Fifth ESSPD Summer School 2027

Investigating Self, Identity and Emotions in Personality Disorders



5-11 September, 2027
Alba del Borgo, Fidenza (Parma), Italy

The European Society for the Study of Personality Disorders (ESSPD) is proud to announce the fifth ESSPD Summer School for early career researchers, organized in partnership with the Personality Disorders Lab (PDLab) and the University of Parma.

The **aim** of the summer school is to increase the methodological competencies in conducting high quality research in the domain of self-functioning in personality disorders (PD) from multiple perspectives, including personality psychology, neuroscience, developmental psychopathology and psychodynamic theory.
Topics will include: identity, identity disturbances and their assessment, self-other distinction, dynamic processes in personality functioning, emotional processing and emotion regulation. The faculty and the full program will be announced in October 2026 on the ESSPD website.

Teaching methodologies will include interactive presentations, workshop exercises, plenary and small group discussions, poster presentations, work in small groups in designing a study protocol on the theme of the summer school.

Where? The Summer School will take place in the relaxing, charming atmosphere of the Parma hills, in Italy, at the Alba del Borgo agriturismo, which provides a friendly residential context for both teachers and students and many spaces and informal occasions to create networks among participants.

When? Sunday, September 5th, 2027 (arrival day) – Saturday, September 11th, 2027 (departure day); 5 full days residential.

For whom? PhD students, MDs, or early post-doctoral fellows affiliated with a European university.

Deadline: Applications by February 1st, 2027 by e-mail to summerschool@esspd.eu. All applications must contain a letter of motivation, a curriculum vitae and a 1-page summary of the relevant research project (in one PDF file). Applications from Eastern Europe are explicitly encouraged.

Fees: EUR 900 (full fee); EUR 450 (reduced fee for participants from non-high-income countries). Both fees include registration to all scientific activities, six overnight stays at Alba del Borgo, all meals/coffee breaks, and the use of the delightful wellness centre of the farm.

ESSPD PDlab UNIVERSITÀ DI PARMA

2027 ESSPD Summer School Work Group
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