Social Skills for Teenagers with Developmental and Autism Spectrum Disorders

The PEERS® Treatment Manual

Elizabeth A. Laugeson & Fred Frankel

This book is essential reading for any clinician or researcher working with teens with autism spectrum disorder. This parent-assisted treatment is a comprehensive, evidence-based, 14-week program, developed at the acclaimed UCLA PEERS® Clinic.

This empirically-supported manual provides an overview of group treatment sessions and strategies for tackling issues such as developing conversational skills, choosing appropriate friends, using humor, planning get-togethers, using good sportsmanship, and handling peer rejection, such as teasing, physical bullying, gossiping, and disagreements. Each session chapter includes handouts, homework assignments, descriptions of what to expect, how to handle challenges in delivering the intervention, and customized tips for both parents and therapists.

This book provides a very comprehensive, down-to-earth manual for an innovative social-skills intervention for teens with autism spectrum disorders and their parents.” Catherine Lord, Ph.D., ABPP

“Laugeson and Frankel have done the field a great service in developing the PEERS program for friendship and social-skills training for adolescents with autism spectrum disorders.” Tony Charman, Ph.D.

“Based on scientifically sound research and insightful clinical acumen, this book provides the how-to for successful social-skills groups.” Connie Kasari, Ph.D.


PEERS® Certified Training for Mental Health Professionals

July 22 – 25, 2014
August 13 – 15, 2014
November 4 – 7, 2014

UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, Los Angeles, CA
This PEERS® Certified Training seminar is designed exclusively for mental health professionals interested in learning how to implement the PEERS® intervention for research or clinical practice.

Attendees at the UCLA PEERS® Training Seminar will receive:

- 24-hours of intensive didactic instruction on the implementation of PEERS®
- Small group training (approximately 20 attendees in total)
- 4-hours of LIVE OBSERVATION of current UCLA PEERS® parent and teen groups
- Role-playing demonstrations of didactic lessons
- Video demonstrations of previous PEERS® teen and parent groups
- Research and clinical material including assessment protocol and clinical documents
- The PEERS® Treatment Manual (2010) and PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals (2014)
- The Science of Making Friends (2013) with companion DVD with role-play videos

Payment: The fee to attend this 4-day training seminar is $2,200 USD
Registration: Please contact us at peersclinic@ucla.edu or at 310-26-PEERS (310-267-3377)
The PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals
Social Skills Training for Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Elizabeth A. Laugeson

The PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals brings UCLA’s highly acclaimed and widely popular PEERS® program into the school setting. This 16-week program, shown to significantly improve social skills and peer interactions among teens with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), is now customized for the needs of educators. The curriculum is broken down into clearly divided lesson plans with concrete rules and steps, corresponding homework assignments, and fun socialization activities to ensure that teens practice what they’ve learned. The curriculum also includes parent handouts, tips for preparing for each lesson, strategies for overcoming potential pitfalls, and the research underlying this transformative program.

“In an area where few resources exist, this manualized approach offers a guide for teaching social skills to teens with autism and related conditions. It will be of interest to teachers, school psychologists, speech pathologists, and others who deal with this important area.” Fred R. Volkmar, M.D., Yale University

“The PEERS® curriculum is an important advancement in social skills training for teens with autism. This thoughtful, ecologically valid intervention is time limited, makes reasonable demands on teachers, students, and parents, and has shown remarkable outcomes when implemented in schools.” David Mandell, Sc.D., University of Pennsylvania

PEERS® Certified Training for Educators
This PEERS® Certified Training is designed exclusively for school-based professionals who are interested in learning how to implement the PEERS® curriculum, the only available evidence-based social skills program for middle and high school teens with ASD.

Attendees at the UCLA PEERS® Training Seminar will receive:
• 24-hours of intensive didactic instruction on the implementation of PEERS®
• Role-playing demonstrations of didactic lessons
• Video demonstrations of previous PEERS® classes
• Research material including assessment protocol
• PEERS® Treatment Manual (2010)
• PEERS® Curriculum for School-Based Professionals (2014)
• The Science of Making Friends (2013) with companion DVD with role-play videos

UPCOMING TRAINING:
October 2-4, 2014
UCLA Semel Institute
Registration Fee: $2,200 USD
For more information:
peersclinic@ucla.edu
310-26-PEERS (310-267-3377)

About the Author
Elizabeth A. Laugeson is a licensed clinical psychologist and assistant clinical professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. Dr. Laugeson is the founder and director of the UCLA PEERS® Clinic, an outpatient hospital-based program providing parent-assisted social skills training for preschoolers, adolescents, and young adults with ASD and other social impairments. She is also the director of The Help Group-UCLA Autism Research Alliance, a collaborative research initiative dedicated to developing and expanding applied clinical research in the treatment of children and adolescents with ASD. Dr. Laugeson is the author of three books focusing on empirically-supported interventions to improve social skills.