



**Ashkelon Academic College,
through its International
Relations Office,
in cooperation with
international partners,
is holding a two-session
webinar on the topic:**

Youths at-Risk, Minorities, and Gender

February 1st, 2022 | 12:00–14:45 (Israel time)

In the globalized world, following extensive migration processes, communities are forming consisting of a variety of ethnic, religious and immigrant groups with different cultures and values. In these multicultural societies, youths from various ethnic minority backgrounds (immigrants, religious or traditional groups) are struggling with the question of how to integrate and be part of a Western society, and to cope with other challenges during their process of acculturation. Identifying the needs and difficulties they face, along with developing appropriate responses for them – is of great importance. This webinar focuses on the risk and resilience factors among youths in minority groups and the development of services addressing their unique challenges and needs, based on two main approaches – the Ecological model and the Risk-Need-Responsivity model (RNR).

The ecological approach to acculturation proposes that minority youths are shaped by their surrounding context and suggests that the ethnic community's culture and values, and the family microsystem play important roles. Specifically, community and parents' acculturation, practices, attitudes, and background have been identified as key factors. This approach also recognizes the unique difficulties for girls, due to the intersectional challenges facing ethnic groups, minorities, and young women.

The Risk-Need-Responsivity model (RNR) has developed as a data-based approach to rehabilitation in the criminal justice system, aimed at reducing the recidivism of offenders. This scientific approach and its recommended practice advance the discourse of "what works" and "what works best" i.e., a best practice. The purpose of this webinar is to present the theoretical and practical framework of the RNR model and its implementation in the field of youth at-risk. The common challenge in the international area requires joint thinking and cooperative discussion which the workshop provides. The webinar poses an opportunity to gain new insights on this issue for practitioners and researchers.



Opening Remarks:

Dr. Elie Friedman, Head of the International Relations Office, Ashkelon Academic College
| 12:00-12:05

Session 1:

Risk and resilience factors among minority youths at-risk | 12:05-13:20

Chair: Dr. Chen Lifshitz, Faculty of Social Work, Ashkelon Academic College

- ▶ Prof. Gila Chen, Department of Criminology, Ashkelon Academic College:
Introduction: Risk and resilience factors and the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) and the ecological models
- ▶ Paula Alanen, TUNI · Faculty of Education and Culture. Tampere University. Research, Development and Innovation Expert. Laurea University of Applied Sciences:
Risk and resilience factors among immigrant youth in Finland
- ▶ Elena Dingu-Kyrklund. SU · Department of Education. Stockholm University:
Migrant youths at -risk and synergic resilience aspects
- ▶ Dr. Shlomit Shahino-Kesler, Dov Goldberg, and Dr. Chen Lifshitz, The Haredi Institute for Public Affairs:
Ultra-Orthodox girls at-risk, unique characteristics, and risk factors
- ▶ Dr. Asaf Malchi, The Israeli Democracy Institute:
Alternative Educational Settings for Haredi boys on the Margins
- ▶ Dr. Chen Lifshitz. Faculty of Social Work, Ashkelon Academic College:
Arab youth at-risk, special challenges and barriers

Session 2:

Strategies and special services for minority youths at-risk | 13:30-14:45

Chair: Prof. Gila Chen, Department of Criminology, Ashkelon Academic College

- ▶ Dr. Chen Lifshitz, Faculty of Social Work, Ashkelon Academic College:
Introduction: Cultural sensitivity and cultural competence in services working with youth at-risk from minority groups
- ▶ Paula Alanen, TUNI · Faculty of Education and Culture. Tampere University. Research, Development and Innovation Expert. Laurea University of Applied Sciences:
Anti-racism as an inclusion strategy in HEI
- ▶ Elena Dingu-Kyrklund. SU · Department of Education. Stockholm University:
Migrant youths at-risk: aspects of education, linguistic and cultural adaptation strategies
- ▶ Liat Shoshtri-Zini, Prisoner Rehabilitation Authority:
Faith Beyond the prison walls: Rehabilitation of Bedouin juveniles in Israel
- ▶ Limor Davison Shabtai. YATED, Ministry of Welfare and Joint-Israel:
Young women at-risk - theory and practice

The event will be held via Zoom | For registration and to receive a link, [click here](#).

*The webinar is free of charge.