

Developmental Psychotherapy (H002092)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	lecture practical independent work
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Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Brenning, Katrijn	PP07	lecturer-in-charge
Verbeken, Sandra	PP07	co-lecturer
Wante, Laura	PP07	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Clinical Psychology)	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

child and adolescent psychotherapy, evidence-based, case conceptualisation, developmental psychopathology

Position of the course

This course is part of block 4 that deals with the various treatments used in clinical psychology and, more specifically, it deals with developmental psychotherapy in children and adolescents for different problems. This course builds on the acquired knowledge and insights about developmental psychopathological models (block 2) but also requires knowledge of the other models from this block. The course builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in the assessment of developmental psychopathological processes (block 3) and prepares for the internship (block 5).

Contents

This course unit covers the following topics:

LECTURES

- Principles of evidence-based, protocol-based, modular, and goal-oriented treatment approaches
- Meta-analyses, effectiveness studies (RCTs), moderator analyses, mechanisms of change, and predictor studies that support treatment selection
- Treatment of psychological issues in children and adolescents requiring a developmental psychotherapy approach, such as anxiety, depression, behavioral problems, and eating disorders
- Throughout the lectures, attention is given to transdiagnostic processes (e.g., self-image and perfectionism, emotion regulation, techniques from ACT and schema therapy) and contextual factors in clinical work with children and adolescents

PRACTICAL SESSIONS

The practical sessions build on the lectures. These sessions actively engage students through case studies, role-playing, and assignments. They include illustrations of developmental psychotherapy and small assignments that encourage critical thinking. The practical sessions conclude with an integration exercise in which students independently demonstrate their ability to apply all steps from case formulation to treatment techniques.

Initial competences

This course unit builds on certain course competencies of Models in Developmental Psychopathology, Integration Models in Clinical psychology, Assessment Developmental Psychopathology.

Final competences

- 1 Be able to argue aspects of treatment from evidence-based and critical considerations
- 2 Be able to describe, argue and relate theoretical models of clinical disorders to scientific findings and clinical questions.
- 3 To define, to situate, to distinguish and to compare theoretical constructs within theoretical models.
- 4 To communicate psychology related knowledge and insights.
- 5 To reflect on the interaction between psychology and the public debate.
- 6 Assess a starting situation and create a treatment plan based on that assessment, paying attention to the uniqueness of and differences between clients.
- 7 Knowledge and application of a multitude of intervention methods and techniques.
- 8 Ethically justify own decision-making and chosen methods of intervention.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, Practical, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

11 lectures, 5 mandatory working lectures

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Protocollaire behandelingen voor kinderen en adolescenten met psychische klachten - Deel 1 (Braet & Bögels, 2020)

Indicative price: € 90

Optional: no

Additional information: The handbook with the target price will be communicated via Ufora. The handbook with the target price will be communicated via Ufora.

Type: Slides

Name: slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Additional information: When not printed (0 euro)

Type: Handouts

Name: Practicum material

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Additional information: If not printed

References

Braet, C. & Bögels, S. (Red) (2020). Protocollaire behandelingen voor kinderen en adolescenten met psychische klachten - Deel 1. Boom uitgevers Amsterdam (668 blz.).

Course content-related study coaching

Support through UFORA

Coordinator practica: Tina.Wullaert@Ugent.be (email or make an appointment)

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment, Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Participation in the practical sessions is part of the evaluation. There are five mandatory practical sessions. Students who are (justifiably) absent from any of these sessions must contact the instructors for a substitute assignment and can only pass the course if these substitute assignments are submitted on time.

A late arrival of more than 15 minutes also requires the submission of a substitute assignment. Unjustified absences or late arrivals will be reflected in the final score.

Due to the nature of the course format, students with two or more unjustified absences will not be able to pass the course.

Final feedback will be provided on the official faculty feedback days.

Calculation of the examination mark

The periodic evaluation counts for 60% and the non-periodic evaluation for 40%. Results from the non-periodic evaluation are carried over to the next exam period within the same academic year. Students who do not participate in all mandatory components of both the periodic and non-periodic evaluations cannot pass the course. In this case, the final grade will be reduced to the highest non-deliverable score (7/20) if the calculated final grade is higher. Partial results are never rounded.

Facilities for Working Students

- No possibility of exemption from attendance with a replacement assignment given the nature of the practical courses
- Only for students with a special status: possibility of an oral exam with written preparation at a different time within the academic year
- Possibility of feedback by appointment

Addendum

This course sheet was adjusted on July 3, 2024, due to a new responsible lecturer.

The handbook was removed on September 19, 2024. The new handbook will be updated in the course sheet as soon as possible.