**Developmental Psychopathology and Psychological Assessment in Youth**

*Welcome!*

This course is created to provide you the bachelor level knowledge on psychopathology in youth and tools for clinical assessment. After completing this course, you will be ready to attain the master in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology at Utrecht University.

During this course you will gain theoretical knowledge about psychopathology in youth and will learn to apply the cycle of diagnostic assessment for clinical cases.

**Learning objectives**:

After this course you can describe and explain…

* The most common problems (psychiatric disorders) in youth
* Age specific characteristics of disorders
* Developmental explanatory models for problems in youth
* How to apply this knowledge for clinical use
* You can describe the stepwise process of psychological assessment (diagnostic cycle)
* You can explain the principles of assessment for intervention, focused on youth
* You know what it takes to formulate and investigate assessment hypotheses and to decide upon conclusions (decision process)
* You know several psychological measuring instruments and when to use them
* You have had some practice in psychological conversations during diagnostic assessment

**Day to day programme:**

Every day there will be a supervised tutorials, containing presentations, discussion groups and practice. There will also be daily unsupervised work in teams, work on a case studies and preparation for a group presentation etc.

You are required to read literature on developmental psychopathology and assessment every day. The obtained knowledge will be used in the assignments and presentations. There will be several multiple choice exams about the literature during the course and you will have to make presentations about the assignments on case studies.

It is an intense course where you are supposed to be present for a large part of the day and where you also have to study during the rest of the day.

Tutorial content:

1. The first day you will learn the stepwise process of the diagnostic cycle. You learn about the complaint analysis in diagnostic assessment and will practice intake conversations.

Days 2-5. There will be self-study, short multiple choice exams and applied assignments and presentations on the theory. You will also learn more about problem analysis in diagnostic assessment, how to assess the severity of the complaints and you will learn how to formulate and test descriptive hypotheses.

Day 5. At the end of the first week you start to focus on the explanation of problem behaviour in youth.

Days 6-8. In the second week there will be self-study, short multiple choice exams and applied assignments and presentations on the theory. And you will learn about the explanatory analysis, focusing on social-emotional development of youth, intelligence, executive functioning and parents and school.

Days 9-10. The last days of the course you will discuss how to draw conclusions and give recommendations as part of the diagnostic cycle. You will practice advising conversations.

During the tutorials there is plenty of possibility to ask questions about the literature, assignments and cases. Because you work together in small groups, you can also learn from each other and experience an educational and inspiring course!