

Registration

Participants wishing to register under the non-credit option:

Course Info: January 23—April 30, 2012
Mondays, 4:00 PM—6:45 PM at Lesley University,
University Hall, 2-048

Course Fee: \$300
This fee does not include the cost of books and course materials

Please make checks payable and return to:

The Astra Foundation/Attn: Deborah Bauch
524 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

For more information or if you have questions:

Contact Deborah Bauch: 978-266-3700 ext. 237. Or
email: Debbie@astrafoundation.org.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Daytime Phone: _____
Evening Phone: _____
Employer/ Occupation: _____
Email (required): _____

Participants wishing to register for 3 credits from Lesley U:

Course Fee: \$300 payable to The Astra Foundation as noted above

Lesley University Credit Fee: \$450
(3 credits at \$150/credit)

Lesley University Registration Fee: \$30

Steps to follow:

1. Register for the course as noted under the non-credit option above.
2. Check box below to receive Lesley University Course Registration materials.

I wish to receive Lesley University course registration materials.

Astra Special Needs Center
524 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720

DIR[®] Floortime

An Introduction to the
Developmental,
Individual Difference
Relationship-Based Model
for the Special Child

*For Professionals
Spring 2012*

January 23—April 30, 2012
(no class 2/20, 3/12, 4/16)
May 7, 2012—make-up day

The Astra Foundation

presented by:

Deborah Bauch, M.S. OTR/L and
Sarah Measures, M.Ed., PGCE

Offered by:



Lesley University

Course Description

Cont Ed Course #: LEDUC 5058;
Grad Course #: EEDUC 5057

This course presents an introduction to the Developmental, Individual Difference, Relationship-Based model, pioneered by Dr. Stanley Greenspan and Serena Wieder, PhD, for working with children with developmental delays.

Because emotional growth is integral to both social and cognitive learning, Greenspan and Wieder maintain that subtle emotional interactions form the building blocks of all human intelligence and the origins of the highest orders of human capacity: morality, creativity, and even consciousness itself. The DIR® model places a special emphasis on helping the child develop and strengthen the special relationships in his or her life. Because processing difficulties can be at the root of the child's problems with relationships, learning and interactions, the model considers and addresses the child's unique biology and processing capacities.

The DIR® framework is particularly helpful when working with children with attention, behavioral, communication, regulation and sensory issues, as well as PDD/Autism. In this course, we'll be focusing primarily on children from 0 to 5, with applications for older children as well.

This course is 1 of 3 Astra Foundation courses which, when satisfactorily completed, constitute Level B of the DIR Institutes' certificate program.

The Astra Foundation is a private, regional foundation that supports programs and initiatives that help children thrive in their home and educational environments. The Astra Special Needs Center was established in 2001 to promote the availability of DIR® services to families with special needs children, including children with regulation, sensory, relational and behavioral issues as well as PDD/Autism disorders.

Course Objectives

Students will:

- Be introduced to DIR® theory and practice; demonstrate knowledge of basic principles of the model including following the child's lead, opening and closing circles and expanding the child's range of emotional themes.
- Discuss current infant research as it relates to the role of emotion and relationship in development and relate this current research to DIR® principles and practice.
- Learn about the six functional developmental levels that a child must master including Shared Attention, Engagement, Two-Way Purposeful Communication, Two-Way Problem-Solving Communication, Emotional Ideas and Abstract Thinking.
- Demonstrate understanding of the sensory system and how sensory system challenges may impede a child's ability to form critical relationships and cognitive skills.
- Understand Floortime™ as a strategic, affect-filled way of interacting with a child that emphasizes strong bonds of relationship and an understanding of each child's unique sensory profile in helping a child to work on core developmental deficits.
- Understand the importance of collaboration with the child's family in all aspects of intervention; understand the importance of considering the family's culture, language, context, and individual strengths and stressors in developing a program for a child.
- Become aware of the importance of self-reflection and self-awareness with regard to the DIR® model and children with developmental delays and their families.
- Be introduced to strategies for involving children in social interactions with other children

Faculty

Astra Foundation Faculty

Deborah Bauch, M.S., OTR/L, has more than twenty years of experience in pediatrics and EI. As a Clinical Director at the Astra Foundation, she conducts DIR®-based workshops for parents and professionals and has presented at local, regional and national conferences. Ms. Bauch serves as a senior clinician and facilitator for the Interdisciplinary Council on Learning Disorders (ICDL) and the DIR® Summer Institute. Ms. Bauch consults to school districts, works directly with children and families, and serves as a mentor for professionals. Ms. Bauch has extensive expertise in sensory integration and processing issues. She is the 2008 recipient of the Margaret L. Bauman award for Outstanding Therapy Provider. She has Sensory Integration Certification, and is a registered Occupational Therapist.

Sarah Measures, M.Ed., PGCE, has been working with special needs children for twenty years, specializing in children with autism. As an instructor at the Astra Foundation, she conducts DIR®-based workshops and courses for professionals and parents and has presented both locally and at regional conferences. She also consults to school districts, mentors professionals, and works directly with families with special needs children. Ms. Measures has DIR® training through the Interdisciplinary Council on Learning Disorders (ICDL) and has additional expertise in TEACCH, PECS, PRT, Social Stories, Augmentative Communication, and Behavior Modification.

Credit Information

Lesley University is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Taking a course for credit earns students who fulfill the necessary course requirements assigned by the instructor, Lesley University credit. Students desiring to transfer Lesley credits should check with the receiving institution prior to registering, as credits are accepted at the discretion of the receiving institution.

Students may also be able to apply for Massachusetts Early Intervention Competencies.

Continuing Education students will pay \$300 to the Astra Foundation for the course. Students who elect to receive Lesley University credit may do so for an additional \$150 per credit (\$450), plus a registration fee.