

Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) Program Overview

Contact Information

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences administers the CAST minor, but it is coordinated by a steering committee with representatives from a variety of disciplines at NMSU.

If you have questions, you may contact any of the people listed below, regardless of your academic department. Your academic advisor must sign off on any minors you complete.

Questions regarding the status of your application and to email your application contact:

- Julia Maciel, CAST@nmsu.edu, 575-646-3785

Counseling and Community Psychology:

- Elsa Arroyos elsaaj@nmsu.edu

Criminal Justice:

- Andrea Joseph ajoseph@nmsu.edu

Curriculum and Instruction:

- Sarah Melendrez ssmiller@nmsu.edu

Family and Consumer Sciences:

- Esther Devall edevall@nmsu.edu
- Merranda Marin mmarin@nmsu.edu
- Kourtney Vaillancourt kvaillan@nmsu.edu
- Brooke Stanley Tou bastou@ad.nmsu.edu

Public Health Science:

- Sue Forster-Cox sforster@nmsu.edu

Social Work:

- Maria Ortiz mario@nmsu.edu

Curriculum

The CAST minor is made up of three (3) core courses and three (3) electives, worth three (3) credits each for a total of **18 credits** required for the minor.

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher, be admitted into the CAST minor, and satisfy all application requirements. Students who have taken one or more courses required for the minor prior to application can have those courses count towards the completion of the minor.

Applications will be accepted throughout the year, and students may begin taking courses in any semester. The first core course, CAST 301V, must be taken before the other two core courses.

Electives may be taken at any time - before, after or concurrently with the core courses. Elective courses are categorized into three topics. Students must take one (1) course under each topic category.

All departments who offer courses in the CAST minor have agreed to allow CAST students to take the courses regardless of their major. Some courses may require instructor approval. Please indicate to the instructor that you are taking the course as a part of the CAST minor.

Core Courses

Core Requirement 1 must be taken before the other two core courses:

- CAST 301V: Introduction to Child Advocacy

Core Requirements 2 & 3 may be taken in any order:

- CAST 302: Professional and Systems Responses to Child Maltreatment
- CAST 303: Prevention, Trauma Informed Treatment, and Advocacy

Elective Courses

Category 1: Diversity/Cultural Sensitivity (pick one)

- C EP 320. Sex Roles in Education 3 cr.
- CEP 495. Psychology, Multiculturalism, and Counseling 3 cr.
- FCS 449V. Family Ethnicities and Subcultures 3 cr.
- HL S 464V. Cross-Cultural Aspects of Health 3 cr.

- SOC 357. Gender and Society 3 cr.
- S WK 309. Sociocultural Concepts 3 cr.

Category 2: Family/Child Development (pick one)

- CEP 110G. Human Growth and Behavior 3 cr.
- CEP 215. The Preschool Child 3 cr.
- CEP 240. Adolescence in School Settings 3 cr.
- CEP 461. Family Guidance 3 cr.
- ECED 115. Child Growth, Development, and Learning 3 cr.
- ECED 265. Guiding Young Children 3 cr.
- ECED 315. Research in Child, Growth, Development and Learning 3 cr.
- FCS 210. Infancy and Early Childhood in the Family 3 cr.
- FCS 211. Middle Childhood Development in the Family 3 cr.
- FCS 212. Adolescent Development and the Family 3 cr.
- FCS 380. Family Dynamics 3 cr.
- FCS 383. Parenting and Child Guidance 3 cr.
- HLS 300. Drugs and Behavior 3 cr.
- HLS 320. Human Stress Management 3 cr.
- PSY 350. Developmental Psychology: Conception through Childhood 3 cr.
- S WK 443. Family and Child Welfare Practice 3 cr.
- SWK 497. Special Topics: Infant Mental Health 3 cr.
- SOC 390. Sociology of Childhood 3 cr.

Category 3: Legal and Medical Issues (pick one)

- CJ 333. Juvenile Corrections 3 cr.
- CJ 345. Victimology 3 cr.
- CJ 360. The Juvenile Justice System 3 cr.
- CJ 425. Issues in Ethics, Law, and Criminal Justice 3 cr.
- NURS 465 Physical Assessment and Evaluation of Child Abuse 3 cr.
- SOC 392. Juvenile Delinquency 3 cr.