

# Developmental Psychopathology and Psychological Assessment in Youth

*Welcome!*

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

During this course we assume that you already have some knowledge on psychopathology in youth, but we will again study some of these problems and underlying causal factors (using transactional models) and you 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:

Day 1. The first day you will learn more about the developmental psychopathology approach as well as the stepwise process of the diagnostic cycle. You learn about the intake and complaint analysis in diagnostic assessment.

Days 2-5. There will be self-study, Q&A's and applied assignments and presentations. 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 present the first part of the case study.

Days 6-8. In the second week there will be self-study, Q&A's and applied assignments and presentations. 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.

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!