



## **Meet GIL, a Teaching Method to Increase Self-Induced Learning and Communicative Skills**

**Annemie Coussens**

[ancous@arteveldehs.be](mailto:ancous@arteveldehs.be)

The Artevelde University College Ghent Department of Speech Therapy and Audiology (Belgium)

### **Abstract**

GIL — the acronym for Guided Independent Learning — is a teaching method developed at the Department of Speech Therapy and Audiology of the Artevelde University College Ghent (Belgium) since 2000. The main objective is to stimulate students to gradually learn more independent. Since these are valuable competencies for any caregiver, GIL also gives students the opportunity to collaborate and improve their communicative skills and meeting techniques.

This teaching method is based on three pillars: tasks, self-induced learning and guidance. Some parts of the traditional lectures have been swapped for tasks, which students have to perform in small groups or individually. These tasks are useful to teach students to organize their own learning.

During the first year several sessions are guided by a tutor. His task is to observe and facilitate the group process and guide the individual process of each student. Through continuous assessment, the personal evolution, the weaknesses and the improvements become apparent. Guided by their tutor the student gradually gets more control of his own learning process.

We expect the tutor to fulfil three different roles. The first three sessions his role is that of a teacher. He gives instructions and is a model for his students. Gradually he changes this role into the role of coach and assessor. He alternates those roles.

On a regular basis, there are evaluation moments. The students have to reflect on the group process, as well as on their own evolution. They learn to give each other constructive feedback and also to identify new individual and group challenges. Different instruments were developed to facilitate GIL.

During the presentation these topics will be further explained and illustrated.