

# INTERCULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY IN EUROPE AND DENMARK SEMINAR

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RUC - Denmark

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# Agenda

- Introduction: Historical political review
- Intercultural and International Training of Social Work at Metropl.DK
- Intercultural psychology Definition
- Contents of Intercultural psychology at the Training
- Conclusion

## Introduction: Historical review

- 1999, the Direction of the High School for social Work, established the new International and Intercultural program (I&I) of Social Work.
- 2011 all the programs have to be re-constructed according to new Ministerial rules and guidelines valid to all Denmark

Previous Governmental period of neoliberal ideology influence on the education of social work: focus is on New Public management, individualisation and culturalisation of social problems, Euro and ethnocentrism.

- The I&I team realises that the curriculum changes concerning intercultural and international social work, generated a counter voice to the humanistic/humanizing values of social work in Denmark, ignoring them

# Intercultural psychology at the ISW - Metropol

Intercultural Psychology multiple greens emphasizes understanding among individuals and individuals with groups and institutions both within their social and cultural context and in the international felt.

Goals of intercultural psychology is:

- Focus on understanding the Historical (power) mechanisms generating social problems, at different levels in each society,
- To promote individuals and Community well-being through research and action.
- To promote equality, social justice and inclusion,
- Reestablishing dignity and recognition of human rights of historically marginalized groups

# Intercultural and International Training of Social Work In Denmark

The central innovation of I&I is:

➤ The systematic integration of Western social and developmental Psychology, cultural psychology, Intercultural Psychology, Transcultural Psychiatry, Community work within a single program.

➤ Human action is best understood as part of social and historical -cultural processes

• Emphasis on:

➤ qualitative, innovative methodologies in research and development projects,

➤ *focus on implementation in practice.*

➤ Cooperation of Intercultural Psychology with the other subjects of the program, to graduate as a Bachelor in Intercultural and International Social Work.

# Contents of I&I -1

The training consists of 12 modules with 10 weeks duration each.

Since the new guidelines were implemented (2011), we are currently adjusting and improving the content of the program.

Striving to keep the values and aims of social work for:

- Reestablishing human dignity, and values
- Equality, inclusion, participation
- Developing critical consciousness,
- Eradicating poverty,
- Focus on communities rather than individuals

## Contents of the curriculum 2

Module number title	Intercultural psychology themes
<b>1 - Introduction Intercultural and International training in social Work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Intercultural Psychology in the global era. Identity construction, context.</li> <li>•Migration, Life in Exile, Translocation, flight. Crisis, Loss, suffering, Growth; Health, Trauma, Resilience.</li> <li>•Humanitarian Disaster, Conflict</li> <li>• Intercultural Communication Theories and Training 1.</li> </ul>
<b>2- The significance of context- culture - discourses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Minorities , ethnicity /race /positioning / ideologies. Power mechanisms</li> <li>•Understanding Culture -Acculturation, inclusion, discrimination</li> <li>•Family in exile, consequences</li> <li>•Intercultural communication theory and practice II</li> </ul>
<b>3- Social work with non privileged people, focus on family, children and youth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>Developmental Psychology children and youth</i>; Handicapped children and young people with minority background</li> <li>•<i>Family</i> Different types of familiar organization. Migration process influence family relations.</li> <li>•<i>Communication: Counselling families , children and young people</i> from other cultures <i>Power mechanisms influences III</i></li> </ul>
<b>4-Social work with Non privileged groups focus on mental health, drug abuse, PTSD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>Psychiatry -diagnostic systems- DSMIV /V-ICD10. Culture bound Syndromes.</i> Languages of Distress.</li> <li>•PTSD in other cultural contexts. Drug abuser from Ethnic minority.</li> </ul>
<b>5- The Labor market</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Significance of participation in the labor market</li> <li>•<i>Perception and attitudes respect Health, Idioms of distress, narratives in different cultures in relation to labor market.</i></li> <li>•<i>Citizenship, inclusion participation, exclusion in DK,</i> in other cultures</li> <li>•<i>Intercultural communication, related to labor market IV</i></li> </ul>
<b>6 - Organisations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Organizations and culture. Organizations in different cultures</li> <li>•<i>Communication in organisation understanding cultural codes, rules, hierarchies, different instances, coping with conflict V</i></li> </ul>

## Content of the curriculum 3

Module number titel	Intercultural Psychology
7 - Internship	Internship :with preference in a foreign country for the students of I&I
8- Developing New Models in social Work interventions	Community Work, Innovation Creativity Development project
9/11 free choice modules; Example module E International social Work. A Global Perspective	<p>Historical perspectives: colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism, post colonialism. Dehumanisation. Global-Local Global Health, disease, climate change, ecological destruction in the global era in the different regions, Other health systems.</p> <p>Poverty: local / global.</p> <p>War and armed conflicts.</p>
10 -Multi Disciplinary Social Work	<p>Catastrophe and Humanitarian Disasters, Health of Refugees. Young non accompanied immigrants. Intern displaced people PTSD manifestation and treatment in different cultures Interventions, at Community, relational levels, transnational level.</p>
12 -13 Bachelor project	Final dissertation focus on minorities or on international problems



## Summing up

A general view of the program in psychology at the I&I training in Social work at the Institute of social Work - Metropol

The I&I team strives to counteract the influence of neo liberal ideologies, imposed by authorities characterized by Euro and ethnocentrism, individualism and culturalisme.

Encourage to apply new methods and concepts that facilitate and enhance a comprehensive view “every” area of human endeavor/performances, and promoting interpersonal skills, sensitivities and competences among the students to meet not privileged people in national and in other contexts.

Emphasis on using critical historical dialectic methods to study psychology to enhance critical thinking and develop transformative skills to achieve sustainable interventions in promoting social justice, reduce inequalities and discrimination promote and re- establishing human dignity for those exposed to de-humanisation.

E.g. Critical, dialogical, performative, narrative approaches (the Freirian influence, Newman and Holzman historic-cultural practices)