

FIELDWORK: FOSTER CARE

Do you have the motivation to make a significant difference in the life of a child while gaining valuable clinical knowledge and experience as well? Are you able to provide responsible, empathic, and flexible mentoring services to a boy or girl who needs your help? If so, please consider applying for this course. Many students have described this course as the best they have taken at Rutgers!

Juniors and seniors will have an opportunity to gain one-on-one experience in serving as a **mentor** and transporter for a child or adolescent currently in foster care **for two consecutive semesters beginning in the fall**. Additionally, students will learn about the foster care system, the effects of trauma on children, and psychotherapeutic intervention with this population. Undergraduate students will partner with a graduate student from Rutgers' GSAPP on the case and receive supervision from the course instructor, a licensed psychologist. Weekly contact and progress reports ensure effective coordination and communication between the undergraduate, graduate student, and Fieldwork Supervisor/Instructor.

Students attend a **small seminar class on Thursday mornings from 9-11:40 a.m.** for training and peer consultation. Additionally, students mentor their client from central New Jersey and transport them weekly in the late afternoon/early evening to the Psychological Clinic on Busch Campus. **Mentoring activities can include recreational outings, homework help, introduction to college benefits, and being a consistent, positive role model.**

Prerequisites include: General Psychology and Infant/Child Development.

Once interviewed, reference-checked and accepted to the course, students are required to submit to a criminal background check, complete a defensive driving course, and show proof of a good driving record and auto insurance.

If you have questions or would like to apply, please contact Harnel Paraison, harnel.paraison@gsapp.rutgers.edu or call Foster care at 848-445-7789