Challenges of Social Work in the 21st century

Spring Semester
Erasmus students exchange programme for International Social (Care) Work Students

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UCLL - Leuven Department of Social Work – Child & Youth studies
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We intend to offer to our incoming students a well-balanced insight in Social (Care) Work and Special Education as it is organised in the Belgian Flanders region. To get most benefit of the programme, the students join a study of Dutch language (3 ECTS) and follow a course of intercultural communication (3 ECTS).

Underneath you can find a brief description of the other courses.

**Common programme subjects: (18 ECTS)**

**BELGIUM AND THE EUREGIO**
Students will be introduced in the Belgian cultural and political organisation, as well as get acquaintance with the unique position of UCLL in the Euregio (Flanders, Wallonia, Germany and the Netherlands).

**THE FLEMISH WELFARE SYSTEM**
Students are supposed to understand the Flemish Welfare System in its organisation, structure and functioning from guided study, study – visits, attended lectures on different relevant subjects. The students need to compare their findings with the welfare organisation of their homeland.

**PRACTICE RELATED TO SEMINAR TOPICS**
The students will be offered the opportunity to do some practice for about 40/50 hours within a Flemish Welfare organisation/institution/… Leisure activities such as sports, cooking, music, creative techniques, … can be considered, but also schoolwork support, individual guidance, … figure amongst the possibilities.

**SOCIAL ISSUES**
The course introduces the student in current social work issues and practices. Within a self-governing project group, students develop an explorative and a subsequent more in depth analysis of a social case. The following competences are acquired: organizing, analyzing and forming an opinion.

**Individual choices: (6 ECTS)**
Students make 2 choices out of these 5

**CHILD AND YOUTH STUDIES**
The course ‘Child and Youth studies’ explores changing conceptualizations on children and youth within the social sciences and how these affect the ways we care for and work with children and young people in different professional contexts.

**SOCIAL EUROPE DAYS**
Lecturers, social policy experts and students from 7 European countries (North, South and Central Europe) are involved in the programme of the Social Europe Days (April), figuring central themes as ‘Challenges for Social Policy, Social Work and Human Resource Management.’ There will be an additional cost of approximately 75 € for accommodation.

**BRUSSELS FROM A MULTI-ETNIC, MULTICULTURAL AND METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVE:**
In this choice subject we focus upon Socio-Educational Care Work for vulnerable (young) people in Brussels, the multiracial and multicultural capital of Europe. There will be an additional cost of approximately 75 € for accommodation.

**E-SOCIAL WORK:**
As society turns more digital, social care workers today are working in an area where digital competences have become a prerequisite to ensure high quality social care work. E-Health is on his way up to become mainstream. In this course students will participate in an ongoing research or something like that.

**LSCI:**
LSCI is an advanced, interactive therapeutic strategy for turning crisis situations into learning opportunities for children and youth with chronic patterns of self-defeating behaviours. LSCI views problems or stressful incidents as opportunities for learning, growth, insight, and change.
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### Introduction (6 ECTS)
- Dutch Language course
- Cross-cultural communication

### Common Programme Subjects (18 ECTS)
**Special Education / Social Care Work / Social work**
- Belgium and the Euregio: political, social, linguistic and cultural organisation.
- Excursions and cultural links
- The Flemish Welfare System
- Practice related to seminar topics
- Social Issues

### Individual Choices (6 ECTS)
- LSCI (Life Space Crisis Intervention)
- E-social work
- Brussels from a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and metropolitan perspective
- Child and youth studies
- Social Europe Days

### Total programme: 30 ECTS
Practical information:

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE
All European students in Social Work, Special Education, Social Care, Social Pedagogy, at a bachelor or master level in the second half of their study.

REGISTRATION
For online registration there is an application form available at the following link: http://www.leuvenuniversitycollege.be/Exchange-student/Admission-Exchange-Student

Please note in the textbox “comments” that you register for this program “challenges”. The deadline for enrollment is 1 of December. The maximum number of participants is 36 students.

ACCOMMODATION
The international class will be hosted in Leuven. Students can be accommodated in rooms in the host city. Courses will be organized in Leuven and Hasselt.

COSTS
Erasmus students don’t pay a fee for the courses. Students pay for the accommodation, costs of living and travelling expenses. An Erasmus grant can cover some of these expenses.

LANGUAGE
As English is the working language, a good standard of English (level B1/B2 CEFR) is advised to get the most out of this programme.

PERIOD
This international Erasmus Course is organized during spring semester from beginning of February till mid-June.

EVALUATION OF THE COURSE
There will be an assessment through papers, presentations and portfolio. Besides that, we expect an attendance of at least 85% of the classes and the visits.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EVENTS
In the host cities a lot of social and cultural activities are waiting to be discovered by students. During several modules we will visit other cities. Some group activities are provided.

Feel challenged and be our guest!!