



a geneva
centre for
autism
training

Charting a Path to Success in Your Classroom:
An Introductory Autism Certificate Course for Educators

Course Syllabus

Developed by Training Institute, Geneva Centre for Autism
elearning.autism.net

Part 1 : Course Information

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Geneva Centre for Autism – Training Institute Faculty

Office: 112 Merton St. Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4S 2Z8

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00am–5:00pm EST

Office Telephone: +1 416-322-7877 x 285

E-mail: traininginstitute@autism.net

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Charting a Path to Success in Your Classroom: An Introductory Autism Certificate Course for Educators course are for participants to:

- Gain an understanding of the characteristics of ASD and the impact of a diagnosis on the individual and their learning;
- Become familiar with strategies and resources to support students with ASD;
- Recognize Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) as an essential and effective instructional approach for individuals with ASD.

This 8-module introductory level training curriculum will start by providing participants with a core understanding of the P.P.M. 140 and how to meet its requirements. The course will continue by teaching participants the characteristics of ASD as well as evidence-based strategies to support effective teaching practices. Upon completion new educators or those new to supporting students with ASD will be better prepared to facilitate engaging learning opportunities and successful school experiences for students with this diagnosis.

Participants will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

- Video presentations
- Case study reviews
- Quizzes
- Attendance and participation in the online group discussion.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Module 1 - An Introduction to Policy/ Program Memorandum #140

In this module you will:

- Learn the purpose of PPM 140
- Define Applied Behaviour Analysis
- Examine the four principles of ABA Programming outlined in the PPM
- Review the two PPM 140 requirements and the reporting process

Module 2 - What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

In this module you will examine the:

- Prevalence rate of ASD
- Diagnostic criteria of ASD
- Neurological considerations

Module 3 - Communication

In this module you will:

- Learn the differences between expressive and receptive communication
- Examine some of the communication challenges common to ASD
- Learn about ABA and evidence based strategies and supports for communication

Module 4 - Social Understanding and Social Skills

In this module you will learn about:

- Key components of Social Understanding
 - Theory of Mind
 - Social Reciprocity
 - Hidden Curriculum
 - Context Blindness
- The importance of teaching social skills
- Social Strategies and Supports
- Inclusion and Peer Awareness

Module 5 - Sensory Processing and Regulation

In this module you will:

- Learn about the seven senses affected in ASD
- Explore the challenges with sensory modulation
- Learn strategies and support methods
- Learn about sensory accommodation and ABA-based support strategies

Module 6 - Stress & Anxiety

In this module, you will learn about:

- What stress and anxiety are and how they differ
- Signs and symptoms of stress and anxiety in students with ASD
- Strategies and supports for students with ASD
- Using principles of ABA to teach coping skills

Module 7 - Cognitive Processing

In this module you will learn about:

- Executive Function
- Learning Styles
- Structuring the Learning Environment
- Teaching Strategies and Supports

Module 8 - Supporting Daily Transitions

In this module you will:

- Distinguish between micro- and macro transitions
- Learn about ASD specific challenges with transitions
- Explore a variety of support strategies

COURSE STRUCTURE / REQUIREMENTS

This course will be delivered entirely online at <http://elearning.autism.net>. You will use your elearning account to login to the course. Your detailed account information will be provided to you upon registration.

Once you are enrolled in the course, you will have access to your account for 120 days. To obtain your certificate you MUST complete all course requirements within this time.

The course is comprised of 8 modules. Participants will engage in a blend of self-paced and interactive group-based learning. This course is approximately 4 hours in length (this does not include time spent on activities and quizzes) plus a one hour live chat. Lessons in each module are presented as a series of video recordings. Participants must complete a quiz for each module.

In addition to the video presentations and quizzes, participants will also be required to participate in an online live group discussion with a course facilitator. The group discussion will be approximately 60 minutes in length, and will be offered multiple times each month. Important Note: Refer to the course calendar for group discussion dates and times. If you have any questions, please contact us at traininginstitute@autism.net.

LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

This course is available in both English and French. Upon enrolment you will have access to both English and French versions. You are free to choose either language to complete the course. However, in order to receive your certificate, you need to complete all the requirements in one language. If you choose to complete the course in English, you need to complete all the required elements in English. For example, you cannot complete some of the quizzes or view presentations in English, and the rest in French.

If you complete ALL the required course elements in BOTH languages, you will receive a certificate of completion for BOTH the English and French Course.

TEXTBOOK & COURSE MATERIALS

Required Textbook

There is no required text for this course. All of the information that participants will be evaluated on will come from the 8 modules.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Hardware

- Windows XP or higher, Mac OS X or higher
- Internet connection (high speed internet preferred)
- Audio: sound card and speakers or headphones for listening

Internet Browser

- Even though you can access the online course via any browser
- Some of the courses use pop-up windows, therefore you will need to disable pop-up blockers in your browser.

Software

- MS Word 2003 or later version
- Acrobat Reader – Latest version at <http://get.adobe.com/reader>
- Adobe Flash – Latest version - <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer>

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with e-learning you can:

- Visit the Student FAQ's Web Page in your online course
- Send us an email at elearning@autism.net

Part 2: Grading Policies

GRADED COURSE ACTIVITIES

Participants will be evaluated in two ways.

1. Multiple choice quizzes

- Each module will have a multiple choice quiz component
- Your average score of all 8 quizzes should be at least **85%**
- There will be **2 attempts** allowed for each quiz

2. Live chats with facilitators

- There is one live chat session in this course. Upon completion of attending the live chat session, your attendance will be marked. If you **DO NOT** attend the registered live chat session, you will receive a 'no-show'.
- This chat covers all eight modules.
- Attendance in the live chat session is mandatory.
- Your attendance in live chat session will **NOT** be included in your final passing grade for this course.

LATE WORK POLICY

You need to complete all of the graded course elements within **120** days (four months) from your course start date. Be sure to pay close attention to the schedule of the live chat session with your facilitator — you need to complete the chat within the **120** days (four months).

VIEWING GRADES IN ELEARNING.AUTISM.NET

Marks you receive for graded elements will be posted to the elearning.autism.net Grade Book. Click on the Grades link on the left navigation panel to view your marks.

You will be able to view your quiz grades immediately after each attempt.

Your facilitator will update your live chat attendance after the live chat has been completed. You will see a visual indication of a new grade posted on your elearning.autism.net course page. Please allow a few days for your attendance to be marked.

PASSING GRADE

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total marks earned.

The passing grade for this course is 85%.

Part 3: Course Policies

PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to participate in all online activities as listed above.

COMPLETE QUIZZES

All quizzes for this course must be completed electronically through elearning.autism.net unless otherwise instructed. Quizzes will only become accessible after viewing all of the video presentations for that module. Once the quiz becomes available, participants will have the option to complete it immediately or at a later time within their 120 day registration period. There will be a limited number of attempts for each quiz, and the highest score among your attempts will count toward your final grade. Correct answers to the quizzes will be provided when a mark of 75% or higher is received.

REQUESTS TO DROP THIS COURSE

Once participants enroll themselves in the course they are granted access to all of the course materials for 120 days. After 120 days you will automatically be un-enrolled of the course. Should a participant decide they no longer want to achieve a certificate, they can simply stop logging in.

INFORM YOUR INSTRUCTOR OF ANY ACCOMMODATIONS NEEDED

If you require any special accommodations, please contact traininginstitute@autism.net prior to registration to discuss your needs.