



University of Nicosia, Cyprus

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>ECTS Credits</b>
PSY-390	Child Psychopathology	6
<b>Department</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Prerequisites</b>
Social Sciences	Fall, Spring	PSY110, PSY111, PSY 220A
<b>Type of Course</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>Language of Instruction</b>
Elective	Psychology	English
<b>Level of Course</b>	<b>Year of Study</b>	<b>Lecturer(s)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dr Xenia Hadjicharalambous
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	<b>Work Placement</b>	<b>Co-requisites</b>
face-to-face	N/A	None

**Objectives of the Course:**

This course is designed to provide psychology students with an overview of the major psychological disorders of childhood and adolescence, with an emphasis on the characteristics of the disorders, their determinants, and current theoretical formulations, issues, and research.

Utility in the Curriculum: This class crosses across the “developmental”, “psychopathology” and “clinical psychology” compulsory areas for purposes of EuroPsy recognition.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course students are expected to

- (1) classify the basic characteristics of childhood disorders and identify their determinants;
- (2) discuss current conceptual frameworks for defining and understanding childhood disorders;
- (3) differentiate approaches to classification, diagnosis, and assessment;
- (4) discuss conceptual issues associated with the study of childhood disorders;
- (5) discuss current research findings on various types of child psychopathology;
- (6) examine research and design issues in the study of child psychopathology;
- (7) apply implications of knowledge about child psychopathology for prevention and intervention;
- (8) apply professional ethics in child psychopathology.

**Course Contents:**

- 1 Foundations of Child Psychopathology
  - Classification systems (categorical vs. dimensional approaches)
  - Assessment (*with some exercises in using some assessment instruments*)
  
2. Research Methods and Designs
  - Epidemiology, family studies, behavioural-genetic approaches, experiments, treatment-outcome studies
  - Longitudinal and cross-sectional designs, etc.
  
3. Some Selected Psychopathology  
(for each psychopathology, the following topics will be covered: classification, prevalence, course and outcome, risk factors):
  - Anxiety disorders
  - Depressive disorders
  - Conduct Disorder/Oppositional Defiant Disorder
  - Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
  - Somatoform disorders (e.g., pain)

If time allows a selection of the following disorders will also be covered:  
Eating disorders, Substance use disorders, Autistic disorder, William Syndrome, Schizophrenia.
  
4. Prevention and Intervention of Childhood Psychopathology  
(*with some exercises*)
  - Some selected disorders: Anxiety and depressive disorders
  - Discussing some findings of recent treatment-outcome studies

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Interactive Lectures, Practical Exercises
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**Assessment Methods:**

Assignment, Practical Portfolio, Midterm Exam, Final Exam.
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**Required Textbooks/Reading:**

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Wicks-Nelson, R. and Israel, A.	Abnormal Child and Adolescent Psychology	Allyn & Bacon McGraw Hill	2008	

**Recommended Textbooks/Reading:**

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Essau, A.	<i>Child and Adolescent Psychopathology: Theoretical and clinical implications,</i>	Brunner-Routledge: London.	2006	
<b>American Psychological Association</b>	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders- Text Revision, 4 <sup>th</sup> ed.	American Psychological Association	2000	ISBN: 0890420246