



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



ЦЕНТЪР  
ЗА РАЗВИТИЕ  
НА ЧОВЕШКИТЕ  
РЕСУРСИ

## **New Bulgarian University**

### **Special abilities and talents - patterns of cognitive processes in people with disabilities**

The purpose of the Intensive programme is to organize and conduct courses for students in master's and doctoral programmes in interdisciplinary areas, including assessment, research, study and modelling of cognitive style of people with disabilities and special abilities and talents. This area of knowledge implies the inclusion of experts in the field of clinical linguistics, medicine, psychology, speech and language pathology and cognitive science. Studies of interests, abilities, strengths and skills, incl. the talents of people with disabilities is a modern approach with practical application in health care and psychological and cognitive support for children and adults with disabilities. The approach must be implemented in the educational plans of the students in the field.

The target groups are teachers from five countries in these fields, who meet and assist each other in the study of specific cognitive style of processing information and features in emotional experience and behaviour of people with mental disorders and special talents and abilities as well as students in psychology, speech and language pathology, cognitive sciences and linguistics.

The programme includes lectures and workshops for students in master and PhD degrees in theories, models, research methods, therapeutic interventions in working with people with disorders and special abilities and talents as well as focus groups for PhD students for planning and discussions of research in the field.

Based on exchange of knowledge among different professionals in a joint issue between undergraduate and graduate students in various interdisciplinary areas it is expected to form an international scientific community able to apply constantly flow of information on the topic and to contribute to the development of knowledge in each area close to the topic of the Intensive programme. Furthermore, the programme would develop new opportunities for future research and international programmes in the interdisciplinary field. As a result it will prepare for entry into training in psychology, clinical linguistics, speech and language therapy interdisciplinary courses for different educational levels. Such a programme would create opportunities for joint research and publications of articles and teaching materials with practical applications, ready to be incorporated into the curricula for students in psychology, clinical linguistics, cognitive science and speech and language pathology.



## **SPECIAL ABILITIES AND TALENTS - PATTERNS OF COGNITIVE PROCESSES IN PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

**Erasmus Intensive Program**

**Bulgaria**

**Oreshak**

**29.06.2014 – 12.06.2014**

Topics:

1. Nonverbal educational difficulties;
2. Early diagnosis of language disorders;
3. Autism Spectrum Disorders: clinical features;
4. Attachment disorders and disabilities;
5. Assessment of children with autism;
6. Emotions and communication skills in children with disabilities;
7. Positive emotions in children with disabilities;
8. Communication skills in children with disabilities;
9. Developmental disorders – cases;
10. Asperger sy – assessment and diagnosis, cases;
11. Assessment of creativity;
12. The ethics of research in developmental disorders;
13. Issues of research - ethics in developmental disorders;
14. Figurative language comprehension in typical development;
15. Learning difficulties;
16. Language-related disorders;
17. Language profiles in ASD;
18. Aspects of language and communication in deficit populations beyond grammar;
19. Developmental disorders – assessment and diagnosis, cases;
20. Splinters of genius: Linguistically-talented Asperger children as case studies;
21. Figurative language comprehension in developmental disorders (Autism and Dyslexia);
22. Language tests. Typical vs. atypical language development: how can we tell?;
23. Early Signs in Autism: Research Methods and Current Results;
24. Research in Theory-of-Mind and Autism;
25. Social Cognition and Treatment in Autism;
26. Information technologies and development disorders;
27. Telemedicine in assessment and therapy in developmental disorder.

Participants:

New Bulgarian University;

Norwegian University of Science & Technology, Trondheim. Norway;

Universidad de Sevilla, Spain;

Universitatea de Vest din Timisoara, Romania

prof. Mila Vulchanova, PhD  
assist. prof. Valentin Vulchanov, PhD  
assoc. prof. David Saldana, PhD  
prof. Ana Muntean, PhD  
assoc. prof. Margarita Stankova, MD, PhD  
assoc. prof. Ivan Ivanov, PhD  
assist. prof. Polina Mihova, PhD  
assist. prof. Iliya Pendzhurov, PhD  
assist. prof. Galina Markova, PhD  
Marieta Tvetkova, PhD  
assist. prof. Tzvetelina Iosifova

