

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	Judi Mesman
Title of clinic:	A youthful vision of the future
Number of students:	Max 3
Major (<i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i>):	Can count towards HD (approved by MC, but not as replacement of Visual Methods course), but open to students from all majors
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	None

Research context

In the project ‘A youthful vision of the future’, thousands of primary school children will participate in a lesson plan in which they are challenged to express their vision of the ideal future society in writing or art. A selection of these works has been used for exhibitions and presentations in the Cobra museum of modern art. The entire body of the children’s work will be analyzed for themes and content by a multidisciplinary team of scientists with expertise in child development, sociology, art, and literature. This will ultimately result in both a scholarly publication and an illustrated book for the general public, and can hopefully inspire to think creatively about how research and policy can learn from and contribute to the ideal society described by Dutch children.

Students’ tasks and activities

LEARNING AIMS

- Acquire skills in systematic thematic coding of children’s writing and art works
- Understand the main theoretical frameworks involved in such coding
- Gain insight in the role of child gender and age in their visions of the future

TIMELINE AND ACTIVITIES:

- Februari-March:
 - background reading and discussion
 - training in coding the children’s writings and art works
- April-May
 - coding of the children’s work
 - Analysis of child characteristics in relation to their vision of the future