

Stephanie Atencio Whitten, MS, CCLS

stephanie.whitten@uga.edu

EDUCATION

- M.S.** The University of Alabama, May 2015
Major: Human Development and Family Studies
Thesis Topic: *Child Life iPad Distraction: A Psychosocial Tool for Children Receiving an Injection*
- B.S.** The University of Alabama, May 2013
Major: Human Development and Family Studies
Concentration: Child Life

CERTIFICATIONS

- CCLS** Certified Child Life Specialist, #25877, August 2013 – present
Association of Child Life Professionals
- BLS** Basic Life Support, July 2015 – present
American Heart Association

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia

Clinical Assistant Professor, Child Life Clinical Coordinator, August 2022 – present
Appointment Assignment: 87.5% teaching; 12.5% administration
Department of Human Development and Family Science

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Child Life Specialist II – PRN, October 2022 – present

Secondary Facility Dog Handler, February 2021 – November 2021
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center (Inpatient Oncology)

Child Life Specialist II, February 2018 – November 2021
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center (Inpatient Oncology)
Neurology/Neurosurgery/Epilepsy Monitoring Unit

Child Life Specialist I, May 2016 – January 2018
Neurology/Neurosurgery/Epilepsy Monitoring Unit

The University of Alabama

Adjunct Instructor, August 2015 – July 2022
Department of Human Development and Family Studies

Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant, August 2013 – May 2015
Department of Human Development and Family Studies

Children's of Mississippi

Child Life Specialist, July 2015 – April 2016
Pediatric Emergency Department

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia

Course	Level	Semester/Year	Total Enrollment	<u>Weighted Mean Student Evaluation</u> (1-5 scale)
HDFS 3900: Prenatal and Infant Development**	UG	Fall 2023	42	
HDFS 4810/6810: Hospitalized Child and Family	UG/GR	Fall 2023	75	
HDFS 4830S/6830S: Grief, Loss, and Bereavement	UG/GR	Fall 2023	41	
HDFS 7120: Problems in HDFS (Child Life Practicum)	GR	Fall 2023	3	N/A
HDFS 4830E/6830E: Grief, Loss, and Bereavement	UG/GR	Summer 2023	36	4.79
HDFS 6140E: Medical Terminology for the Child Life Profession*	GR	Summer 2023	7	N/A
HDFS 4820/6820: Child Life Interventions	UG/GR	Spring 2023	30	4.96
HDFS 4900S/6900S: More than a Four-Legged Friend: The Benefits of Animal-Assisted Therapy*	UG/GR	Spring 2023	31	4.89
HDFS 5910: Applied Community Internship in HDFS	UG	Spring 2023	19	4.78
HDFS 3900: Prenatal and Infant Development	UG	Fall 2022	43	4.97
HDFS 4810/6810: Hospitalized Child and Family	UG/GR	Fall 2022	75	4.98
HDFS 4830S/6830S: Grief, Loss, and Bereavement	UG/GR	Fall 2022	35	4.98

E = Online, S = Service-learning, * = Course developed, ** = Co-taught with PhD student

The University of Alabama

Course	Level	Semester/Year
HD 203 (O): Medical Terminology	UG	Fall 2015 – Summer 2022
HD 401 (W, O): Cultural Influences on Children, Youth, and Families	UG	Fall 2016 – Spring 2019

W = Writing Course, O = Online

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Professional Member, October 2023 – present
Child Life Academic Society

Founders Council, July 2022 – September 2023
Child Life Academic Society

Professional Member, July 2022 – present
Florida Association of Child Life Professionals

Professional Member, July 2022 – present
Southeastern Association of Child Life Professionals

Professional Member, August 2013 – present
Association of Child Life Professionals

SERVICE

Bulletin Committee – Editor, June 2023 – present
Association of Child Life Professionals

Education and Training Committee, June 2023 – present
Association of Child Life Professionals

HDFS Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, September 2022 – present
University of Georgia

Conference Sponsor and Vendor (Beyond the Classroom Student Seminar), 2022 – 2023
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Membership Criteria Committee, October 2022 – September 2023
Child Life Academic Society

Mentorship Program – Mentor, January 2020 – June 2023
Association of Child Life Professionals

Bulletin Committee – Reviewer, June 2022 – May 2023
Association of Child Life Professionals

Child Life Huddle Co-Coordinator, 2021
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Bereavement Committee (Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center), 2020 – 2021
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Child Life Certification Commission – Exam Item Writer, June 2018 – June 2020
Association of Child Life Professionals

Somatic Symptom Related Disorders (SSRD) Guideline Committee, 2019
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Patient and Family Experience Council, 2018
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Comfort Promise Initiative Committee, 2017 – 2018
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Presentations

Whitten, S., Bales, D. & Thompson, C. (May 2024) *It Takes Two: Academic and Clinical Approaches to Building Students’ Self-Reflective Practice*. Presentation at the 2024 Association of Child Life Professionals Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Davies, K. & **Whitten, S.** (May 2024) *Paws for Reflection: Exploring Education and Training Pathways of Certified Child Life Specialist Facility Dog Handlers in Pediatric Healthcare*. Poster Presentation at the 2024 Association of Child Life Professionals Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Whitten, S. & Goldstein, E. (July 2023) *Designing and Implementing an Animal-Assisted Interventions Course with a Service-Learning Requirement*. Presented at the 2023 Southeastern Association of Child Life Professionals Conference, Auburn, AL.

Simpson, H. & **Whitten, S.** (May 2022) *This Couldn’t Have Been an Email: The Benefits of a Daily Team Huddle*. Poster Presentation at the 40th Annual Child Life Conference, Association of Child Life Professionals, National Harbor, MD & Virtual, May 26-29, 2022.

Whitten, S. & Westbrook, J. (October 2020) *Assessment of Understanding Following Diagnosis Education*. Presented at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Whitten, S. & Rivera, A. (August 2020) *Assessment of Self-Care Practices*. Presented at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Whitten, S. & Sherrill, L. (January 2020) *Introduction to Child Life Services at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center*. Presented at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Whitten, S. *PEDS 101*. (November 2019) Presented at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Whitten, S. & Garrett, F. (October 2019) *Non-Pharmacological Pain Management Interventions*. Presented at Beyond the Classroom at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Whitten, S. *PEDS 101*. (May 2019) Presented at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Whitten, S. & Carrick, L. (October 2017) *Therapeutic Interventions*. Presented at Beyond the Classroom at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

Atencio, S., Burns-Nader, S., Hernandez-Reif, M., & Tucker, M. (April 2015) *Child Life iPad Distraction: A Psychosocial Tool for Children Receiving an Injection*. Poster presented at the 16th Annual Rural Health Conference, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Atencio, S., Burns-Nader, S., Hernandez-Reif, M., & Tucker, M. (April 2015) *Child Life iPad Distraction: A Psychosocial Tool for Children Receiving an Injection*. Poster presented at the 7th Annual CCHS Research and Scholarly Activity Day, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Publications

Burns-Nader, S., **Whitten, S.**, Davis, F., Lacour, W., Chavez, M., Bodden, T., & Hudson, C. (2017). Then and Now: Examining Memories of Pediatric Experiences and Their Influence on Opinions about Healthcare as an Adult. *Journal of Human Sciences and Extension*, 5(1).

Burns-Nader, S., **Atencio, S.**, & Chavez, M. (2016). Computer Tablet Distraction in Children Receiving an Injection. *Pain Medicine*, 17(3), 590-595.

Media

Grace, C. & Wolff, K. (Hosts). (2023, September 26). Diane Bales and Stephanie Whitten (Episode 56) [Audio podcast episode] EdsUP! Sound Cloud.
https://soundcloud.com/edsup_podcast/edsup-episode-56-diane-bales-and-stephannie-whitten

GUEST LECTURES

Hospitalization in Adolescence, November 9, 2023

HDFS 3700, University of Georgia

Transition to Parenthood; Pregnancy and Childbirth, March 22, 2023

HDFS 4860, University of Georgia

Parenting and Child Guidance; Theories, January 18, 2023

HDFS 4860, University of Georgia

Therapeutic Relationships, August 31, 2022

First Year Odyssey, University of Georgia

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Academic Affairs Faculty Symposium, Spring 2024

University of Georgia

Teaching Academy Fellow, 2023 – 2024

University of Georgia

Professor's Dinner, Fall 2023

Zeta Tau Alpha, University of Georgia

CLINICAL SUPERVISION, MENTORSHIP, AND PROGRAMMING

Child Life Clinical Coordinator and Mentor, August 2022 – present

University of Georgia

Beyond the Classroom Committee, 2020 – 2021

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Internship and Practicum Committee, 2017 – 2021

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Child Life Intern Supervisor, 2017 – 2020

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

MASTER'S THESIS COMMITTEES (served as chair)

Kelbe Davies (Ongoing) *Paws for Reflection: Exploring Education and Training Pathways of Certified Child Life Specialist Facility Dog Handlers in Pediatric Healthcare*

MASTER'S CLINICAL PROJECT COMMITTEES (served as committee member)

Olivia Miller (Ongoing) *Let's Talk about Sickle Cell Disease.*

Erin Quinn (Ongoing) *All About the NICU: A Resource for Preschool-Aged Siblings of NICU Patients.*

Megan Bright (2023) *Nonpharmacological Pain Management Education for Pediatric Health Care Providers.*

Carey Hotaling (2023) *Individualized Coping Plan: A Guide for Middle School Students Who Have Experienced a Family Death.*

Kaylee Wells (2023) *Getting Ready for my Check-Up at The Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children.*