

**INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES FOR MINOR WITNESSES/VICTIMS OF  
ABUSE**

**1. GENERAL**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	SOCIAL SCIENCES		
<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	PSYCHOLOGY		
<b>LEVEL</b>	Undergraduate		
<b>COURSE CODE</b>	Ψ-3510	<b>SEMESTER</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> and onwards
<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES FOR MINOR WITNESSES/VICTIMS OF ABUSE</b>		
<b>COURSE INSTRUCTOR</b>	<b>Olga Themeli</b>		
<b>SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE</b>	<b>Associate Professor of Criminological Psychology</b>		
<b>TEACHING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS</b>	<b>ECTS</b>	
Lectures and exercises	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>COURSE TYPE</b>	Skills development (Seminar)		
<b>PREREQUISITE COURSES:</b>	Research method in social sciences		
<b>INSTRUCTION/EXAM LANGUAGE:</b>	Greek		
<b>OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS</b>	NO		
<b>COURSE WEB PAGE (URL)</b>	Will be announced.		

**2. LEARNING OUTCOMES**

<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
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The aim of the seminar is to raise awareness among students about issues that are concerned with the violation of children' fundamental rights and the acquisition of specified knowledge in cases of child neglect or/and abuse. Emphasis is given mainly in issues that arise after the violation disclosure and the mobilization of the criminal mechanism. It is significant to underline the need to take measures to avoid the risk of secondary victimization and repeated trauma of the minors during the statement process and the investigation of their allegations.

On the successful completion of the course students are expected to:

- Be able to distinguish the different forms of abuse, to understand the consequences of the violation on the minors, to be aware of the factors that affect the disclosure of violence, to be sensitized on ethical issues concerning the protection of minors, to possess the basic interview principles with abused children, to understand the need for training that is required in order to deal with minor victims in the future.
- Have the ability to approach in a scientific way a relative topic (bibliography or empirical research, search of sources, correct use of references and bibliography etc.)

### **General Competences**

- Search, analysis and composition of data and information, with the use of necessary technologies
- Independent study
- Respect for diversity and multiculturalism.
- Criticism and self-criticism.
- Promotion of free, creative and inductive thinking.

### **3. COURSE CONTENT**

- The International Convention on the Rights of the Child
- The syndrome child abuse
- Epidemiologic data

- Kinds of abuse (physical, sexual, psychological)/ causative factors
- More specific forms of violation (the syndrome of non-attendant viewer, Munchausen syndrome by a representative etc.)
- The physical punishment- characteristics- consequences
- The profile of the perpetrator
- The effects of abuse on the minor victims
- The disclosure process of the sexual violation (the stages, the factors that lead to conceal, the relationship between the victim and the offender etc.)
- The forensic xamination of the victim both pre-trial and during the hearing process/ the risk of secondary victimization
- Perceptions and truths about the memory capacity of children when they are giving a statement (save, codification, retraction, corruption of memory)
- Basic ethical principles during the examination of minor victims by the bodies of the criminal justice system
- Proposals to reduce the suffering of the hearing procedure
- The use of specialized tools - the cognitive interview
- Basic forensic interview principles with abused children (formulation and content of the questions, answer interpretation, anxiety reduction techniques, avoid evocative and seductive tricks ext)
- Specialized training for the professionals
- The Psychologist's role

**4. INSTRUCTIONAL AND LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION**

<b>INSTRUCTION METHOD</b>	In class
<b>INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION</b>	Use of ICT in teaching

<b>TECHNOLOGIES USED</b>			
<b>TEACHING ORGANIZATION</b>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Semester Work load</i>	<i>ECTS credits</i>
	Lectures	12	0,48
	Assignment presentations	27	1,08
	Educational visit	5	0,2
	Bibliography study and analysis	30	1,2
	Written assignment	55	2,2
	Preparation for the article presentation	15	0,6
	<b><i>Course Total</i></b>	<b><i>144</i></b>	<b><i>5,76</i></b>
	<b>STUDENT EVALUATION</b>	<p>In the students' evaluation emphasis will be given in the written assignment (clear description of the subject, suggestions, assumptions, methodology, overview of bibliography etc.) which will be required to elaborate and present.</p> <p>Additionally, in the final grade of the seminar will be taken into account the performance in another written assignment that will be elaborated in beginning of the seminar and the total attendance of the student (consistency, participation, interest).</p> <p>The evaluation is in Greek.</p> <p>The evaluation criteria are presented during the 1st lecture of the semester.</p>	

## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic bibliography:

- Agathonos- Georgopoulou, E. (1988). *A Guide for the Recognition and Confrontation of Abuse and Neglect*. Athens: Childs Health Institute.
- Agathonos- Georgopoulou, E. (1988). *Children Abuse and Neglect- Eleven years' experience*. Athens: Childs Health Institute.
- Artinopoulou, V. & Magganas, A. (1996). *Victimology and Aspects of Victimization*. Athens Law Library.
- Giannopoulou, I., Douzenis, A., & Lykouras. (2010). *Judicial Psychiatry of Children and Adolescents*. Athens: Pub. Paschalidis.
- Giotakos, M., Tsiliakou & Tsitsika, A. (2011). *Adolescent and Child Abuse: Detection, , Confrontation and Prevention* (pp. 431-444). Athens: Publication Pedio.
- Giotakos, O. & Tsiliakou, M. (2008). *The Circle of Abuse*. Athens:Publications Archipelagos.
- Koumoula, A. & Stafyla, Th. (2013). *Abuse: When Children' Dreams Become Nightmares*. Athens: Publication of the Childrens' and adolescent Psychiatry Department of Sismanogleio General Hospital.
- Loumakou, M. & Mpeze, L. (Eds.). *Children Rights*. Athens: Ellinika Grammata.
- Skara, R. & Leonida, M. (2005). *Collection of Conventions and International Essays for the Children Rights*. Athens: Pub. Sakkoula.
- Themeli, O. (2014). *Children' Statement. The Forensic Examination of Minors Witnesses / Victims of Sexual Abuse*. Athens: Publications Topos.
- World Health Organization (2008). *Prevention of Chlid Abuse: A Guide of action and documentation* (Ed. O., Giotakos). Athens: World Health Organization (ISBN 978-960-98602-0-8). (The original work was published in 2006).