Juvenile Justice
March > December 2022
Online Course
Directors

- **Prof. Philip D. Jaffé**, Centre for Children’s Rights Studies, University of Geneva; Program Director and Chair of the Steering Committee
- **Marta Gil**, Terre des hommes Foundation (Tdh); Member of the Steering Committee
- **Yann Colliou**, International Institute for the Rights of the Child; Member of the Steering Committee

Coordinators

- **Saskia Perrin** (ad interim), **Prof. Antonio Varon Mejia**

Partnerships

- The International Institute for the Rights of the Child, Sion, Switzerland
- Terre des hommes Foundation – Child Relief (Tdh), Lausanne, Switzerland

Speakers

Professors, teachers, university researchers, as well as judges, prosecutors, lawyers, psychologists, criminology experts and human rights defenders

Audience

Professionals working with children and adolescents in contact or conflict with the law: police officers, prosecutors, judges, lawyers, public sector employees and prison officers, educators, psychologists, doctors (paediatricians, child psychiatrists, etc.), criminologists, migration professionals, actors of non-governmental organizations and international organizations, researchers, etc.

The training is aimed at professionals from Latin America or the Caribbean or Spanish-speaking countries. The training takes place in Spanish.
Juvenile justice and restorative approach

Acquire skills and tools to support children and adolescents in conflict or in contact with the law

The restorative approach to juvenile justice makes it possible to support children and adolescents in conflict or in contact with the law by ensuring a better respect of their rights. This approach involves the implementation of structures based on recognized principles, such as best interest of the child, the specialization of the judicial system, the diversion, reparation and alternatives to detention. This approach contributes to the positive development of criminal law and judicial procedures.

Training in the restorative approach involves to deepen specialized legal knowledge and to familiarize with methods and tools for specialized and systemic interventions. The various gouvernemental professionals and especially those from educational services, children, adolescents, their families and the community participate in this rights-based approach to the child.

The CAS in Juvenile Justice of the Centre for Children's Rights Studies (Centre interfacultaire en droits de l'enfant) of the University of Geneva, in partnership with the The International Institute for the Rights of the Child (Institut international des droits de l'enfant) and Terre des hommes Foundation, offers training linking scientific knowledge to practices of intervention with children and adolescents in conflict or in contact with the law. The modules are designed and led by university professors, international experts and internationally renowned practitioners.

The CAS opens up innovative training opportunities for professionals working in the juvenile justice system in different Latin American countries by being fully accessible online. It thus makes it possible to reconcile professional life and continuing education at university level.

The CAS aims to improve the intervention strategies of professionals and to build an international network of expertise and sharing experience with speakers and colleagues from different countries.
Objectives

- Train professionals in understanding and implementing juvenile justice based on a restorative approach and repairing.
- Know the different tools and methods of centred intervention on the rights of the child.
- Develop projects and interventions for children in conflict or in contact with the law while respecting the rights of the child.

Competencies

At the end of the training, participants are able to:

- know the fundamental concepts of juvenile justice (in particular restorative justice), by analysing national, regional and international legal frameworks and taking into account the current social and criminological context at the national, regional and international levels;
- analyse, evaluate and identify the main themes of juvenile justice, risk factors and the protection of children's rights;
- know and be able to implement different intervention methodologies;
- identify the norms, principles and values of restorative juvenile justice and introduce them into their professional practice;
- conduct critical reflection and design projects and interventions for the prevention and promotion of restorative justice;
- develop communication, negotiation and collaboration strategies with the various actors involved in child rights and other organizations in the field;
- develop a network of experts in juvenile justice and restorative approach within institutions dealing with children and youth of adolescents in conflict and in contact with the law.
Program Structure

Training organized over a period of 10 months and entirely online by through a virtual educational platform (Moodle). Structured around 5 modules, it includes 4 thematic modules and 1 module devoted to final thesis.

Each module takes place over approximately 7 weeks. It includes different forms of online teaching and learning: video courses, activities and other relevant training activities adapted to the program and remote format, either:

- 40 hours of virtual teaching (speaker videos);
- 80 hours of online activities, including participation in discussion with tutors and other participants;
- 120 hours of personal work (reading, research, writing);
- 60 hours for final work;
- approximately 8 hours per week should be spent on the CAS.
Module 1 | Juvenile justice and Restorative Approach

Objective

To know the foundations of the restorative approach of the juvenile justice by analysing the history and evolution of models, as well as regional and international legal frameworks international, while taking into account social contexts and criminological issues.

Cover topics

- Regional standards in juvenile justice: in particular standards and the inter-American and Ibero-American system.
- The interdisciplinarity of juvenile justice: violence, criminological perspectives, different facets of Latin America, social perception and stereotypes and the media.
- Good practices and challenges: restorative juvenile justice, gender, diversion and lowering the age of criminal justice criminal liability.
Module 2 | The subjects of juvenile justice

Objective

Analyze and evaluate normative and bio-psycho-social analytical points of view, the main subjects of juvenile justice; the main risk and protective factors that influence the treatment of children in contact or conflict with the law and implement different methods of specialized interventions.

Cover topics

- Legal standards: guidelines for children victims and witnesses, general observations on the right to be heard and the best interest of the child and the Conventions of Budapest and Lanzarote.
- The biological, psychological and social dimensions: cognitive, moral and emotional development, attachment, resilience, trauma and mental health, child actor, abuse, particular vulnerability of girls, risk and protective factors, gang and cybercrime.
- Good practices and challenges: types of interventions according to age or gender, community role and training community leaders, sexual offences, drug use and case studies.
Module 3

Procedures and professionals specialized in juvenile justice

Objective

Identify national and international standards, the principles and values of restorative juvenile justice, in order to support their introduction into the practices of practitioners and in the policies and strategies of the authorities and institutions for the enforcement and protection of children.

Cover topics

- Legal standards: Riyadh guidelines, guarantee a fair trial, participation of the child in the proceedings criminal procedure, the age of criminal responsibility and duration of measurements.
- Interdisciplinarity: specialized interventions and network collaborations.
- Good practices and challenges: mediation, remission, tertiary prevention, networking, probation and recidivism.
- Juvenile justice and migration flows.
Module 4 | **Execution of measure by the restorative approach**

**Objective**
Identify legal norms, figures, instruments and tools for the effective application of non-custodial measures in the respect of rights and procedural guarantees.

**Cover topics**
- Legal standards: Tokyo, Bangkok and Havana and other international standards related to custodial and non-custodial measures.
- Organizational aspects of the execution of privative and non-privative measures: types of interventions, supervision and control mechanisms, security regimes and review of the conditions of the measure.
- Good practices and challenges: multidisciplinarity in organization and execution of measures, mental health, addictions and preparation for release.

Module 5 | **Final work**

To reflect critically on the restorative approach to justice by examining a professional issue.
Organisation

- **Evaluation methods**
  
  Each module is subject to an evaluation which takes the form of one or more tests adapted to the teaching and e-learning.

- **Graduation work**
  
  Participants can choose between three modalities for the work at the end of their studies:

  1. individual writing of an article on the theme of justice juvenile, or
  2. the processing or analysis of a case in relation to juvenile justice issues, or
  3. writing of a short theoretical paper on an aspect of juvenile justice.

  A short defence of the work by videoconference is planned.

- **Title obtention**
  
  The Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Juvenile Justice / Certificat de formation continue (CAS) en Justice juvénile / Certificado de Estudios Avanzados (CAS) en Justicia Juvenil is obtained following the success of the different evaluations of the 4 modules and the final work. That correspond to the acquisition of 10 credits ECTS (European Credit Transfer System).
Practical information

Admission requirements
- University degree or bachelor’s degree from the University of Geneva, a master’s or bachelor's degree from a Swiss university or issued by a university recognized by the University of Geneva.
- Have two years of relevant professional experience in the field of training.
- Excellent written and oral command of Spanish and, if possible another language, in particular French or English.
- Applications are evaluated by the Steering Committee which reserves the right to accept applications from persons who have not the university degree. The candidate must then demonstrate professional skills in the field of training and of his ability to follow the program.

Registration
- Registration deadline: 28 February 2022
- Online registration at www.unige.ch/formcont/cours/cas-jjen

Finances d’inscription
- CHF 1’350.-
An invoice is sent with the letter of confirmation of admission.

Location
The training is entirely online learning.

For more information
casjustice@unige.ch
"I am very satisfied; it has enriched me both professionally and personally, to belong to the CAS student group. This has opened my eyes to other topics that are very important to my everyday work and helped me to change some of my work practices, my function. I have also adapted the training I give as a teacher and the training plan for Latin America, that I integrate into the annual conferences we organize."

Dr Maria Amanda Fontemachi  
President of the Latin American Association of Judges