

**Name of Institution:** CHE / Ede Christian University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands)

**Course Number/Name:** International Families & Domestic Violence

**Place in year:** November, December, January (for the period after Christmas it is possible that you continue the minor online)

**Number of Contact Hours (full semester total):** 420

**Number of Credits (or EC, please specify):** 15 EC

**Prerequisites for the course:** 2 years of Higher Education

**Length of the course (in weeks):** 10

**Instructor Name(s):**

- Ms. Jantine Dekker
- A variety of international guest lectures & professionals in the field of Domestic Violence



**Textbooks used:**

1. The Routledge International Handbook of Domestic Violence and Abuse (recommended)
2. Articles on Domestic Violence, Intrafamilial Child Abuse & neglect, Abuse in different settings (provided by the lecturer)
3. Articles related to weekly topics (provided by the lecturer)

**List of assignment in the course and their corresponding value within the course:**

1. The individual assignment (7,5 European Credits) consists a portfolio (collection) of a topic journal and personal reflection, reflection on skills lab, reports of field research, reflection on theme related documentaries, articles, podcasts and finally a personal reflection on working in the project group.
2. The group assignment (7,5 European Credits) where students work collaborative in small project groups and conduct practice research in the professional field. Together with subgroup members they will develop a professional interdisciplinary product.

**Detailed Course Description/Objectives:**

Domestic violence has existed since the dawn of humanity. In this minor, students will immerse themselves in a multidisciplinary environment, delving into the latest insights on violence within the family system. The course acknowledges the historical silence surrounding domestic violence, emphasizing its status as a well-kept secret and a longstanding taboo. Our goal is to equip you with practical tools to effectively address this issue in the long term.

Domestic violence encompasses a range of scenarios within the family system, such as partner violence, child abuse, - neglect and abuse or neglect of the elderly. Victims of domestic violence are in most cases women and children, but also men, parents and the elderly.

While victims predominantly include women and children, men, parents, and the elderly can also be affected. Recognizing that suspicions often arise in the communities surrounding these families, the course emphasizes the challenge of insufficient facts or signals to prompt adequate action. Factors such as shame further contribute to the concealment of these issues.

Throughout the minor, students will embark on a learning journey to understand the interconnected nature of government policy, social developments, and welfare challenges. The course advocates for an integrated approach, emphasizing simultaneous action at different levels to structurally break the cycle of domestic violence.

**Lecture topics:**

1. Orientation on domestic violence and vulnerable groups
2. Child Abuse and Neglect
3. Intimate Partner Violence
4. Elder Abuse
5. Economic and Social abuse
6. Sexual violence and abuse
7. Religion and violence, cultural and gender-specific aspects in domestic violence
8. Nonviolent Communication

**Competences:**

By the end of the International Minor Domestic Violence you, as a student, show knowledge, insight and skills about domestic violence, questioning and discussing the violence present and contributing to stop the violence and create a safe living environment for all family members.

**You do that by:**

1. Practicing skills to identify, intervene, and prevent abuse and domestic violence
2. Developing methods for professionally investigating problems and creating interdisciplinary action plans
3. Critical thinking about the unique contributions of each profession or discipline to effective care in combating domestic violence and child abuse
4. Acquiring information of international legislation and guidelines related to domestic violence and child abuse

5. Training in speaking skills for non-violent collaboration with victims and perpetrators, actively honing communication skills
6. Engaging in personal reflection on motives, dilemmas, hesitations, and choices when dealing with cases
7. Exploring the manifestation of domestic violence and child abuse within specific cultural or religious populations in different countries worldwide.

**Course overview:**

This course offers students a distinctive learning experience by fostering an understanding of the intricate dynamics surrounding domestic violence and child abuse. Through collaboration with professionals from various disciplines, students will work towards creating safer, more peaceful and healthier family environments. Importantly, this course equips students with essential knowledge to address a critical challenge faced by 21<sup>st</sup>-century professionals.

We are excited to embark on this educational journey with you, empowering you to make a meaningful impact in the realm of domestic violence and child abuse.

