

Child and Youth Psychopathology

Brief description of course content (According to the programme's verification report)

Descriptors:

Child and youth psychopathology. Diagnosis of child and youth psychological disorders. Psychological assessment of children and adolescents. Psychological treatment of children and adolescents.

Contents:

Scientific principles of Child and Youth Psychopathology. Explanatory models and therapeutic approaches. Classification, diagnosis and assessment of child and youth psychological disorders. Basic behavioural repertoire disorders: elimination, food behaviour in childhood, and sleep. Specific psychological development disorders: motor behaviour, language and school learning. Generalized development disorders and intellectual disability. Attention deficit disorder, disruptive behaviour disorder and social problems. Emotional disorders in childhood or adolescence: mood and anxiety.

Learning outcomes

1. To know and understand the scientific principles of the discipline: historical evolution, concept, object of study, research methodology, theories and models.
2. To know the different types of classifications for child and youth disorders.
3. To know the different types of diagnosis for child and youth disorders.
4. To know the therapeutic options with regard to child and youth disorders.
5. To know the child and youth behavioural disorders: definition, classification, characteristics, frequency and distribution.
6. To know the child and youth behaviour disorders: diagnosis and assessment.
7. To know the child and youth behavioural disorders: explanation, types of treatment or intervention.
8. To understand the relationship existing between the different aspects of child and youth disorders (definition, classification, characteristics, diagnosis, assessment, explanation, treatment or intervention).
9. To know how to identify the requirements and demands of children and adolescents with psychological disorders in different areas of application for Psychology.
10. To know how to define objectives, select assessment techniques and treatment according to the requirements and demands of the children and adolescents with psychological disorders.

Planned learning activities

Theory Syllabus

- **Topic 1. Scientific principles of Child and Youth Psychopathology.** Historical background. Definition of the discipline. Related disciplines. Object of study. Research methodology.

- **Topic 2. Explanatory models and therapeutic approaches.** Basic concepts: models, approaches and theories. Biological models. Psychological models. Assessing treatments.
- **Topic 3. Classification, diagnosis and assessment of child and youth psychological disorders.** Psychopathological classifications. Diagnosis: Diagnostic approaches. Assessment.
- **Topic 4. Disorders of the basic behavioural repertoire.** Elimination disorders: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention. Food behaviour disorders in childhood: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention. Sleep disorders: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention.
- **Topic 5. Specific psychological development disorders.** Motor behaviour disorders: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention. Language disorders. School learning disorders: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention.
- **Topic 6. General development disorders.** Development disorders: concept and classifications. Autistic disorder: characteristics, explanation and intervention. Asperger's disorder: characteristics, explanation and intervention. Intellectual/Learning disability: characteristics, explanation and intervention.
- **Topic 7. Attention deficit and disruptive behaviour disorders.** Attention disorders and hyperactivity: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention. Disruptive behaviour disorders (oppositional, challenging and anti-social): concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention.
- **Topic 8. Emotional disorders in childhood or adolescence.** Anxiety disorders in childhood and adolescence: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention. Mood disorders in childhood and adolescence: concept (classification and diagnosis), explanation and intervention.

Practical Syllabus

- **Practical exercise 1:** Child and youth psychopathology, basic concepts and models.
- **Practical exercise 2:** Diagnosis in child and youth psychopathology.
- **Practical exercise 3:** Psychological treatment of children and adolescents.
- **Practical exercise 4:** Clinical Cases (intervention selection and design).