

**Northwest Arkansas Community College**  
(Social and Behavioral Sciences Division)

**Discipline Code**

CMJS

**Course Number**

2473

**Course Title**

Child Abuse Investigations

**Catalog Description**

This course examines child maltreatment investigations through the perspective of the Multidisciplinary Team, which is composed of law enforcement, social workers, attorneys, advocates, counselors, nurses, and other professionals. The course relies heavily on simulations and experiential learning to expand knowledge and skills used to identify, investigate, and prosecute child maltreatment allegations with a trauma informed response.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Credit Hours**

3 credit hours

**Contact hours**

45 contact hours

**Load hours**

3 load hours

**Semesters Offered**

On Demand

**ACTS Equivalent**

N/A

**Grade Mode**

A-F

**Learning Outcomes**

- Develop skills for using a coordinated multidisciplinary approach for sharing information and dividing responsibilities
- Demonstrate use of a trauma informed response to develop support systems for children and families and minimize the impact of the investigation

- Demonstrate beginning interview skills needed when maltreatment is suspected
- Understand issues related to child witnesses, such as recantation, suggestibility, memory, testifying, and the impact of multiple interviews.
- Demonstrate the skills necessary to act as a child advocate
- Explain how issues of race, class, sexual orientation, religion, gender, poverty, and social justice influence investigation of child maltreatment

## **General Education Outcomes Supported**

- N/A

## **Standard Practices**

### **Topics list**

- Maltreatment, endangerment, neglect
- Civil and legal child protection intervention
- Perpetrator characteristics (including interviewing techniques and legal charges)
- Support systems for children
- Role of multidisciplinary team members
- Factors influencing investigations

## **Learning activities**

- Courses must, at a minimum, cover the core learning outcomes for each topic. Faculty may add to these outcomes but may not omit any of them.
- Courses will include at least one simulation that requires students to function as a multidisciplinary team.

## **Assessments**

- The final is a comprehensive exam. Results of the departmental finals will be submitted to the coordinator as part of course outcome assessment. The test will cover a select number of the core learning outcomes.

## **Grading guidelines**

- N/A