

Infant Observation Course

Formal training in infant observation has long played a role in the training of psychotherapy professionals and child development specialists. Observing infants over time in their family setting provides the foundation for understanding early development and the parent-child relationship. Observers become sensitized to intricate aspects of infant behavior and parent-infant interaction. The observer learns to look at multiple levels of behavior, interaction, and feeling, emphasizing the infant's developing capacities, the mother's and/or father's evolving identity, and the development of attachment in the context of the family. The experience of close observation also builds awareness of the observer's internal experiences and responses, a critical base for therapeutic work.

Course Overview:

The course includes a two-hour small group seminar, weekly one-hour observations of an infant-parent dyad, written observations, and readings on aspects of infant observation, development, and infant-parent interaction. The seminar meets twice a month, from June through September.

Who Should Apply?

Infant Observation provides a rich experience for professionals across a wide spectrum of disciplines.

Our students have included social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists, early childhood educators, nurses, doulas, occupational and physical therapists, and early intervention specialists. While this course is of special interest to those working with parents and young children, it also offers a unique opportunity for mental health providers of all disciplines who are interested in early attachment, affect regulation, and non-verbal communication.



We will be accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year starting in January, 2019.

To Apply

Please visit www.jfcsboston.org/IPTI to download an application.

CEU's available for some disciplines.

Classes are available in Waltham, MA and Providence, RI.

Tuition is \$1,500. Class size is limited to allow ample time for case presentation and discussion, although multiple seminar sections may be offered depending on enrollment.

The Infant-Parent Training Institute is a Training Affiliate of the Cambridge Health Alliance Department of Psychiatry, which is a teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School.

Contact IPTI at ipti@jfcsboston.org for more information.