a child

Prerequisite: PSY-342 + instructor permission

PSY-442: Advanced Autism & Data Analysis

3 credits; 7hrs/week of 1:1 teaching + 3hrs/week of data analysis work

Prerequisite: PSY-343 + instructor permission

The Meredith Autism Program...

- operates as a full-time, year-round behavioral clinic for preschool aged autistic children, and **one of the few programs nationwide** that serves as an undergraduate practicum course sequence for college students in the triangle; enrolling an average of 40 students per academic semester
- is an **individualized program** targeting the following areas for each child enrolled: language & functional communication, self-advocacy, independence & daily living skills, motor development, play & social interaction, and pre-academics
- utilizes **Applied Behavior Analysis** and **Discrete Trial Teaching** techniques
- is overseen by supervisory staff that are **board certified behavior analysts** (BCBA)
- offers the opportunity to students to **train and earn a national credential** of Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) before they graduate; graduates become very marketable in the field of autism intervention
- leading the field of **autism treatment in the triangle since 1995**; provides 35 hours each week of 1:1 teaching to preschool aged autistic children
- operates an inclusive preschool classroom** for members of the community to learn alongside peers with autism in a classroom setting
- works closely with families** to provide training in their home and community to ensure generalization of learned skills across environments

MAP courses are available to all students at Meredith College and surrounding Cooperating Raleigh Colleges. For more information... visit us on the web at www.meredith.edu/autism or contact us via email: autism@meredith.edu

Students enrolling in MAP practicum courses have experienced...



the opportunity to strengthen the ability to **build rapport**. Not only are students building rapport with a client in order to be an effective teacher, they are learning how to build rapport with direct supervisors in the receiving and implementing of constructive feedback to improve their clinical application.



the opportunity to hone and improve **communication skills**; both oral and written. Students are expected to collect data and write summary reports of their teaching sessions to which they learn to be objective, measurable, and complete. Students also participate in monthly clinic meetings to discuss client progress in which they practice oral communication.



the opportunity to **work as an effective member of a team**. While students work independently with their assigned client, they work collaboratively with a team to teach functional skills to a preschool child on the autism spectrum.



the opportunity for undergraduate **research and advancement of knowledge** in the field of autism and ABA. Students are welcome to conduct research within the MAP facility*. Students also leave MAP with a vast knowledge of how clinical practice is implemented, which sets them apart from their counterparts in advancing to

**Students interested in research, must have a faculty sponsor to oversee and guide the research process. Research must be presented to MAP staff before development.*

INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

For over 25 years, MAP has provided a service for families in the triangle, based on the science of ABA. Individualized plans are created in order to help each child build a strong foundation for how to learn in order to prepare for a transition into the least restrictive educational setting and make the most long-term gains.

