



Early Relational Health Program Remote Certificate Program “From ERH Theory to Practice”

A 6-month remote course supporting multiple disciplines of professionals in the integration of current theories of development and change processes to their scope of practice, supported by small reflective practice groups.

Our current times call for a more critical lens on the theories of development and change than we have relied upon in the infant, early childhood and perinatal mental health fields for the past several decades. We are called upon to examine the impact of systemic racism and traumatic stress on pregnancy, perinatal mental health and infant and early childhood development and to consider decolonizing lenses within each of our professions in order to more effectively address health inequity and to support and uplift vulnerable children, families and communities globally.

This course aims to critically examine current theories of development and change processes through a developmental and relational framework and support participants in the integration of theory to practice across multiple disciplines - from early care and education, early intervention, behavioral health, child welfare, pediatrics and perinatal mental health care.

This fully remote course is appropriate for both early career professionals in addition to more seasoned practitioners looking to challenge their thinking and expand their ways of being with families. Small integrative learning groups of 8-10 participants will be supported by a Faculty Mentor throughout the 6-month course, applying theory to case discussions. Effort will be made to group participants by discipline to facilitate the integration of theory to practice within one's scope of practice.

Individuals from any discipline, scope of practice, and geographic location are invited to apply individually to participate in an integrated training cohort supported by a Core Faculty member of the UMass Chan Early Relational Health Program. Similarly, satellite groups of trainees from a specific geographic region or practice setting will be supported by graduates of the Fellowship in Early Relational Health who are looking to further develop the infant/early childhood and perinatal mental health workforces in their regions. Currently, satellite training groups are being formed in Greece, Turkey, Canada, Chile, Bronx NYC and Massachusetts.

Each month's learning block will consist of 8-10 hours of remote learning using the Zoom platform: a 2-hour pre-recorded lecture from a Luminary Presenter; a few orienting readings; a 2-hour reflective practice group to process theories presented, apply them to case material, and formulate questions for; a 2-hour live integrative discussion with the Luminary; followed by a 2-hour reflective practice group to further apply a critical lens to the application of theory to practice. Live Remote Sessions will take place on one Saturday OR Sunday per month (typically from 10am-12pm Eastern Standard Time) and will be recorded if session cannot be attended. **Participants must attend ALL reflective practice group sessions, which will be arranged separately but typically on a Friday or Saturday.**

Date:	Luminary Presenter:	Topic:
June 1, 2024 Introduction	Course Director: Dorothy Richardson, PhD And core faculty	Introduction to a Developmental and Relational Framework and Critical Lenses for Reflection
Session 1: Friday June 28, 2024 Saturday June 29, 2024	Ed Tronick, PhD	Mutual Co-Regulation: Mismatch and Repair; Stress Buffer/Transducer Model
Session 2: Friday July 26, 2024 Saturday July 27, 2024	Stephen Porges, MD	Polyvagal Theory
Session 3: Friday September 6, 2024 Saturday September 7, 2024	Bruce Perry, MD	Neurosequential Model of Development and Trauma-Informed Theory of Change
Session 4: Friday October 5, 2024 Saturday October 6, 2024	Marva Lewis, PhD	Rituals and Routines
Session 5: Friday November 1, 2024 Saturday November 2, 2024	Arietta Slade, PhD	Relational Foundations of Reflection/Mentalization
Session 6: December 6, 2024 *December 8, 2024	Alicia Lieberman, PhD	Developmental, Relational and Trauma-Informed Theories of Change
Wrap Up: Friday January 3, 2024 Saturday January 4, 2024	Core Faculty Panel Discussion	Putting it All Together: Integrating Theories of Development and Change Processes to Practice

Participants will receive a *Certificate in Early Relational Health*, upon completion of 60 hours of training, in 30 hours of didactic and interactive learning sessions and 30 hours of reflective consultation groups supporting participants' integration of theory to practice. This program will be eligible for continuing education units from multiple disciplines of professionals. These trainings and the reflective practice groups will be cross-walked to the Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health Competency Guidelines and will fulfill over 30 training hours and 30 hours of reflective consultation, facilitated

by endorsed Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Clinical Mentors and Core Faculty members of the UMass Chan Fellowship in Early Relational Health.

Graduates will be eligible to participate in the UMass Chan Fellowship in Early Relational Health – a two-year hybrid Advanced Certificate Program, diving more deeply into integration of theory to practice.

Core Faculty Bios: [Our Core Faculty](#)

Visiting Faculty Bios: [Our Visiting Faculty](#)

Applications reviewed with rolling admissions:
[Application](#)

Tuition: US \$4,000

Please note: *We have a limited number of scholarships available for MA-based clinicians. Please contact us if you would like to be considered for this funding opportunity!*