

ELMS EXPERIENCE

**NEW COURSE: The Aspergian Mind taught by author John Robison**

Elms College is offering these Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) courses for the Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (C.A.G.S.) in Spring 2010:

***There is a \$20 non-refundable registration fee per semester.***

If class is taken for credit: **\$294.00** per credit

If class is audited (PDPs and CEUs): **\$175.00** per credit

**For additional information:**

*Donna Harvey at [harveyd@elms.edu](mailto:harveyd@elms.edu) or call 413-265-2445*

**To register:**

Please call the Registrar's Office, 413-265-2314.

*Students who register two weeks or more prior to the first class meeting will receive all necessary communications related to the course.*

**Classes are being held at:**

*Elms College  
291 Springfield Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013*



291 SPRINGFIELD STREET  
CHICOPEE, MA 01013-2839  
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# Spring 2010 Courses

## C.A.G.S. in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD)

### ASD 501: Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders

*Instructor: D. Michael Rice, Ph.D., BCBA-D*

**Wednesdays, January 20-May 5, 4-6:50 p.m. 3 credits**

This course provides an introduction to autism spectrum disorders from diagnosis through adulthood. Course content will include definitions, methodologies, legal aspects, trends, issues, and research related to individuals with autism. Issues will be discussed in the context of challenges presented by an autism spectrum disorder, related to school, family, and community participation. The course will review the converging challenges and goals of autism research, including contributions by genetics and neuroimaging technologies. Strategies used to teach communication skills and to help individuals with autism achieve the desired level of independent living will be explored.

### ASD 670/770 Use of Pragmatic Language for Social Communication

*Instructor: Elsa Abele, M.S., CCC-SLP*

**Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. 2 credits**

This course will discuss the needs of children with Asperger Syndrome, High Functioning Autism, Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities, and Language Learning Disabilities who are in need of services to increase their skills in social communication or pragmatic language, so that they can succeed in school. This course will focus on treatment for the learning of conversation and listening skills, personal narrative skills, and verbally mediated problem solving. The material will cover diagnosis of social communication deficits, goal setting, a treatment paradigm, and infusion of the principles into regular classroom settings.

### ASD 671/771 The Aspergian Mind

*Instructors: John Robison, author*

*Kathryn S. James, Ph.D., CCC-A*

**Saturday, March 20, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. 1 credit**

Participants will explore the three essential components of Asperger's syndrome - social impairment, speech affect, and physical issues. Participants will learn how brain differences lead to unusual and even unique thought processes, and how they shape the lives of people with Asperger's. Differences can be disabling or empowering; participants will get a sense of this scope and discuss how young people can be helped to see their gifts in the face of sometimes significant disability.

Participants will learn how individuals with Asperger's evolve over time, seeing how Asperger's presents in children, in adolescents, and in adults. Embedded in the lecture and discussion will be concepts from *Look Me in the Eye* and *Geeks Rule*, two books written by John Robison. Participants will be required to read *Look Me in the Eye* prior to the course in order to be prepared to engage in productive discussion.

Participants will receive teaching guides for *Look Me in the Eye* as part of the course material. Recommended for speech pathologists, teachers and mental health and counseling professionals who deal with young people with Asperger's. This course can be taken as a standalone course and is also recommended for parents and family members seeking insight. An out of class assignment will be required.

### ASD 672/772 Social Communication in the Preschool/Early Primary Environment

*Instructor: Beverly Montgomery, M.S., CCC-SLP*

**Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. 1 credit**

This course will provide information about social communication deficits in young children with Asperger Syndrome. Attention will be given to developmental steps that come slowly for this group of individuals and how to encourage their development in the pre-school/early primary environment through play.

### CSD 603/703 Diagnostics and Implementation in AAC

*Instructor: Elizabeth Jury, M.A., CCC-SLP*

**Weekend II**

**Saturdays, January 23, February 6 and 20, March 20, April 17, May 1 and 8, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon 3 credits**

This course will cover issues related to the acquisition of reading, spelling, and writing skills by individuals with little or no functional speech. In addition to presenting some of the theoretical foundations for literacy development, it will address assessment and intervention in the preschool, school-aged, and adult populations. It will also include information on the emergent literary continuum and curriculum integration strategies. In addition, it will cover theory of assessment and assessment protocols, including device feature matching and device exploration. Finally, students will be given specific strategies to teach two switch scanning access for children with severe physical and/or multiple challenges.

### CSD 614 Counseling Methods in Communication Disorders

*Instructor: Steven Dykstra, M.S., CCC-SLP*

**Mondays, January 25 - May 3, 6:40 to 9:10 p.m. 3 credits**

In this course, students will become familiar with various models of counseling. Students will develop skills required to work effectively with patients and their families in one-on-one and group settings. The format of this course will be both lecture and in-class exercises. These in-class exercises will be designed to develop basic counseling skills needed to work with patients with communication disorders and their families. Student participation will be essential to this course.

### CSD 712 Two Languages: Speech-Language Patterns or Problems in the Schools?

*Instructor: Luciano Valles, M.A., CCC-SLP*

**Saturday, May 8, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. 1 credit**

This course will address socio-cultural and language acquisition processes as well as best practices in assessment and intervention to promote social-academic success for English Language Learners (ELLs). The information and discussion in this presentation will help monolingual speech-language pathologists (SLPs) understand the difference between speech-language disorders and normal second language acquisition processes in Latino children. In particular, the following areas will be re-visited: language dominance, bilingualism defined, two languages in special education, English only, and classroom consultation. By the end of this course, SLPs will understand their role as intervention agents, within an interdisciplinary perspective, for ELLs with and without communication disabilities.