



## Research Centre Urban Talent

Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences is a leading knowledge institute and a valuable asset to both its home city of Rotterdam and its vicinity. Rotterdam is the largest port in Europe and a multicultural city in the western part of the Netherlands. It is the second largest Dutch city with more than 600,000 inhabitants. Over 33,000 students and 3,000 staff members pursue their career at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. RUAS is characterised by its high emphasis on the quality of the bachelor's degree courses and a strong focus on the surrounding region.

### Education & research

To realise the end-level of its bachelor's degree courses it strives for, RUAS cannot do without practice-focused research. The link between education and practice-focused research culminates in the collaboration between educational departments, research centres and centres of expertise. Together, and in interaction with the professional field, they develop a joint outlook on the future and challenges of the relevant work field and the consequences for current as well as future professionals. This outlook directs the curriculum of the education that RUAS provides and its research programmes.

### Research Centres

RUAS's practice-focused research focuses on 5 regionally embedded themes, assigned to 5 research centres: Creating 010, Sustainable Port Cities, Entrepreneurship & Business Innovation, Innovations in Care and Urban Talent. Research professors, PhD students and lecturers are all involved in each of these centres' research.



## Research Center for Urban Talent

The tapping and enhancing of the talents of metropolitan citizens requires excellent professionals - teaching staff, social workers, social entrepreneurs, care providers. RUAS, especially its Schools of Education (Teacher Training) and Social Work, is training a new generation of professionals who will be able to face the challenges and, together with the Research Centre for Urban Talent, supports the further knowledge development of the professionals in the field. The central research question is: *Which knowledge and skills should these professionals have in order to effectively support citizens in developing their talents in school, the labour market and their direct social life in, and with, their families and social networks?*

The research centre focuses on two research programmes, Optimisation of Learning Processes and Social Inclusion, that both operate in its focal domains of parenting, education, welfare, care and work.

## Research programmes

The research programme of **Optimisation of Learning Processes** aspires to develop and refine the knowledge that helps teachers and trainers encourage learning in students at all levels (primary education, secondary education, adult and vocational education, higher professional education). The Optimisation of Learning Processes is about the development and dissemination of knowledge in the areas of (subject-specific) instructional methods, teaching and learning and educational theory in learning processes in the widest sense of the word.

The objective of the **Social Inclusion** research programme is to develop the knowledge that helps professionals make society more inclusive so that anyone, each with their own talents, can and may participate. The joint point of departure for, and the goal of, the research groups involved in the Inclusion programme is: to contribute to the expansion and strengthening of the competences of (future) professionals so that they can optimise the participatory abilities of citizens in an inclusive way as well to enhance the inclusive capabilities of the sectors of care, welfare and labour.

## Contact

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