

# Intercultural Psychology- Roskilde University

Roskilde  
Universitet

**”In tranquillo mors, in fluctu vita”**

**”I stilheden døden, i strømmen livet”**

**”In stillness death, in movement life”**



# Intercultural Psychology at Danish universities- Roskilde University

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# Agenda

Introduction

Context global & local

Direct & indirect focus

Thematic Illustrations

Collaboration

Conclusion



# Introduction

## Classical

When individuals who are members of different cultural groups come into contact, the domain of intercultural psychology becomes central to understanding human behavior in all groups.

(Berry, 1996)

Diversity, differences, similarities, hierarchies, power issues, conflicts & temporal aspects

Intersection of multicultural and international in professional practice (Lowman, 2013)



# Introduction

- Differential concepts, terms and understandings

(ontological, epistemological & methodological)



# Context Global & Local

Globalisation Increased movement of human beings & knowledge across borders, both spatial and ideological aspects

Roskilde University-reform  
university, established 1972

Interdisciplinarity, problem-oriented project work and courses, the combination of practical work and theory, research and education



# Direct & Indirect Focus

- In Psychology

Bachelor level

Masters level

PhD level

- Integration with other disciplines ...
  - Culture Encounters
  - Educational Studies
  - International Development
  - Communication



# Thematic Illustrations

- IDENTITY, ETHNICITY & GLOBALISATION

(diaspora, transnationalism)

- INCLUSION & EXCLUSION

(theorisations of intersectionality)

Interplay between Eastern & Western Psychology:  
Meditation, Mindfulness

- Global Health

- Frictions in the field:  
Encountering 'the other'  
(health and power relations)

# Thematic Illustrations

At Masters level

Alien in an everyday perspective

Refugees: a life of trauma,

Children of asylum

Migration

(within a phenomenological and post-structural approach)

Projects within these fields



# Thematic Illustrations

- At PHD level

To belong everywhere & nowhere: Narratives about Muslimness, community and belonging (Khawaja, 2010)

Family life in transition - fleeing civil war in Syria and conducting an new everyday life in Denmark (Shapiro, 2015)



# Collaboration?

- Competition & conflicts between different subject area and approaches

Intra -and  
interdepartmental levels

- Interaction with the broader societal/  
international levels

Co-operation across  
organisations  
Reality/utopia

# Conclusion

Limited focus

Efforts to enhance

Collaboration across nations, institutions, disciplines  
& approaches

e.g. FairstartGlobal ( Rygaard, 2014)

Suggestions welcome !!

