

Номер на договора: 2011 - ERA - IP - 3

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**New Bulgarian University**

**INTENSIVE PROGRAMME: SPECIAL ABILITIES AND  
TALENTS - PATTERNS OF COGNITIVE PROCESSES IN  
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

**09.10 - 21.10.2011**

**Sofia**

**Bulgaria**

## Project Summary

The purpose of the Intensive programme is to organize and conduct courses for students in undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs in interdisciplinary areas, including assessment, research, study and modeling 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 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 target groups are teachers from four 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 behavior 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 bachelor, 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 three interdisciplinary courses for different educational levels - bachelor, master and PhD. 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.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

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