Course Description
Title of the Course: Developmental Psychology

Aim of the course:
The aim of the course is to lay the foundations of theory-based thinking in the psychologist’s practical work with infants, children, and adolescents. To give knowledge about developmental risk, protective factors and resilience. To give insight into family and other risk factors and its implication for child development. The different family constellations and risk factors will be discussed in the next theoretical frameworks: ecological theory, transactional model, life span development perspective, family as a system theory.

Learning outcome, competences
knowledge:
• knowledge about ecological theory, transactional model, family as a system theory
• knowledge about developmental risk, protective factors and resilience
• understanding family structure and its roles in development
• understanding the multidetermined nature of the parenting role
• understanding risk mechanisms and developmental pathways

attitude:
• capable of thinking in system theories; complex view of the multidetermined feature of development
• intention to view the child and the family in its context
• life span development perspective
• tolerance toward differences in families

skills:
• capable of thinking in risk and protective factors and in circular cause and consequences
• capable to understand what roles certain risk factors might play in a child’s life

Content of the course
Topics of the course
• models of development
• risk, protective factors and resilience
• life span development
• divorce, single parenting, patchwork families
• risk factors in families: alcoholism, parental mental health problems
• chronic illness in the family, well siblings
• child maltreatment
• bullying
Learning activities, learning methods
- lecture

Evaluation of outcomes
Learning requirements, mode of evaluation, criteria of evaluation:
requirements
- End-of-term exam

mode of evaluation: ..........1-5 grades....

criteria of evaluation:
- level of knowledge and understanding

Reading list
Compulsory reading list

Recommended reading list


